



The Environmental Students' Union History

ENSU was established at the University of Toronto in 1992. Historically, ENSU was a student union that focused primarily on providing its members with academic information and coordinating events of a similar nature. An annual Environmental Graduate Forum was held at which representatives from various colleges and university graduate programs would present information.

Toward the late 90s, ENSU became focused on raising awareness about environmental issues external to Geography, Innis Environmental Studies and Division of the Environment Programs. A greater emphasis was placed on coordinating educational events that would allow all students in the University community to take an active role in protecting the environment. Projects included: a variety of environmental documentary and film screenings; several nature hikes in both the fall and spring; a TTC recycling campaign; the University of Toronto paper conservation campaign; and an event entitled “The Truth about Ontario’s Environmental Policy” featuring former Environmental Commissioner, Eva Ligeti.

Unfortunately in the new millennium, ENSU's membership declined. Many students graduated and were not able to pass on the necessary information to keep the union strong. However, since fall 2009 a group of students from the Centre for Environment have been working progressively to gain ENSU's legendary status back. Its members are working toward similar events, improving its communication with environmentally interested students and providing students with advice on their Centre programs. Along with movie nights focused on current environmental issues, ENSU plans to provide its members and students with an opportunity to directly communicate to Alumni from the Centre of Environment and its related programs and to enjoy fun social networking and environmentally conscious events.

In the following years, ENSU will continue to strengthen its members, its public service to the University of Toronto and its surrounding city, and its goal to help students find opportunities in the environmental sector.

ENSU looks forward to its coming years and hopes that students, like you, will help to keep it alive and growing – just like our environment!

Written by: Kristle Calisto-Tavares (2000)

Updated by: Kelly Mingram (2009)