

2021.

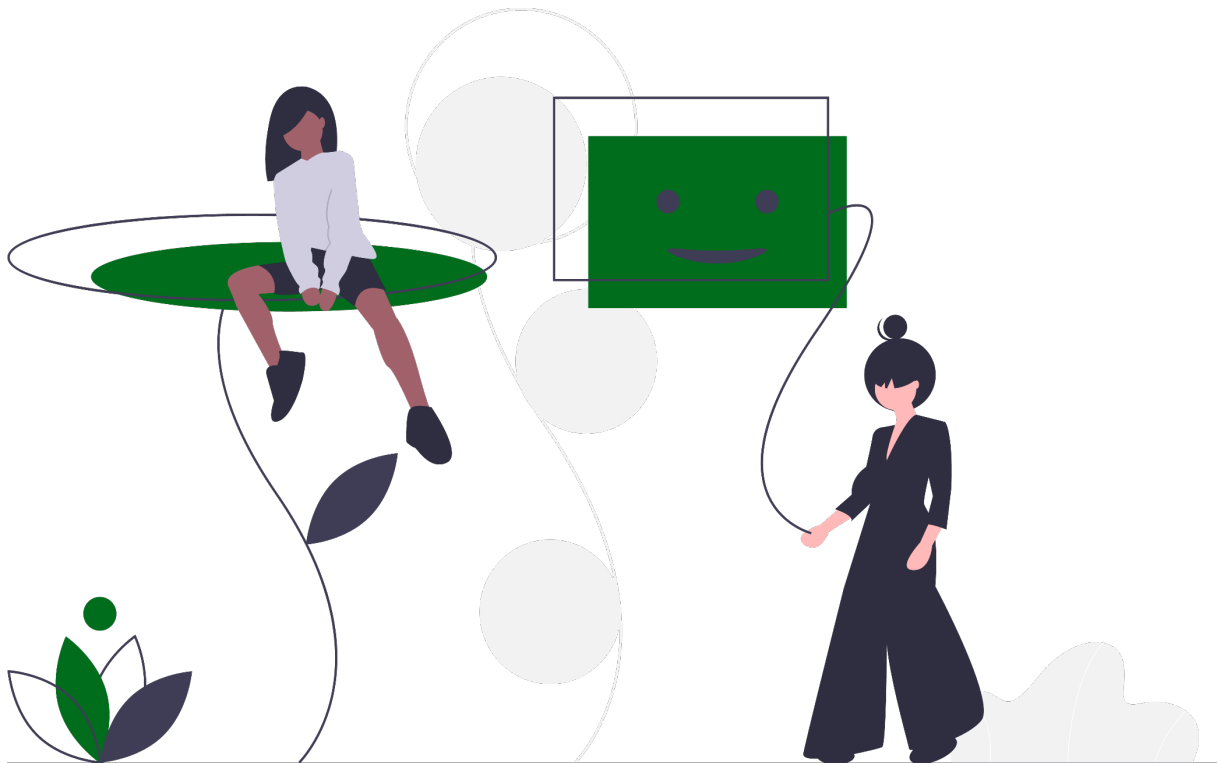
# GREEN UNIVERSITY PROJECT



Semmelweis University  
Student's Union  
2021.

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# INTRODUCTION

Dear Semmelwies Students!

We would like to introduce you the new Green University Project!

The Student's Union so far has focused on the operation within our university but now it's time to join the other western universities in terms of environmental protection and sustainability as well. Therefore the Student's Union is starting the Green University Project. With this project we would like to decrease the ecological footprint of our community.

Bálint Tripolszky invited us, Blanka Erdélyi-Nagy and Petra Timár to lead this project. We are both students of the Faculty of General Medicine and the protection of our environment is a priority for both of us.

With the mentality of **“Think globally, act locally!”** we would like to show the importance of the everyday choices in environmental sustainability.



# MAIN GOALS

We have set ourselves three main goals:

First things of all we would like to develop the education about environmental sustainability. We want to draw attention of all students at Semmelweis University to our responsibility for our environment, both individually and globally.

Next step we must create an environmentally conscious thinking and integrate it into our everyday life.

Finally we want everyone at Semmelweis University to fight as a unity for a better and sustainable future.



# OUR PLANS

## EDUCATION

- As we said before it is important that everyone develops a critical mindset about environmental awareness, so as part of education, we would like to create a new optional subject that would be particularly useful for students who are interested in this topic and want to know and do even more for the environment.

- We also consider it very important that the citizens of Semmelweis get an accurate picture of the current situation and prospects of the Earth and what we can do locally to improve this situation.

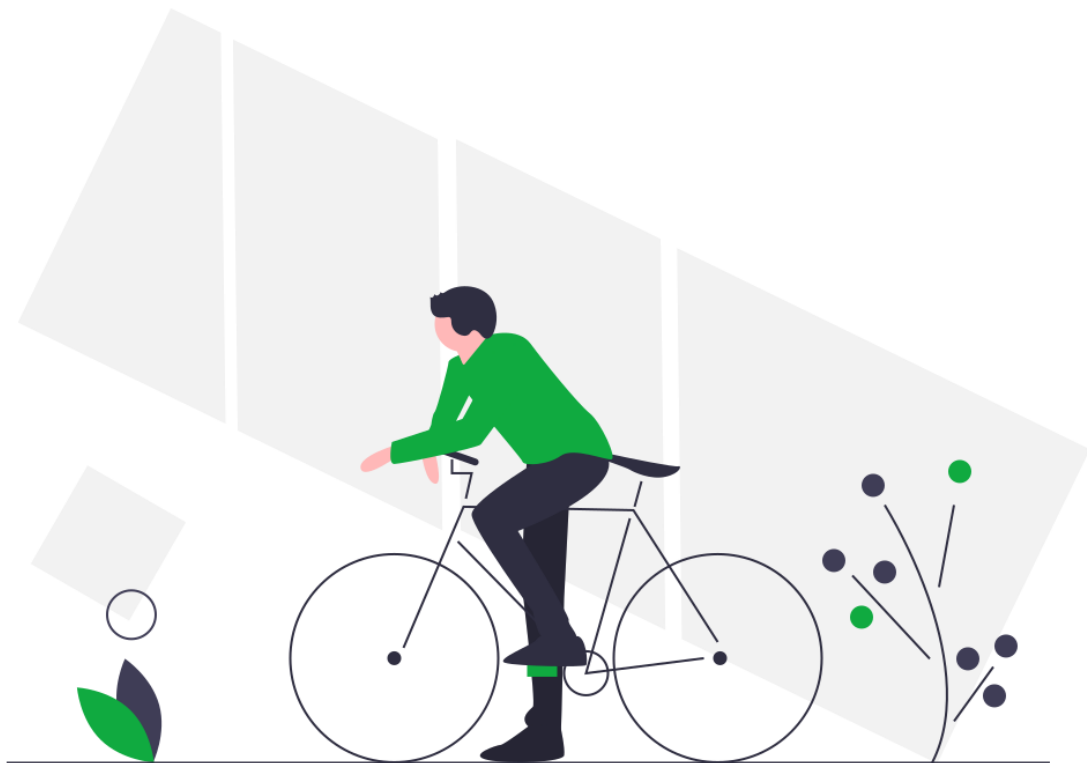


Therefore, we believe that it would be extremely useful to ask various guests who are familiar with the topic and people who are fighting for environmental protection every day to give a high-quality talk on our events.

- Also we would like to create a Facebook group to provide regular information, keep in touch and exchange tips with all enthusiastic students who would like to participate in this movement.

## TRANSPORTATION

- We want to encourage Semmelweis citizens to choose an environmentally conscious way of transportation. In order to make it happen we have the following plans:
  - Place well secured bicycle storage by every one of the university buildings, meaning by the clinics too. **We were pleased to see that 45,9% of the students who has filled out our questionnaire would consider using bikes more in this case.**
  - If possible we want to provide a Semmelweis discount on community bike and electronic roller services. 61,3% of students would use these if we make it happen.
  - There are more and more bicycle roads in Budapest, therefore we want to educate all Semmelweis citizens about rules and safety of biking in the city.



## MEALS

- 334 students are vegetarian or vegan only from those who has filled out our questionnaire, and we know that right now the university canteens are not providing an acceptable variety of plant based options. We want to change that! We would place a lot more meat-free and plant based alternatives on the menu in the future. For this we will need your help again. Please contact us and tell us what exactly would you like to see on the menu, what is that you particularly miss as a vegan or vegetarian snack.
- In order of decreasing CO2 emissions and to raise awaraness of the sustainability issues in the meat industry, we suggest to have Meat-free Mondays at the university canteens, with many vegetarian alternatives. We are so glad that **82,15% of the students who filled out our questionnaire supported this idea.**
- Also we want to minimize food wasting, therefore we want to build a community compost somewhere near the university buildings where we can collect our kitchen waste, even from home.



## SAY NO TO PLASTIC

- Our goal is to minimize plastic usage at the university, so we want to ban plastic bottles and non recycled cups. Of course we will provide alternatives. **In the questionnaire 86,4% of the student has supported this idea.**



## PAPER USAGE

- Minimizing our economical footprint includes focusing on creating less and less trash. We want to encourage everyone to choose second hand books, and also we would like if the Semmelweis Publishing and Media Studio would provide all the books in e-book format. **62% of the students said that they would prefer digital books instead of paper based ones.**



## **SELECTIVE WASTE**

- We want to place more recycle bins in the building to encourage more students to support recycling and have clearly written instructions above the bins about how to use them correctly. 97% of the students said that they would use the recycle bins more often if there were more and would have more understandable signs.
- Also we want to place used battery collectors in the buildings too.



## **PARTNERSHIPS**

- In order to make sure that the opportunity for an environmentally conscious lifestyle is not limited to the university life only, we have sought out companies and businesses whose main profile contains sustainability. We would like to develop a collaboration with these companies and businesses that would encourage students and university staff to choose these places for a coffee, lunch or shopping. For example: we want to provide more coffee places that give discounts to students who

ask for a drink in a reusable cup with the Semmelweis logo that you buy in the Semmelweis shop.

- We pay special attention to the products which are sold in the Semmelweis Shop. There are already many environmentally conscious products on the shelves, but we want to increase their number in the future.

## COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

- We believe that it is necessary to start taking an action not only at our university, but also in Budapest. With a large-scale project that can set an example for the other universities and the citizens of the capital. What exactly



do we mean? As a first step, we want to organize a joint tree planting and garbage pick-up event in the city.

- Furthermore, collecting houseplants has become increasingly popular among young people in the past months. We want to support this hobby and create a “Semmelweis Plant lovers” online platform where foreign and hungarian students can share their experiences, ask for help from each other, and encourage others creating a more pleasant and cleaner atmosphere in their homes.

## SECOND HAND FAIRS

- In the name of sustainability, we would like to organize fairs at the university where students could sell / exchange their used things instead of throwing them

away. **More than half, 57.8%, of the Semmelweis citizens who completed the questionnaire would support second-hand fairs**



**and would be happy to participate in them.**

- So called “wardrobe exchange,” which is an used clothing fair has become quite popular all over the city, so we are sure if there would be an university wardrobe fair many student would come to buy/exchange clothes in the name of environmental protection and sustainability.
- Houseplants can be beautiful ornaments for a room, also caring for them is a great hobby and a particularly stress-relieving activity. That is why we would like to organize a Semmelweis plant fair, where students can bring plants for sale / exchange, and we would invite environmentally conscious businesses and plant vendors too.

# GREEN POINTS

In order to motivate all students to be more conscious about the environment we would like to give them green points that they could collect through the semester every time they come to one of our events or they drink a coffee at a place we suggested. The green points could be collected electronically in the upcoming Semmelweis application. In the end of the semester the points can be exchanged for awesome gifts.



# JOIN US!

There is always room for improvement and if we do it together there is a lot more opportunity to it. Therefore we would like to ask all students who are interested in this project to join our team so we can learn from each other and to develop together with our project. Please if you have any further suggestions or ideas contact us and tell your opinion about it and also join our upcoming Green University Facebook group where we could keep in touch and exchange these ideas. This is a project that can only be successful if we are working all together in it.

**We believe that we can really make a difference and achieve great things together!**



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