Project Green Challenge 2023 – Day 20 Greenest Category

Los Aprendices – Conrado Manuel Guzmán Flores, Conradogf, (ASU Masters in Sustainability Leadership Program), Mexico City.

First answer these three questions:

1. What environmental topics are you most passionate about?

Conservation, sustainable agriculture, sustainable and responsible use of water

2. What are you good at?

Communication, trainings, setting up groups, project, and team management.

3. What do you love doing?

I love being in nature, surrounded by my friends and other people that like to collaborate. I love being in the field getting to know farmers and their crops. I love teaching and learning.

Now, put your answers into the context of your campus. How is your school performing environmentally? In what areas does it excel? Where is there room for improvement? Where do your skills, passions, and aspirations intersect to form a course of action to address your school's sustainability.

Arizona State is a leading university in sustainability and I'm pursuing a graduate degree on sustainability. However, my program is online, and I live in Mexico City, so I'm not that familiar with what happens on campus.

I have noticed that people in my program are very diverse and have different professional and international backgrounds. And while a key principle to our program is collaboration, once the classes are over, there's little continuity to relationships. These relationships should be key to building diverse teams outside the program to bring collaborative leadership towards sustainability.

I'm not aware there's a group of former students to my program, I bet there is, but perhaps I can be more specific. Yes, I'm interested in environmental topics, but I'm disconnected from other Latinx that are taking the program. I've so far collaborated with another Mexican living in Mexico, a girl from Colombia living in Arizona, and a guy from Brazil also living in the States.

I'm good at organizing and coordinating groups so my proposal is a group for Latinx students. If this group already exists, then join them, see what they're up to and then propose a coalition for a particular environmental cause in our Region.

Pick one area where your school needs to improve and where you are motivated to work for positive environmental outcomes. It's time to plan!

In writing or visuals, answer the following:

What is the environmental focus you have selected?

I have first selected a social focus that can propose environmental actions for our online community.

Why does your school need to improve in this area?

Further promotion of these student organizations (if they exist). I remember reading about them at the beginning of the program, but I don't get any more information for online students, most efforts happen on campus.

Who would you need to work with or call on to make change?

With the assistant director for online programs first and see where she can lead me.

- What are three or four specific recommendations for how this might improve?
- 1. Get a specific list of student organizations for the online program.
- 2. Do any of these organizations are Latinx? If not, propose one.
- 3. Once the organization is formed, do a promotion plan according to guidelines.

• Can you find examples of schools, campuses, or localities that do this well?

My university here in Mexico has a large former student organization, and it has specific groups for degrees where people get together and collaborate from their field of action.

How can you use your skill sets to create this change?

Launching the proposal and get people on board by motivating collaboration as a principle outside the virtual classroom. There are many environmental issues in Latin America, and together from our field of action we can further promote change.

Write up a proposal for your school around this issue that states the problem, plan of action, rationale, and solutions.

Dearest Arizona State:

I'm Conrado Guzmán and I'm currently pursuing the degree of Masters in Sustainability Leadership and I'm participating in Turning Green Org's Project Green Challenge in their 2023 edition. One thing I've noticed is despite collaboration is a foundational principle for the sustainability model of the program, this principle lacks continuity outside the virtual classroom among students perhaps due to the online nature of it. In what ways can we promote further collaboration among online students while attending the program and once they've graduated?

I know there are student organizations and most of them are on campus, but what about the online community? What about the Latinx online students outside the US, like me? If there's such a group, I would love for you to assist me in getting in contact with them. If not, I propose we create a student and former student organization for Latinx students outside the US.

Why I'm focusing on Latinx? Not only because that's the group I belong too, but also because our region is also under environmental and climatic pressure. Such an organization can bring the best of the MSL program to Latin America through us, the online students. Can you assist me in connecting me to the area for student and former student organizations to know the guidelines and make a proposal?

Forever grateful for the awesome School of Sustainability, the faculty, and of course the students.

Sincerely

Conrado Guzman

Post: https://www.instagram.com/p/Cypo7wLgZzL/

