

“GREEN CIVICA CHARTER” for students and researchers

We, the students and researchers from the CIVICA member universities,

- Acknowledging our roles and commitments in safeguarding the environment, responsibly utilizing energy resources, and promoting sustainability,
- Aspiring to champion sustainability and energy conservation across all CIVICA campuses and beyond,
- Recognizing ourselves as key stakeholders within CIVICA member universities,
- Inspiring CIVICA member universities to ultimately adopt a unified green policy throughout the entire alliance,
- Striving to cultivate voluntary, cost-free, and innovative undertakings aimed at independently taking action on our respective campuses, irrespective of university administrations' support,

Make a pledge to:

1. Pack meals in reusable containers, store dry ingredients in cloth bags, and use durable vessels or reusable plastic bottles for water and beverages.
2. Comply with the waste collection guidelines set forth by the university.
3. Turn off the faucet while brushing teeth, lathering soap, and washing dishes.
4. Make proper use of hand soap and dish detergent.
5. Switch off lights and electrical equipment in empty rooms.
6. Utilize educational and physical materials from the previous year either for personal use or consider sharing them with peers for the new academic year.
7. Remove obstructions from windows to make the best use of daylight and keep doors and windows closed wherever possible to prevent warm or cool air from escaping.
8. Attempt to reduce the reliance on fans and heaters on campus, and when their usage is unavoidable, ensure that their surfaces remain unobstructed by objects.

9. Seek out environmentally friendly ways to dispose of old or non-functional electronic devices.
10. Unplug electrical devices when fully charged or not in use.
11. Utilize cloud services for hosting frequently used software, implement selective backup and synchronization practices, and regularly declutter computer drives and email inbox.
12. Set personal and public computers and other ICT devices to energy-saving modes and shut down computers instead of using standby modes.
13. Install updates to ensure devices operate efficiently and securely and keep devices' cooling systems clean to prevent overheating and inefficient energy usage.
14. Minimize the use of elevators/escalators and opt for the staircase when possible.
15. Foster a paperless campus environment by advocating for electronic communication, online submissions, virtual reading, and digital documentation.
16. Hold the university accountable for its unsustainable practices, environmentally unfriendly vendor bids, and energy-loss measures.
17. Encourage and endorse student associations/clubs whenever they undertake initiatives related to climate protection, sustainability, and energy conservation.
18. Support student associations/clubs in establishing collection points, coordinating clothes swap hubs, and conducting regular donation drives to redirect usable items from the waste stream and foster a circular economy.
19. Raise awareness and share knowledge about innovative methods of energy saving and sustainability measures among peers.
20. Encourage peers to adhere to the *GREEN CIVICA CHARTER*, champion its principles across other university alliances and continue to implement it beyond the confines of university campuses.

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