RecycleMania

This semester I have been working on RecycleMania 2014. RecycleMania is a nationwide competition, plus Canada, ranking schools to see who has the most recycling and the least waste. This competition started February 2 and ended March 29. One of the things that I did to get ready for RecycleMania was ordering giveaways, such as reusable bowls, totes, and sporks. I also reserved tables with the Bernhard Center for promotional activities. To go along with the tabling activity I redesigned a trivia game that we utilized in the past. I focused the questions around recycling and sustainability on campus. Another project that I took part in was developing a display and handouts presenting general information about RecycleMania. This was completed with the help of Callie Toaso and Kathryn Smith.

For the tabling activity I was located at two locations during two different time slots. First location was at the Bernhard Café and Market, 11am to 1:30pm. This was a decent location, with more older people, like faculty, staff, and parents, than students. I don’t think there are enough people in this location to continue at this spot. The other location was the Hoekje/Bigelow Cafeteria, 11am to 1:30pm and 4pm to 6:30pm. Lunch time at the cafeteria was a great location. Due to the student lunch rush there was a line out the door and, because of the line, students had no choice but to look at the tabling event. Some students even stepped out of line to participate in the tabling activity. The last time slot was the Hoekje/Bigelow Cafeteria, 4pm to 6:30pm. This was also a very good location, though
sometimes it was a hit or miss. For example, one-night students were more concerned with getting their dinner and another night you are talking to five people at a time.

Caught Green Handed (CGH) is one of two sanctioned activities that we participated in. The goal for CGH is to look for anyone who is being green and reward them. Whether they are riding a bike, recycling, or using a reusable water bottle they have the option of taking a prize. The second sanctioned activity is the Pledge. The Pledge is basically a promise or goal to recycle a certain material more. Out of the entire campus we only had 17 people pledge. One of the main goals for next year would be to increase the number of pledges.

RecycleMania is an eight week competition and the final results can be found at [http://recyclemaniacs.org/scoreboard](http://recyclemaniacs.org/scoreboard) under the competition benchmark. One thing to keep in mind while looking at the results is that Per Capita Classic is recycling per person while Waste Minimization is recycling and waste per person. Due to the differences in these categories you can’t win in both sections.

I feel that RecycleMania went pretty smoothly this year, so I don’t have many recommendations for improvement or changes. The two biggest things would be to not use the Bernhard Café and Market location anymore due to the lack of participation and to include more on campus promotion outside of posters and tabling. Such as, mini games and free food.