

# Implementing Oscar Sort to Increase Effective Recycling

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## Introduction:

Most recyclable objects are used one time and discarded in the garbage. Additionally, many people do not know which items are recyclable and which are garbage, leading to many recyclable and compostable items being placed in the garbage and many garbage items placed in the recycle bin. Not recycling recyclable items leads to many negative environmental impacts including pollution of land and water, plastics in animals, and a large carbon footprint. To improve proper recycling rates, Oscar Sort will be implemented in the SURC, library, and Nicholson Pavillion. Oscar Sort is an AI recycling assistant that shows people how to disassemble an object to either recycle, compost, or throw away the different pieces.

## Oscar Sort:

- Oscar Sort can be programmed to have interactive games and ads, so people will be more encouraged to interact and use Oscar Sort properly
- Oscar Sort will make people more aware of the items that are recyclable, compostable, and garbage, so they will continue to be aware when discarding items without Oscar Sort
- Oscar Sort will make CWU a more sustainable college by decreasing the amount of waste that is produced at CWU.
- The amount of garbage, recycle, and compost will be tracked by Oscar Sort, so we will be able to see the large impact that Oscar Sort will have on Campus
- Oscar Sort will be programmed to three bins for recycling, compost, and waste

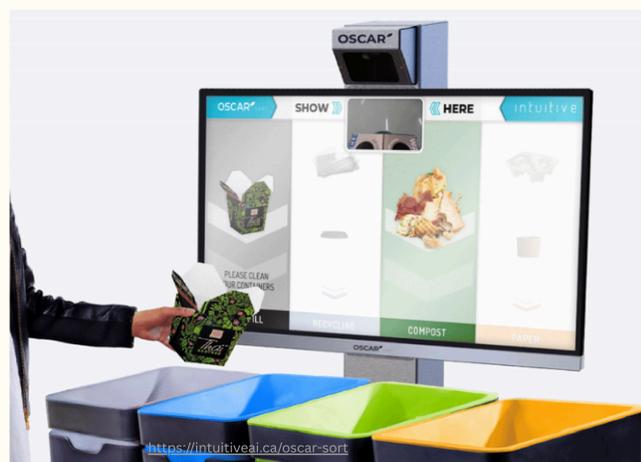


Figure 1. How Oscar Sort shows people which bin to put items in.

## Bins:

- There is a variety of garbage containers throughout campus. Slowly replacing these different types of cans with Commercial Zone and MaxR bins will make it easier for people to figure out what is recycle, compost, and garbage even with Oscar Sort not present
- Ten of the Commercial Zone bins will be placed in the SURC
- Twelve single MaxR bins will be retrofitted and placed in the library and Nicholson Pavillion as sets of three. There are two locations in each building that will have the MaxR bins
- Each Commercial Zone and retrofitted MaxR bin will be accompanied by an Oscar Sort



Figure 2. The Commercial Zone bins that will be installed with Oscar Sort.



Figure 3. MaxR bins that will be retrofitted and placed in the library and Nicholson Pavillion.

## Conclusion:

Oscar Sort will be implemented throughout the SURC, library, and Nicholson Pavilion in fourteen different locations. Oscar Sort will help CWU greatly reduce the waste in the different buildings. In the next few years, it will be important to expand Oscar Sort into different buildings to further decrease the amount of waste produced at CWU.

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## Sustainable Development Goals:

