



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
SA SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR

SA Sustainable Printing Proposal

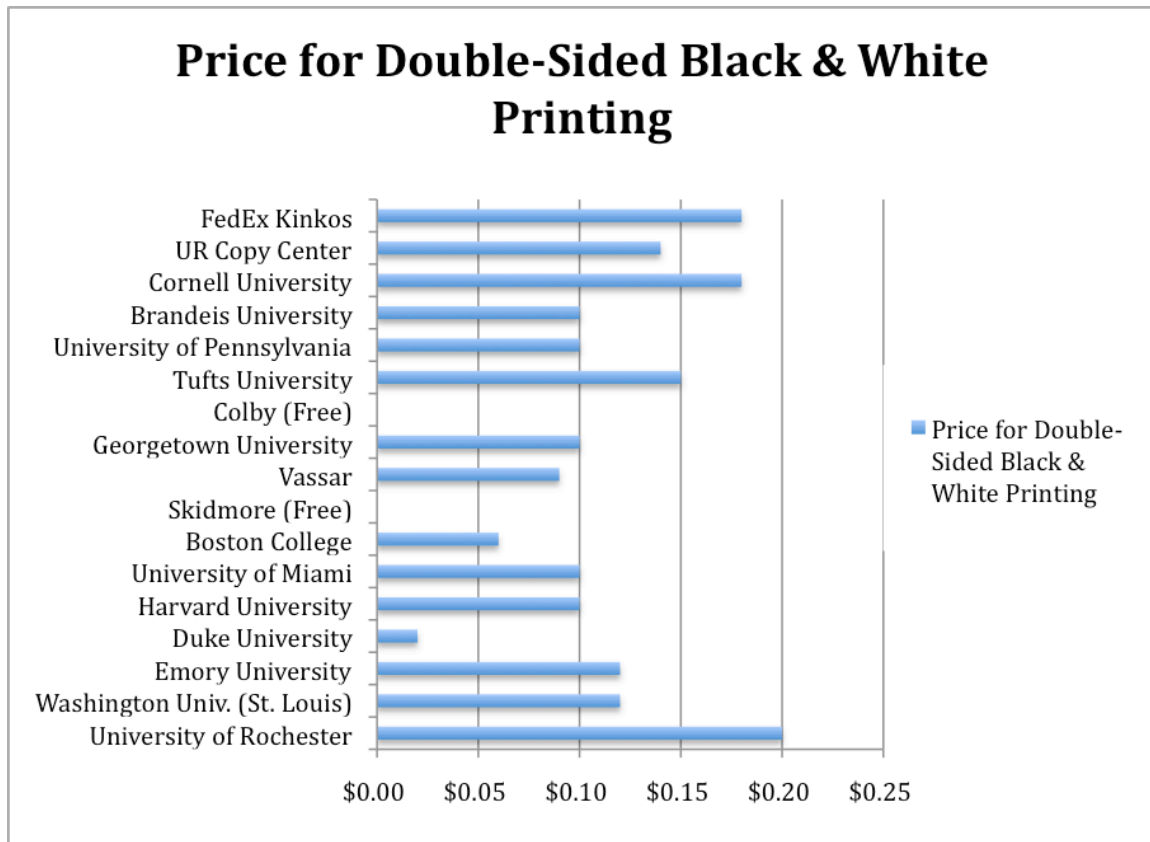
Proposal To Reduce the Cost of Printing and Incentivize Double-Sided Printing

Introduction:

The Students' Association Government was initially interested in the cost of printing because of our focus on environmental sustainability. However, after conducting preliminary research, we found that the cost of printing at UR also significantly higher than that of our peers. The current price of printing a single-sided sheet of paper is \$0.10 and the price of printing a double-sided sheet of paper is \$0.20. We see two major issues with the current system:

1. There is no financial incentive to print double-sided, which saves paper and would be better for the environment
2. The cost of printing is significantly higher compared to many of our peer institutions.

The Students' Association Government conducted a benchmarking study of printing at some of our peer institutions, and the results of this benchmarking are below. This proposal will outline our recommendations and reasoning based on this benchmarking and student feedback.





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**Cost of Printing to Students at University of Rochester
Benchmarking of Printing Costs at Peer Institutions**

School	B/W Printing Cost	Color Printing Cost	Printing Allotment?
University of Rochester	\$.10 for one side, \$.20 for double-sided	\$.60 per page (no double-sided possible)	None
Washington University (St. Louis)	\$.08 for one side, \$.12 for double-sided	\$.50 per side	None
Emory University	\$.08 for one side, \$.12 for double-sided	\$.50 for one side, \$.75 for double-sided	None
Duke University	\$.01 for one side, \$.02 for double-sided (after allotment is used)	\$.50 per side	\$36 allotment per semester
Harvard University	\$.05 for one side, \$.10 for double sided	\$.15 per side	None
University of Miami	\$.05 for one side, \$.10 for double-sided (after allotment is used)	\$.10 per side	\$100 allotment per semester
Boston College	\$.03 for one side, \$.06 for double-sided	Unknown	500 page allotment B/W per semester
Skidmore	Always free to students	\$.50 per side	None
Vassar	\$.05 for one side, \$.09 for double-sided (after allotment is used)	\$.15 for one side, \$.29 for double-sided	\$32.50 allotment per semester (~650 pages)
Georgetown University	\$.10 for one side, \$.10 for double-sided	\$.65 per page	None
Colby	Always free to students	First 100 pages free, then \$.10 per page	First 100 pages color free
Tufts University	\$.10 for one side, \$.15 for double-sided	\$.30 for one side, \$.45 for double-sided	None
University of Pennsylvania	\$.07 for one side, \$.10 for double-sided	\$.28 per side	None
Brandeis University	\$.10 for one side, \$.10 for double-sided	\$.50 per page	None
Cornell University	\$.09 for one side, \$.18 for double-sided*	\$.20-\$.50 per page	None
UR Copy Center	\$.07 for one side, \$.14 for double-sided	\$.50 per page	N/A
FedEx Kinkos**	\$.09 for one side, \$.18 for double-sided	Unknown	N/A

*Prices at Cornell vary based on the printing lab, however the prices in this chart are those charged by Cornell IT Services managed printers.

**Kinkos prices based on self-serve copies on standard paper

Note: Research above based on information available online as well as contacting students at institutions for confirmation.



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Proposal Details:

The Students' Association Senate proposes that the price for student printing be lowered. Presently, the prices that stand at \$0.10 for a single side and \$0.20 for double sided printing are higher than our peer institutions and do not promote sustainable activity.

Given the benchmarking presented in the table above, we believe that the University of Rochester's pricing is unreasonably expensive when compared to our peer institutions. We support a system that encourages the use of University printers, as it is a sustainable alternative to the use of personal printers. In addition, we support placing a financial incentive on sustainable printing practices by encouraging double-sided printing.

We are *not* recommending completely free printing or a quota system because we believe that students should be responsible for paying the costs associated with printing. However, we do not believe that our students should have to bear an unreasonable burden to pay for printing at prices that are higher than our peers, higher than some private off-campus copy centers, and even higher than our on campus Copy Center.

While we do not necessarily expect the number of printed pages to decrease by half, we do expect that a system in which double-sided printing is less than double the price of single-sided printing will significantly decrease the amount of paper used.

Summary:

The Students' Association Senate recommends that the price of printing be decreased to a more reasonable amount that is consistent with the price of printing at our peer institutions. In addition, we suggest that the cost of printing a double-sided page be *less than double* the cost of printing a single sided page.

We look forward to working with University IT and River Campus Libraries to establish more reasonable printing prices for undergraduates that support sustainable practices.