Green Lab Recognition Program

Your ideas for improving the concept, program, and engagement.

Lab Sustainability Challenges	Votes
Funding	4
Lack of communication	3
Implicit disposable nature of precision lab work	3
Cost to start up/transition	2
Getting everyone in the lab on the same page	1
Communicating best practices to ESL students	1
How it may affect lab efficiency	1
Administrative buy-in	1
Sterility concerns	1
Waste	1
Need for biosafety	1
Cost of recycling	1
Funding for more efficient equipment	0
Weather	0
I have little power	0
Stability of autoclavable products against chemicals	0
Not knowing how to recycle lab items	0
Actually recycling	0
Inconvenience of everyone having their own reusable things	0
Communication about existing sustainable practices	0
Using interdepartmental resources without direct control	0
Ignorance	0
Laziness	0
Need to travel for international fieldwork	0
Space to store glassware alternatives	0
Reluctance/mistrust of digital resources/alternatives	0
Understanding what we can do that has the most value	0

Help locate alternatives to sterigenics for plate sterilization and reliable courier/shipper for transporting back and forth	0
Materials are often made by petrochemical companies so we need new sources for products	0

Program Ideas	Votes
Thermostat controls in lab and individual offices	4
Reduce/eliminate plastics	4
Automatic lights in labs and offices	3
Bring your own plates from home or have department provide reusable plates and utensils (reduce use of disposable plates and/or trays)	3
Energy-efficient ultra-low freezers should be worth several points.	2
Building-wide sharing reagents/ common stocks	2
Consolidated in use frozen stocks to reduce freezer energy	2
Don't leave the lights on during nights/weekends	2
Bike to work	2
Reusable mugs	2
Avoid plastic bottles (microplastics and neoplastic present in plastic bottles	2
More extensive recycling	2
Improved explanation of what lab materials can be recycled and the why (or why not).	1
Dishwashers for cleaning glassware use less water.	1
Hydroponics for all	1
Carpool to lab	1
Close the sash	1
Food waste/compost options in research buildings.	1
Cell culture plastic recycling	1
Greener plastic waste disposal options	1
Tips!!	1
Reusable glass pipettes	1
Smart thermostats	1

Use public transportation: bus more frequent TigerTransit to train	1
Reducing halogenated solvents	1
Keeping -80C in AC rooms	1
Green energy for computing clusters/data centers	1
Recycling of broken glass waste	1
Glass petri dish	0
Turn off fume hood/equipment	0
Use recyclable lab equipment if possible.	0
Don't run the faucet while cleaning glassware.	0
Automatic sash closers (like in Frick)	0
More whiteboards for brainstorming, less paper flip charts	0
Lab plants	0
Turning off stirring plates at night	0
No more paperwork	0
Reuse pipettes for non-sterile use'	0
Use less CPUs when less are needed	0
Only working 9-5	0
Don't autoclave what doesn't need to be autoclaved	0
Utilize Polycarbin (through the Neta catalog) to recycle lab plastics and buy materials with recycled content	0

Outreach and Engagement Ideas	Votes
Awards, prizes, rewards, medals	6
Reusable mugs/utensils	3
Interdepartmental communication (talk to the environmental experts and learn from those who "already solved the problems"	3
Financial incentives	1
Platforms for discussion with department heads	1
More events like today (SaFest) 0 encourage dialogue and networking with new partners	1

Raise these questions at faculty meetings	1
Online forum on EHS website to post your green innovations/what worked for you	1
Have lunch meetings each semester for exchanging ideas for reducing carbon footprint.	0
Green logos	0
Informational events	0
Certificates	0
Instagram account	0
Included in lab-specific EHS training	0
Coffee reward card	0
Engage third-party company	0
Stickers	0
Incentives/recognition	0
Contests between labs to reduce energy usage	0
Encourage paperless lab meetings	0
Cost sharing with Facilities to bring the cost of energy-efficient freezers in line with cheaper models	0