RecycleMania a Success

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Tulane wrapped up its fourth annual RecycleMania competition, with members of the Tulane community collecting 131,000 pounds of recycled material on the uptown campus and more than 3,000 pounds on the downtown campus during the competition.

RecycleMania is a national competition in which more than 200 colleges and universities participate to raise awareness of the schools' recycling programs. The overall goal of RecycleMania is to lower waste generation by reducing, reusing and recycling, said student Alice Zhang, a key organizer of the Tulane event.

More than 150 students participated in this year's RecycleMania competition at Tulane. Student organizations, dorm floors, sororities and many groups of friends participated. Small groups (1â_"8 students), medium groups (9â_"25 students) and large groups (26â_"50 students) competed against each other. They brought paper, cardboard, aluminum and plastic to collection sites every Friday from Jan. 29 through March 19.

David Gray, an event organizer, was excited to see the students' passion for recycling. "They brought recyclables to the drop-off site even when it was wet and cold outside. These students exemplify what it means to do green," Gray said.

Alpha Phi Omega topped the medium-size team category by recycling more than 470 pounds. For their prize, the sorority partied at Adventure Quest Laser Tag. The Recyclatiers came in first in the small-team category. For their efforts, team members received free passes to the Audubon Zoo.

The Tulane Tree Huggers, best in the large-team category, celebrated with an allexpenses-paid party at Rock 'n' Bowl. For placing first in the residence-hall competition, residents of the fourth floor of Phelps had free fun at the Rat.