Project Overview:
To build upon practices already in place at Western Michigan University to reduce the amount of waste sent to the landfill. Ultimately this project led to a desire to create an on-campus student re-use/thrift store, to not only reduce waste but to serve as a sustainability hub for the school.

Methodology:
Data for this project was gathered through interviews, research of best practices on other campuses and questionnaires sent out to schools with student run thrift stores already in place. Information was gathered from five schools across the country that helped lay out a blueprint to implement a store at Western Michigan University.

"Each and every one of us can make changes in the way we live our lives and become part of the solution" -Al Gore

Student Thrift Store

Report by:
Nick Bennett
n5bennett1@wmich

ENVS 4100: Campus as a Living Laboratory
Dr. Harold Glasser

Results:
Through my research, I have found that the creation of an on campus student run thrift store:

1. Gives back to the community, creates scholarships, funds charities, and Seita students can benefit from the store and its profits.
2. Reduces waste.
3. Has low cost to the school.
4. Serves as a visible reminder that WMU is committed to its sustainability goals.
5. Allows students to get “real-world” experience managing and running a store.

Recommendations:
Support the creation of a student-run thrift store through allocation of space.