



**RESOLUTION No.** 2014-15-19  
**AUTHORED BY:** Jesse Carpentier, Student-at-Large  
**REFERRED TO:** AS COUNCIL  
**ACTION APPROVED:** April 30, 2015  
**SUBJECT:** In Support of a Zero-Waste Campus

**WHEREAS**, the Associated Students Council at Humboldt State University (HSU) is the single recognized voice for over 8,000 students; and,

**WHEREAS**, the HSU Office of the President explicitly states that we "believe individuals must be environmentally, economically and socially responsible in the quest for viable and sustainable communities"<sup>1</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, selling products with disposable packaging and creating a large quantity of food waste is an unsustainable practice that continues at HSU; and,

**WHEREAS**, avoiding the creation of waste in the first place is the most economically efficient and environmentally sustainable resource management strategy; and,

**WHEREAS**, landfills are a significant source of greenhouse gas emissions and groundwater contamination<sup>2</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, in 2014 HSU landfilled 626 tons of waste<sup>3</sup>, emitting approximately 345 metric tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere through the transportation and breakdown of materials in the landfill<sup>4</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, in 2014 HSU recycled and composted only 57% of waste<sup>5</sup>, much due to the sale of disposable packaging, and the misplacement of recyclables and compostables; and,

**WHEREAS**, "zero-waste" is defined as the on-going effort towards reducing materials needed for operations and 90% waste diversion from the landfill; and,

**WHEREAS**, "zero-waste" will be achieved by modifying purchasing policies as well as providing the necessary education and facilities to increase our waste diversion rate by at least 33% (from 57% to 90%); and,

**WHEREAS**, the California State University Sustainability Policy calls for 80% waste diversion by 2020 and zero-waste thereafter<sup>6</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Office of the President, Humboldt State University. (2013). "Mission, Vision, and Values". Website. Retrieved from: <http://www.humboldt.edu/president/vision>

<sup>2</sup> Zero Waste International Alliance. (2009). Website. Retrieved from: <http://www.zwia.org/>

<sup>3</sup> Office of Sustainability, Humboldt State University. (2015).

<sup>4</sup> Environmental Protection Agency. (2015). Website. "Waste Reduction Model." Website. Retrieved from: [http://epa.gov/epawaste/conserve/tools/warm/Warm\\_Form.html](http://epa.gov/epawaste/conserve/tools/warm/Warm_Form.html)

<sup>5</sup> Office of Sustainability, Humboldt State University. (2015). 2014 Waste Audit.

<sup>6</sup> California State University. (2014). "CSU Sustainability Policy." Document. Retrieved from

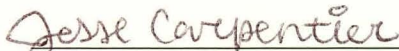
**WHEREAS**, HSU has the opportunity to set an example for other campuses to achieve zero waste and encourage sustainability on a larger level; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, we request that all academic and administrative departments on-campus make the effort to reduce waste within their operations; and be it further

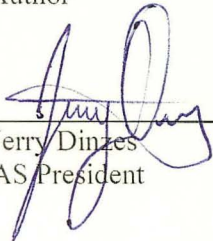
**RESOLVED**, we request that the University Center develops a plan to achieve zero-waste by 2025; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, we request that the University Center forms a university-wide working group to assist in the development of this plan, as well as monitor and report its progress; and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be sent to, but not limited to: the University Center Board of Directors, Director of Dining Services Ron Rudebock, CSU Chancellor Timothy White, HSU President Lisa A. Rossbacher, HSU Interim Provost Jenny Zorn, HSU Administrative Vice President Joyce Lopes, HSU Student Affairs Vice President Peg Blake, Director of Sustainability Tall Chief Comet, Sustainability and Waste Coordinator Morgan King, HSU Resident Housing Association, Humboldt Orientation Program, Dean of the College of Professional Studies John Lee, Dean of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Ken Ayoob, Dean of the College of Natural Resources and Sciences Steve Smith, campus and local media, the Associated Students of each of the CSU's 23 campuses, The Lumberjack, The Lost Coast Outpost, Times Standard, Mad River Union, The North Coast Journal, and KRFH 610 AM.



Jesse Carpentier  
Author



Jerry Dinzes  
AS President



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