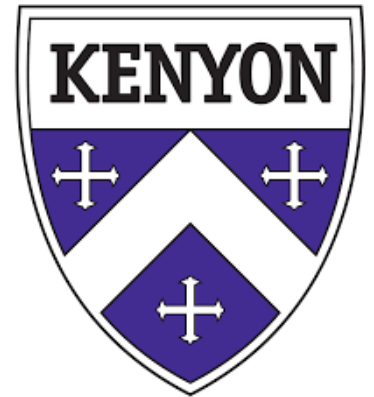


Waste Reduction Goes Digital

Kenyon College, Ohio, USA



The KOGI app offers Kenyon college students and community members a “free-cycle” platform to share items that would otherwise be discarded (contributing to landfill waste and excess consumption). Through the Kenyon Office of Green Initiatives (KOGI) by empower individuals to contribute individually to the college’s larger-picture sustainability initiatives.



Until the fall of 2017, Harcourt Parish Episcopal Church hosted an annual Rummage Sale at which both Kenyon students and local residents could purchase items left behind when students vacated residence halls in the Spring. (The photo illustrates the scale of the waste previously managed by this sale.)

As the popularity of apartment-style residences began to overtake traditional-style dormitories, the scale of items brought to campus by students each year (and subsequently discarded) also expanded exponentially. Despite growing involvement by Kenyon’s offices of Residential Life and Green Initiatives, the Rummage Sale grew beyond the institutional capacity to support. Yet the problem of waste and over-consumption remained.

In the fall of 2022 this excess of waste, provided an outlet for Kenyon student Dennis Frimpong to use his background in product development. He has designed “KOGI Space” a free app “to be a first-to-go place for a give & take, creating points for students to realize their contribution to Kenyon’s Zero emission goal.” While the app is not yet launched on the Apple/Google play stores, it is “soft-launched” via web browsers. Upon launching at the end of the semester as an alternative to the former rummage sale, Frimpong hopes to see 250 individual exchanges and 1000 users.

<https://www.kenyon.edu/campus-life/sustainability-green-initiatives/>