To improve recycling at BC, the cycle of misinformation must be broken. Due to a lack of promotion and inconsistent marketing, students at Boston College are typically unaware of sustainability initiatives on campus and therefore do not utilize them to their fullest extent. There are extensive efforts made by various departments that often go unnoticed. If students do not believe that BC cares about sustainability, why should they? Our project designed to gather information and opinions from various administrators on campus and to brainstorm various ways of better communicating with students.

**Background:**

The Office of First Year Experience at Boston College is responsible for implementing programs such as Orientation, All-College Conversations in the first year, and Cornerstone. These programs are designed to introduce new students to life at BC and to ease the transition between high school and college.

**At a Glance:**

The first year experience is important for setting behaviors that the students will follow during their four years and encouraging sustainability and recycling during the year could have a long-term influence on their academic lives, as Chatham University and American University gave reusable bottles to first-year students so that they do not have to sell disposable plastic bottles or cups. While BC could not give it to first-year students, it could sell disposable plastic bottles or cups. BC could stop selling the disposable plastic bottles and stress the importance of using the reusable bottles.

**Recommendations:**

- Increase awareness of sustainability efforts by:
  - Creating a cornerstone class to introduce the importance of recycling.
  - Including more information about recycling on BC's website and making this information more accessible.
  - Improve signage in dining halls and residence halls.
  - Include more information on sustainability efforts during campus tours.

**Conclusion:**

- Most students are not aware of recycling initiatives at BC.
  - Recyclama
  - Trash Sorting at Lower
  - Single Stream Recycling

- Look for new programs increase recycling and improving existing programs.

**Methods:**

We spoke with Boston College administrators at the Office of Sustainability, Residential Life and Dining Services. We conducted an anonymous 10 question survey to investigate the knowledge of Boston College recycling and sustainability efforts. A total of 55 students were surveyed: 55 seniors, 22 juniors, 7 sophomores and 5 freshmen. We looked at websites of other colleges that were included in the list of 22 College Recycling Programs That Put All Others To Shame to see what programs have been implemented and see them as suggestions of programs that could be implemented here at BC.

**Acknowledgements & References:**

Seye, Oluwaseun, Casual Services
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Robert Pons, Office of Sustainability
Office of First Year Experience, Boston College
"13 College Recycling Programs That Put All Others To Shame. - The Best Colleges," The Best Colleges 100, 6 Oct. 2013, Web. The websites for the following colleges: Pepperdine University, American University, University of California Davis, University of California, College of the Atlantic, University of Arizona’s Earth Day, American University, Chatham University, Harvard University, Purdue University, Brown University, Georgia Institute of Technology and Boston College.

**Survey Results:**

- 57.69% Of students consider themselves somewhat environmentally conscious.
- 30.91% Of students do not know what single stream recycling is.
- 9.08% Of students are not aware of Recyclama.
- 90.74% said "Yes" to the question surveyed (in the dining halls?)

**Admissions**

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<tr>
<td>Scott McCoy</td>
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<td>Gerry Boyle</td>
<td>Custodial Services</td>
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**Dining**

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<tr>
<td>Olivia Curry</td>
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<td>Kelly Funk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Terese Rutkowski</td>
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