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Whittier Green Deal

Genesis Gil

Nona Golden

Dalton Casserly-Simmons

Dee Garcia

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Whittier Green Deal

Authors: Genesis Gil, Nona Golden, Dalton Casserly-Simmons, D Garcia

Session:

BILL # -

Section I: Preface

WHEREAS, Whittier College has been listed as one of the country's most environmentally-responsible colleges in the nation by the Princeton Review,

WHEREAS, Whittier College lacks environmental initiatives to uphold the credibility of this claim,

WHEREAS, Global Climate Disruption is one of the most pressing issues of our time,

WHEREAS, Colleges and individuals across the world are implementing sustainable practices into their daily lives,

WHEREAS, Whittier College has the responsibility to implement sustainable practices in order to ensure the preservation of the earth and the well-being of their students,

Section II: The Rock

WHEREAS, the rock is available to be spray painted up to 7 times a week,

WHEREAS, spray paint contains aerosols directly linked to the worsening of the greenhouse effect,

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization states a 20%-40% increase in some types of cancer (in particular lung cancer) for those who come into regular contact with paint while a Danish research center adds possibility of neurological damage

WHEREAS, NASA states, “Aerosols have a profound impact on the climate because, just like greenhouse gases, they are able to change the Earth’s “radiative”, or energy, balance.”
(<https://climate.nasa.gov/news/215/just-5-questions-aerosols/>)

LET IT BE RESOLVED, the use of spray paint on and around the rock is prohibited for Whittier College and its affiliates,

LET IT BE RESOLVED, only liquid paint is to be applied on the rock in good faith,

LET IT BE RESOLVED, environmentally friendly paint is to be applied solely to the rock and not its surrounding area,

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that societies and clubs/organizations affiliated with Whittier College are to only paint the rock 5 times each per semester with minimal exceptions that are to be approved by the Environmental Committee Chair

Section III: Incentives

WHEREAS, Whittier College does not provide adequate resources for sustainable living

WHEREAS, sustainable actions of individuals can have a profound positive effect on the environment

Subsection III A: Low Impact Transportation

WHEREAS, approximately 54% of Whittier College students commute to school

WHEREAS, non-motorized transport, public transport, multiple occupant automobile are among the most sustainable methods of commuting

LET IT BE RESOLVED, the ASWC Senate will work with administration to provide the subsequent incentives

LET IT BE RESOLVED, that students using non-motorized transportation, public transport or multiple occupant automobiles to commute to campus can receive a stipend upon the submission of proof to the Environmental Action Chair

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the stipend be equal to \$5 per commute while the supply of \$500 per semester is available, commute being to and from your destination; Limit one stipend per day

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that proof of sustainable commute be considered as the following:

- Time stamped photographs
- GPS tracking apps

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, the student commuter representative is to be involved in the execution of this initiative

Subsection III B: Sustainable Food Incentives

WHEREAS, the meat industry is a leading contributor to global climate disruption

WHEREAS, there are currently no incentives around sustainable eating habits at Whittier College

WHEREAS, individuals that eat a vegetarian/vegan based diet help to reduce overall greenhouse gas emissions

LET IT BE RESOLVED, vegetarian/vegan food items purchased at the Spot costing \$4 or more are eligible to receive a \$2 reimbursement from Environmental Committee while supplies last

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED, Environmental Committee will require submission of proof of purchase in the form of a receipt during the Environmental Chairs office hours

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED, submissions will only be accepted during the month of purchase with few exceptions made by the Environmental Chair

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED, the allocated funds for reimbursement will be determined by the Environmental Committee on a monthly basis

Section IV: Event Sustainability

WHEREAS, single-use plastics, styrofoam, and other non-reusable items further contribute to the waste problem impacting our world

WHEREAS, waste ends up throughout our natural environment, never truly breaking down which impacts the health of humans and animals alike

LET IT BE RESOLVED, the ASWC Senate and all student clubs and organizations falling under the umbrella of the ASWC Senate are prohibited from using single-use plastic and styrofoam items when hosting any event

LET IT BE RESOLVED, the current health crisis creates concerns regarding the sanitation of reusables; however, pending national recovery from this epidemic, the Environmental Committee plans to implement the following system

LET IT BE RESOLVED, the Environmental Committee will provide a set number of reusables that can be loaned out to compensate for single-use items when the ASWC Senate deems the aforementioned initiative appropriate; until that time, biodegradable products are to be utilized

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED, that student clubs and organizations are to contact the Environmental Action Advocate via email to rent out the reusables

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED, the Environmental Advocate's email is to be obtained through their office hours or at ASWC Senate meetings

Subsection IV A: Displaced Meals

WHEREAS, Bon Appétit hosts displaced meals using single-use plastic items

WHEREAS, single-use items directly contribute to the global waste problem

LET IT BE RESOLVED, Bon Appétit is to use their own reusable dining sets when hosting displaced meals

Section V: Ecosia

WHEREAS, search engines are used in any and all online activity

WHEREAS, Google Chrome does not positively contribute to the environment

WHEREAS, Ecosia puts sustainability at the top of its priority list by mitigating emissions through environmental initiatives

LET IT BE RESOLVED, all desktop and laptop computers in the Wardman library are to have their default search engine switched to Ecosia (chrome still available)

THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED, that a copy of this initiative be sent to the following:

Deanna Merino-Contino, Associate Dean for Campus Life

Christine Hernandez, Director for the Office of Student Engagement

Linda Oubré, President of Whittier College

Members of the ASWC