

Varsity not 'green' enough

Refer to the report 'Rewards for recycling', (*StarEducate*, April 15) where UPM is said to be aggressively promoting green activities.

To me, Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) could do more to become a fully 'green' campus. As a student from the university, I strongly believe that UPM is not working hard towards ensuring that its activities and projects on campus are environment-friendly.

First of all, polystyrene containers and plastic bags are widely used by food outlets within the campus and in the cafeterias. While there are students who

patronise food outlets on campus, many of them would rather pack their meals and have it elsewhere.

By doing so, more polystyrene containers and plastic bags are used.

Besides, students usually discard these items after finishing their meals. It is also a fact that food-operators tend to use plastic bags to pack snacks such as nuggets, fried bananas and crispy chips. This is not at all a good practice as the chemical reaction between the plastic bag and hot food could cause environmental and health issues.



Let's Hear It

Let's Hear It, c/o Education Editor,
Menara Star, No. 15 Jalan 16/11,
Section 16, 46350 Petaling Jaya.
e-mail: educate@thestar.com.my

Letters must carry the sender's full name, address, telephone number and signature. A pseudonym may be included.

A better alternative will be to wrap the food in paper or pack them in paper bags.

When an activity or event is to take place, banners and posters are usually printed and hung up in

prominent areas on campus including bus stops and at parking areas. Is it really necessary for say 20 sheets of posters to be placed at every bus stop?

In my opinion, a huge banner would be sufficient to promote an event or activity.

This is not all. Each flyer or poster is wrapped in plastic to protect it from the rain and the sun. These are acts that are totally non-environmental friendly. It would be great if they used less paper and if possible, recycled paper to print the posters.

Also, expecting students to sub-

mit their written assignments on paper, is a procedure that the varsity should do away with.

Being one of Malaysia's top universities, UPM should lead the way by going paperless which means students do not have to submit their written assignments, instead they should do so online.

The UPM management should work hard with the related authorities to ensure that every part of the university fulfils its "green" policy.

ECO TAN
Via e-mail