

RESOLUTION 0017

STUDENT GOVERNMENT BOARD

University of Pittsburgh

21 February 2012

Introduced by Board Member Zoe Samudzi
Co-Sponsored by Board Member Julie Hallinan

Whereas, a sustainable paper purchasing policy is key to combating the global climate crisis, protecting crucial forest, endangered species and the rights of indigenous peoples;

Whereas, institutions of higher education should be leaders in sustainable paper purchasing practices;

Whereas, restrictions should be set on corporations that misrepresent their environmental record, which would besmirch the University of Pittsburgh's reputation as a progressive and socially responsible institution.

Therefore be it resolved, that the Student Government Board of the University of Pittsburgh urges the administration to implement an ambitious **Forest-Friendly Paper Procurement Policy** that promotes preferences to purchase post-consumer recycled paper and tissue products, and in cases where virgin fiber is absolutely necessary, the administration should only purchase wood products that are certified by credible environmental social standards such as the **Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)**;

Be it further resolved, that the Student Government Board of the University of Pittsburgh believes that the **Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI)** or the **Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC)** are non-credible certifications and therefore should not be considered to be environmentally responsible alternatives;

Be it further resolved, that the Student Government Association of the University of Pittsburgh implores the University of Pittsburgh's Purchasing Department to contact current and future distributors with a formal letter explaining its new forest friendly policy as well as a desire to not source from companies such as Asia Pulp & Paper.