Student Leadership Initiatives for Sustainability

This document outlines various ways in which student leaders can promote environmental sustainability.

As a student leader, one reason why is because the climate crisis is likely on the minds of many of your peers, with negative consequences on one’s mental health. Rather than fixating on negativity, it is important to recognize the agency that students have in participating in positive change in their communities. This agency is crucial in alleviating anxiety around the climate crisis, which affects a portion of the student population.

**Checklist**

* Establish a GOOS paper bin in your department, teaching assistant office, etc.
* Investigate the opportunity to change default search engine to “[Ecosia](https://www.ecosia.org/)” on school computers wherever possible;
* Reach out to faculty in the field of sustainability to gain a greater understanding of how to promote sustainable practices on campus;
* Talk to department about strategically buying green products (while avoiding greenwashing) such as:
  + Recycled paper
  + Eco-friendly dish soap
  + Compostable utensils
* Buy from sustainable brands for giveaway prizes (e.g., club events): [tentree](https://www.tentree.com/), [4ocean](https://www.4ocean.com/), etc.;
* Promote the 4ocean ambassador program: [LINK](https://www.4ocean.com/pages/wavemakers);
* Talk to science faculty members about pursuing the My Green Lab certification: [LINK](https://www.mygreenlab.org/green-lab-certification.html); this organization has a newsletter;