



Establishment of a Purple, Gold, and Green Program at Alcorn State University

Issue:

Alcorn State University was in need of a recycling program for the University at large to include refuse recycling as well as solid waste recycling and composting.

What has been done:

Recycling containers have been installed across campus and through contractual arrangements a waste management company has undertaken the recycling portion of refuse.

A site has been identified for establishment of a composting facility for university organic solid waste to include vegetation, food service waste, and animal waste.

Impacts/New Partnerships:

Alcorn State University now has an operational recycling program. A compost facility is soon to be completed that will convert organic waste that would wind up in a landfill, into a usable product that will serve as a soil additive to improve and enrich the soil, and supplement organic production of crops. In this process, various components of the University collaborated, building relationships and improving the team environment across campus.

Outcome of Project (societal impact/ measure of increased quality of life)

Through this program Alcorn State University will decrease the environmental footprint that is made upon the planet. As an institution of nearly 5000 students, faculty, and staff, the impact is significant upon the Southwest Mississippi region, and adds to the total efforts nationally and globally. The compost generated by the project will be incorporated into growing areas across the University, thereby reusing organic wastes, and decreasing the purchase of organic matter (peat moss, topsoil, etc.) that would be utilized in place of the compost created.

How has your project been aided by your FSLI experience?

My participation in the FSLI experience has provided me with tools to promote collaboration, effective communication, and constructive team building. As the project developed, these skills were helpful in building consensus among administrators across campus to move the project forward.

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