



**** Green Initiatives****

The main idea of the project „Green Initiatives“ at VMU, Faculty of Political Science and Diplomacy (Kaunas, Lithuania) born in the late autumn, 2011, just before the beginning of winter exams session at university. We realized that Faculty staff and students consume tons of paper during the school year-making photo copies of the textbooks, articles and other learning materials (as there is no enough books in the main library or there are no articles needed in library's data bases), meanwhile, academic staff is printing teaching materials, midterm and final examination sheets and a lot of other documents for personal use. Same can be applied for administration, that inevitably must collect paper documentation as there is still no more advanced data bases available. University has one nice initiative „VMU. Think green!“ , that calls university community to Walk to VMU on foot, take a bicycle or a bus! Drink coffee only from non-disposable cups! Write in the margins – school days are over! Give the elevator a break – use the stairs more often! The light won't turn itself off – use the switch! Encourage the university community to preserve nature!



However, in the beginning of this project this idea was dying out, so we decided to aim not only for the reduction of the paper and paper supplements at Faculty, but also to revitalize „VMU. Think green!“

PMDF ŽALIOS INICIATYVOS



PERDUOK KITAM :)

What was done?

- „Green shelves“ and „Green boxes“ placed in the main lobby of the Faculty, where students could share their learning materials, leave what they don't longer need for junior colleagues, where teachers could offer interesting books, magazines, articles or informational leaflets about events in academia- public lectures, seminars etc. This „green equipment “is successfully functioning at the moment.
- „PSDF Green Initiatives“ idea was announced publicly in March 2012 in the university intranet First Class, Facebook and during Faculty events and lectures;
- „VMU. Think green“ Further „green“ ideas encouragement within the Faculty, informational signs placed, active students encouraged with VMU „green souvenirs“. Hopefully, in the long run will make the difference.
- Written and verbal information given for Faculty staff try to reduce paper consumption, print less and reuse paper, paper supplements. During spring semester gave quite good results- less photo copies made, less virgin paper consumed.
- Online library of Department of Political Science Department created (initiative by master students of Diplomacy and International Relations).

It was very local and tiny initiative to make difference with quite limited resources, but we can be very happy-it works and hopefully it will have a continuation in the years to come and maybe „green“ ideas will become not only initiative, but beautiful tradition at Faculty of Political Science and Diplomacy.