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Position (in student organization): co-chair

Date survey submitted: 6/22/09

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Please describe the student-run campus environmental/sustainability organization in which you have a leadership role.

Name of organization: Renew School

Number of active members: 15

Website: currently being redone

Date of last meeting: 5/12/09

Frequency of meetings: weekly

Key issues addressed and programs implemented since August 2008:

- Composting
- Book Swap
- Dorm Move Out
- Water Education
- Bike Racks
- Public Open Space
- Local Coffee Roasters
- Student Empowerment

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- Institutional Commitment to Sustainability
- Food Issues

Progress made on each issue/program since August 2008:

- **Composting:** Renew School members researched composting and designed a pilot project, which was held on Earth Day. We gave out 'mud pies' in compostable bowls and informed students about what can and cannot go into the compost bins. Next semester, we plan on rolling out a complete composting program in all cafeterias with the help of the facilities department.
- **Book Swap:** Renew School held 3 book swaps through out the past two semesters in which we allowed all students to swap any book they had for another. We plan to do this at the beginning and end of all future semesters.
- **Dorm Move Out:** We conducted a trial dorm move out, in which we diverted usable material from the waste stream and allowed students to take what ever they wanted. Any left over material was donated to Coalition for the Homeless.
- **Bike Racks:** Renew School located prime spots for bike racks around campus and sent a proposal to the NYC Department of Transportation. Since then many new bike racks have been installed.
- **Public Open Space:** Renew School took part in 'Parking Day', which was a global day dedicated to taking back public space that had been allocated to automobiles. We took over a parking space by laying out sod and having a picnic. We also gave out locally grown food to anyone who passed by.
- **Local Coffee Roasters:** We tried to have The New School replace Star Bucks Coffee with a locally roasted brand, however we were not successful. The university has promised to consider locally roasted brands for future coffee stands, though
- **Student Empowerment:** Renew School participated in two sustainability conferences: Power Shift in Washington, DC and the International Sustainability Conference at Villanova. Both of these events helped members better understand how to accomplish their goals and the university level.
- **Institutional Commitment to Sustainability:** Renew School's actions in the fall semester led to the university to follow the guidelines put forth by the ACUPCC, which the university had already been a signature.
- **Food Issues:** Renew School co-sponsored an event on issues surrounding bio-fuels and world hunger.

SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGES AND COMPETITIONS

Does your group organize any sustainability challenges/competitions for your campus and/or with other colleges?

No

Yes. Please list details for each competition.

#1 - Name of competition:

Year initiated:

Frequency of competition:

Participants:

Incentives:

Goal of competition:

Percent of energy/water/waste reduced:

Lasting effects of competition:

Website:

#2 - Name of competition:

Year initiated:

Frequency of competition:

Participants:

Incentives:

Goal of competition:

Percent of energy/water/waste reduced:

Lasting effects of competition:

Website:

SUSTAINABILITY IN STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Does your student government include a specific position or committee dedicated to campus sustainability issues?

No

Yes. Please describe:

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Please describe any additional campus sustainability activities or projects that you or your group has initiated at your school:

- Renew School, then the Student Sustainability Committee, pushed for the creation of a comprehensive recycling program in 2005. The university now has a functional recycling program that we are seeking to improve further.
- Renew School played a part in locating areas to place water bottle filling stations throughout the university. Currently four water filling stations on campus that allow students to fill up reusable bottles that they bring from home.

Please list and briefly describe any other student-run organizations related to campus sustainability at your school, and provide URLs if available (e.g., student groups; student government committees; student-run food co-ops, gardens/farms, bike co-ops) and provide contact information of the student leaders, if possible:

Sustainable Design Review: <http://www.newschool.edu/sdr/>

Net Impact, New School Chapter: <http://netimpact.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=2435>

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Questions 6 is for informational purposes only; your response will NOT be included in the Report Card evaluation process.

Please list any regional or national networks with which your group is affiliated (e.g., Energy Action Coalition/Campus Climate Challenge, Sierra Student Coalition, a state PIRG, a state student sustainability coalition):

PLEASE NOTE: Some schools have requested that more detailed descriptions of their sustainability programs be made available to readers of the College Sustainability Report Card. Accordingly, we plan to post the completed surveys on www.GreenReportCard.org <<http://www.GreenReportCard.org>> as a link from each school's profile. If you would prefer that the full text of your survey not be published, please let us know. (As in previous years, we will continue to publish relevant excerpts in the school profile.) To opt out of online publication of your full survey response, please enter your name here:

Thank you for completing the student survey for the College Sustainability Report Card 2010. We greatly appreciate your participation.