

Andrew Connolly
Andrewmc2401
AC750818@ohio.edu
Ohio University

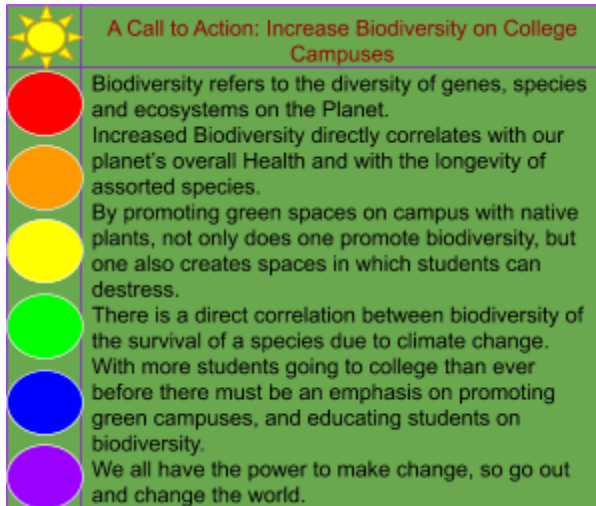
Biodiversity is the foundation on which the existence of life itself is balanced. It enables the world's populations to survive disease, drought, floods, heat, cold, and predation. Without it, life as we know it would cease to exist. Therefore, in order to create the leaders, dreamers, and thinkers of tomorrow, college campuses should strive to educate students on the importance of biodiversity through interdisciplinary studies, and should strive to ensure that their campuses promote biodiversity, and ecological harmony.

These goals can be achieved in multiple ways. First, education is the foundation on which progress can be achieved, thus a proper education of the next generation must include lessons on biodiversity in a manner that can be integrated into any curriculum. Biology programs can include a week of lectures on this, while chemistry programs can focus on the differing reactions of photosynthesis in different organisms due to photosynthetic pigment variation, and how this enables them to survive in different climates. History programs can explore the exponential rate in which extinction is occurring and develop models for the future with, and without proper changes in human behavior. Psychology programs can discover the effects of spending time outdoors on human mood, while education programs can look at how to teach children sustainable lifestyles, and how the natural world stimulate childhood development. Engineering programs can focus on sustainable development and incorporating green spaces into their buildings, while interior design and decorating courses can incorporate more natural designs into their courses. Visual art programs such as photojournalism, painting, photography, and sculpting can have themes of nature and outdoors, while music education and music programs can discover the sounds of nature. Theatre and performing arts programs can look at plays that discuss the climate and adaptation, while film programs can develop their own educational films for the campus on biodiversity. There is an infinite number of ways in which curriculum can be adapted to fit the themes of biodiversity into them.

To directly address biodiversity on campus, the campus can take a series of steps that they can share with the community so all become more aware. First, they can switch to green cleaning products for everything on campus to reduce chemical residue carryover into the environment. Clean safe products will help human and environmental health. Next, when purchasing new plants for campus or crops for the student farm, they should ensure all products are non-GMO as to prevent a loss of biodiversity, and to decrease the spread of Genetically modified genes via pollination. Concurrently, they should strive to purchase native plants only to preserve the regions biodiversity. Following this, they should establish at least two untamed green spaces on each residential green where native plants can grow without human interaction, and at least 5 tamed green spaces on campus with native plants in which students can enjoy time in nature, and be among the native plants. This can include study groves, flower beds by dining halls, or outdoor classrooms in gardens. The University can also set up a fund for people to donate to fund research projects for undergraduate students and graduate

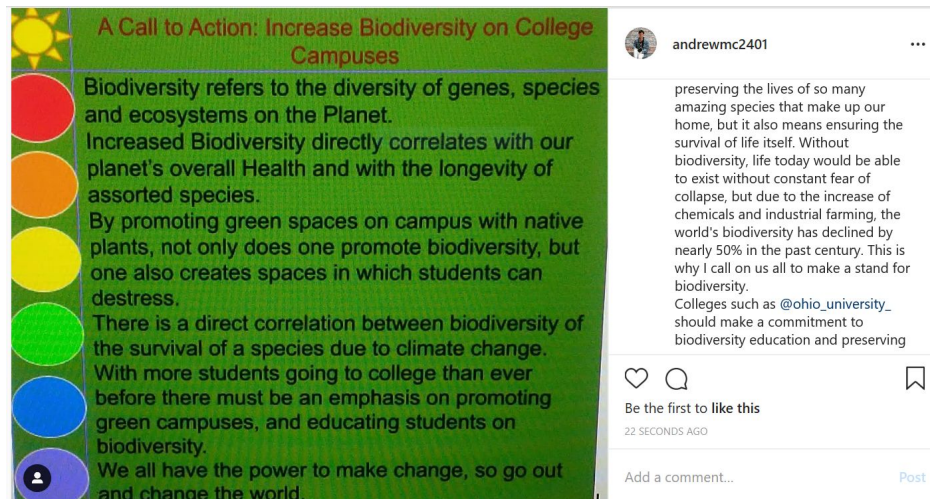
students on the topic of biodiversity, and to fund biodiversity related projects on campus and in the greater Athens community.

We all have the power to change the world for the better, so why don't we?



A Call to Action: Increase Biodiversity on College Campuses

Biodiversity refers to the diversity of genes, species and ecosystems on the Planet. Increased Biodiversity directly correlates with our planet's overall Health and with the longevity of assorted species. By promoting green spaces on campus with native plants, not only does one promote biodiversity, but one also creates spaces in which students can destress. There is a direct correlation between biodiversity of the survival of a species due to climate change. With more students going to college than ever before there must be an emphasis on promoting green campuses, and educating students on biodiversity. We all have the power to make change, so go out and change the world.



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preserving the lives of so many amazing species that make up our home, but it also means ensuring the survival of life itself. Without biodiversity, life today would be able to exist without constant fear of collapse, but due to the increase of chemicals and industrial farming, the world's biodiversity has declined by nearly 50% in the past century. This is why I call on us all to make a stand for biodiversity. Colleges such as @ohio_university_ should make a commitment to biodiversity education and preserving

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