



# Cornell University Student Assembly

*Stay Informed. Get Involved. Make a Difference.*

Dear Department,

The Cornell Student Assembly recently passed Resolution 29: Student Supported Net-Print Improvements. In this resolution, students outlined goals and policy changes for Cornell's Net-Print service that they would like to see implemented by Cornell Information Technologies and individual departments with their own Net-Print printer(s).

In accordance with the University's commitment to sustainability, we encourage all departments with lab computers or quick-print stations to set all computers to print double-sided by default. This is a simple measure that can be taken by each department's individual IT staff. Students are often in a hurry when printing documents or do not think to select duplex printing. Ensuring that double-sided is the default computer setting is an easy yet effective way to reduce paper consumption.

Another goal that students stand firmly behind is reducing the amount of virgin paper used by transitioning to 100% post-consumer waste recycled paper. Several years ago, the CIT Labs took the lead in switching to 100% post-consumer waste paper, but many departments with Net-Print printers still lag behind.

After multiple years of experience in the CIT Labs, we are certain that post-consumer waste recycled paper does not cause printing jams or added wear to equipment. Recycled paper coincides with this institution's sustainability initiatives and commitment to carbon neutrality by 2050. It is worth the price premium considering its reduced environmental impacts.

Lastly, we recommend that your department transition to a dual pricing scheme for single-sided and duplex printing as the capability becomes available from CIT in the near future. All Net-Print printers currently charge a fixed price per side, usually \$.09. Under this pricing structure, individuals have no monetary incentive to print using double-sided.

A dual pricing scheme would give departments the ability to charge a small price differential between single-sided and duplex printing such as \$.09 for the front side, and \$.07 for the back side of a page. This benefits users in two ways: reduced paper consumption and lower costs. Creating a price differential will encourage users to choose double-sided printing, thus reducing the amount of paper consumed. Lowering the cost of printing on the back side of the page will reduce the total cost of printing multiple page documents. Net-Print was created in 1996 with the intent of providing users quality printing at low rates. Dual pricing provides the opportunity to return Net-Print to its original intent.

Cornell became one of the first Universities to charge students for printing seventeen years ago when Net-Print was established. This bold move reduced wasteful printing by several million pages per year. Subsequently, collaboration between CIT and student groups led to the discontinuation of cover pages, and an impressive increase in the availability of double-sided printing. With your department's help, we hope that this effort will have comparable success and reaffirm Cornell University's position as a leader and an innovator in sustainability.

Sincerely,

Matthew Henderson '16  
Agriculture and Life Sciences Representative, Student Assembly

Emma Johnston '16  
Environmental Task Force Chair, Community Life Committee

Matthew Stefanko '16  
Industrial and Labor Relations Representative, Student Assembly