

### THE PROBLEM

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS HAS ESTABLISHED A GOAL TO ACHIEVE 90% WASTE DIVERSION FROM LANDFILL BY THE YEAR 2021. DUE TO THE SIZE AND COMPLEXITY OF A LARGE ACADEMIC INSTITUTION, ACHIEVING A GOAL OF THIS MAGNITUDE REQUIRES A GREAT DEAL OF EFFORT ACROSS CAMPUS. ADDITIONALLY, THE COST TO LANDFILL WASTE IS CONSIDERABLY LOWER THAN THE COST TO RECYCLE. THIS REALITY FORCES THE U OF A TO MAKE A DECISION TO EITHER ALLOCATE SCARCE RESOURCES TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS, OR TO CONTINUE STAGNATION, AND GUARANTEEING FAILURE.

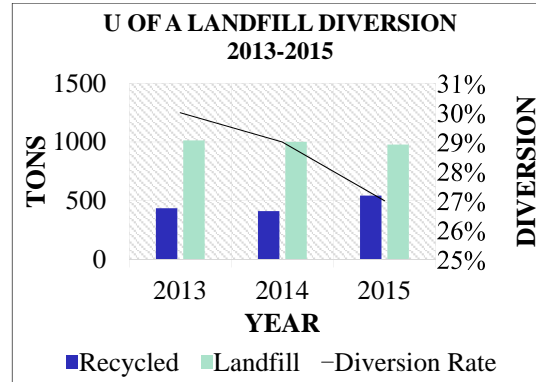
### THE PROJECT

DATA WAS GATHERED FROM VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS ACROSS CAMPUS TO GET AN UNDERSTANDING OF CURRENT WASTE LEVELS. NEXT, RECYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE AND PROGRAMS WERE ANALYZED THROUGHOUT CAMPUS TO EXAMINE THE EFFICACY OF CURRENT RESOURCE ALLOCATION.

### THE OUTCOME

THERE WERE THREE NOTABLE OUTCOMES OF THE PROJECT: ONE, ACHIEVEMENT OF THE 2021 GOAL WILL REQUIRE ADDITIONAL RESOURCE ALLOCATION. WITHOUT CHANGE, THE UNIVERSITY WILL NOT ACHIEVE ITS GOAL OF 90% DIVERSION, OR EVEN EXPERIENCE A CONSIDERABLE INCREASE IN THE DIVERSION RATE.

### GRAPHS

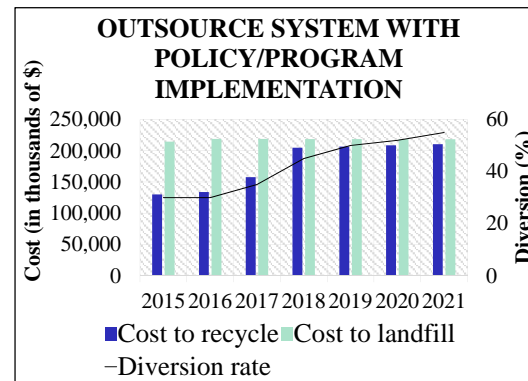
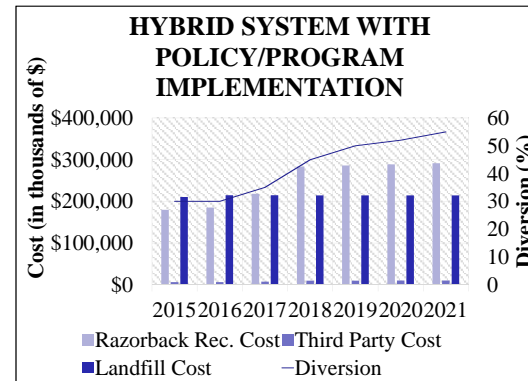
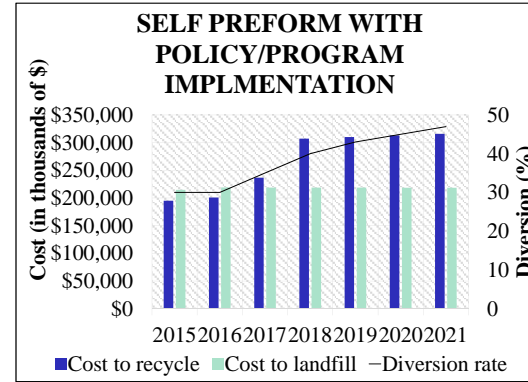


### THE OUTCOME

THE SECOND OUTCOME OF MY ANALYSIS WAS A LIST OF POLICIES AND PROGRAMS THAT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO MAKE PROGRESS TOWARDS THE GOAL. SOME EXAMPLES INCLUDE: COMPREHENSIVE PROCUREMENT AVERSION STRATEGY, CONSISTENT RECYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE THROUGHOUT CAMPUS, AND COMPREHENSIVE RECYCLING THROUGHOUT GREEK INSTITUTIONS AND RESIDENT HALLS.

THE THIRD OUTCOME WAS AN OUTLINE OF POSSIBLE OPTIONS THE UNIVERSITY HAS TO ADVANCE THEIR RECYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE. IN SUMMARY, THE THREE OPTIONS ARE TO SELF PERFORM RECYCLING, OUTSOURCE, OR USE A HYBRID SYSTEM. FINANCIAL ANALYSIS WAS CONDUCTED TO ANALYZE COST EFFECTIVNESS MEASURED AGAINST DIVERSION EFFICACY OF THE SYSTEMS.

### GRAPHS



### SUSTAINABILITY

RECYCLING IS CRITICAL TO A SUSTAINABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY IN A WORLD WHERE MASSIVE CONSUMPTION RESULTS IN MASSIVE WASTE. PREVENTING WASTE FROM INFILTRATING OUR ECOSYSTEMS IS IMPERATIVE TO PROTECT BIODIVERSITY.

WHILE RECYCLING IS AN IMPORTANT COMPONENT OF SUSTAINABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT, THE UNDERLYING PROBLEM THAT MUST BE ADDRESSED IS OVER-CONSUMPTION AND FERVENT CONSUMERISM.

### NEXT STEPS

THIS WORK RESULTED IN A ZERO WASTE SUMMIT, WHERE INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL WASTE STAKEHOLDERS GATHERED IN FEBRUARY TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE OPTIONS. NOTABLY, THE CONVERSATION COVERED THE REALITY THAT SCARCE RESOURCES PRESENTS CHALLENGES TO ACHIEVING THE GOAL.

DIVERSION IMPROVMENT WILL REQUIRE ADHERING TO THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES:

1. CONSISTENT INFRASTRUCTURE
2. COMPREHENSIVE POLICIES AND PROGRAMS
3. CONSTANT IMPROVEMENT