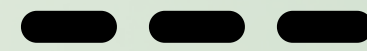




FOSTERING DIVERSITY IN SUSTAINABILITY AT BU

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OUR PROJECT

Boston University (BU) has made a substantial commitment to achieving sustainability in every aspect of university operations, including educational opportunities for undergraduates to engage with sustainability and climate change.

● OUR PROJECT INVESTIGATES

- Diversity in sustainability courses
- Student experiences in sustainability courses
- Perceptions of sustainability courses
- Barriers to taking sustainability courses
- Methods for increasing student participation and inclusivity in sustainability courses



PAST WORK

FROM SURVEY TO FOCUS GROUP

Before hosting our first focus group, we did much work to prepare and understand sustainability at BU's demographic data.

SPRING 2023

FOCUS GROUPS

We hosted 5 focus groups this semester, during which we interviewed 27 total students about their perceptions of barriers to sustainability courses, their experiences in those courses, and how inclusive they found those courses.

RESULTING PRODUCTS

We are currently parsing through the data collected from the focus groups to consolidate into an action plan that provides tangible action items to BU's administration that ensures sustainability touches all students. We have also already drafted a manuscript for publication in a journal.

FOCUS GROUP STATS

6 FOCUS GROUPS

27 PARTICIPANTS

2 FACILITATORS

REPRESENTATIVE OF MANY DIFFERENT RACE, GENDER, AND SEXUAL IDENTITIES



KEY TAKEAWAYS

Students gave us input on tangible ideas that can be implemented throughout all levels of BU's structure

- **EE Department-Level Changes**
advertise sustainability courses better, cultivate a more diverse faculty, include international examples in the coursework to be more inclusive
- **BU-Level Structural Changes**
professors should be more understanding of students' health/well-being, increase HUB credits for sustainability courses, and create a sustainability HUB credit
- **BU-Level Classroom Changes**
make syllabi available before registration, incorporate sustainability unit related to course material, introduce name tags and conference-style classroom setups



FINAL STEPS FOR OUR PROJECT

Our final step for this project is to create an action plan to present to university officials. We hope that our action plan can inform changes that will increase participation and improve students' experiences in sustainability classes.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME

Please take this time to ask any
questions you may have
regarding our project

