Description of Knowledge and Behavior of the Academic Community in Disposing of Garbage on the Environment of Nusa Cendana University

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Abstract. Nusa Cendana University in Kupang has made efforts to provide cleaning facilities, but the campus environment remains dirty due to students' littering behavior. The campus environment stays clean only when students are not present. This study examines the knowledge and behavior related to waste management within the Nusa Cendana University (UNDANA) campus in Kupang. A qualitative phenomenological approach was employed, using semi-structured interviews with 12 participants, including lecturers, students, staff, and cleaning personnel. The results identified four main themes: knowledge, awareness, conformity, and facilities. It was found that the academic community's knowledge of waste management is low, awareness of cleanliness is insufficient, and social conformity, influenced by family and friends, contributes to negative behaviors. Additionally, waste disposal facilities on campus are inadequate and poorly maintained. This study recommends enhancing education, improving facilities, and adopting social approaches to raise awareness and improve waste management behavior among the UNDANA academic community.

Keywords: students, knowledge, behavior, waste

Abstrak. Universitas Nusa Cendana di Kupang telah berupaya menyediakan fasilitas kebersihan, namun lingkungan kampus tetap kotor akibat perilaku siswa yang membuang sampah sembarangan. Lingkungan kampus hanya tetap bersih ketika mahasiswa tidak berada di kampus. Penelitian ini mengkaji pengetahuan dan perilaku terkait pengelolaan sampah di lingkungan kampus Universitas Nusa Cendana (UNDANA) di Kupang. Pendekatan fenomenologis kualitatif digunakan, dengan metode wawancara semi-terstruktur terhadap 12 peserta yang terdiri dari dosen, mahasiswa, staf, dan petugas kebersihan. Hasil penelitian mengidentifikasi empat tema utama: pengetahuan, kesadaran, kesesuaian sosial, dan fasilitas. Ditemukan bahwa pengetahuan komunitas akademik tentang pengelolaan sampah masih rendah, kesadaran untuk menjaga kebersihan juga rendah, dan kesesuaian sosial yang dipengaruhi oleh keluarga dan teman-teman berkontribusi terhadap

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perilaku negatif. Selain itu, fasilitas tempat sampah di kampus masih belum memadai dan kurang terawat. Penelitian ini merekomendasikan perlunya peningkatan edukasi, perbaikan fasilitas, dan pendekatan sosial untuk meningkatkan kesadaran dan perilaku pengelolaan sampah di kalangan komunitas akademik UNDANA.

Kata kunci: mahasiswa, pengetahuan, perilaku, sampah

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Introduction

Every day humans carry out various activities to fulfill their daily needs. These activities always produce waste. Waste is the residue of daily human activities and natural processes in solid form (Faqih, 2016). Waste will cause problems if it is not managed properly. As the population in Indonesia increases every year, the amount of waste increases. The impact caused if the waste is left to cause air, soil and water pollution which can be a source of disease for the community and cause damage to the ecosystem. Based on data recorded at the Kupang City Environment and Hygiene Office in 2024, the amount of waste production in Kupang City per day reached 233 per ton. Of the 233 per ton, only 260 kg has been handled while the rest cannot be handled (RRI Kupang, 2024).

A clean campus is a dream for the entire academic community. If the campus environment is clean and beautiful, it can create a comfortable and pleasant learning environment for the entire academic community. The cleanliness of the campus environment is the responsibility of the entire academic community who carry out activities on campus every day. Between lecturers, education staff, janitors and students can work together to create a campus that is clean from all dirt, comfortable and safe from all disturbances (METALA, 2020). One of the public campuses in Kupang City, East Nusa Tenggara Province is Nusa Cendana University. Nusa

Cendana University has 9 faculties and 1 postgraduate program. Various efforts have been made by the campus to deal with the problem of waste management, such as providing trash bins, procuring cleaning service, providing campus sanitation facilities, appealing to maintain cleanliness and so on, but in fact the campus environment still looks dirty and not well maintained because there is still a lot of garbage scattered around the faculty environment and streets (Hikmah, 2020).

A clean and comfortable campus atmosphere will greatly affect student learning activities and teaching lecturers. Therefore, the internal factors of the academic community such as knowledge, attitude and behavior need to be studied more deeply to see whether the three factors can influence a person's actions when carrying out waste management. It is important for us to care about waste management in the UNDANA campus environment. The more the academic community's energy, the challenge for the campus is to find ways to manage the waste that comes from various faculties and study programs so that it becomes something useful and useful.

Based on research conducted by Saputra and Mulasari (2017) regarding knowledge, attitudes and behavior, waste management in employees on campus, knowledge has a very important domain for the formation of a person's actions, waste management is closely related to a person's intellect. The more a person acquires knowledge about good waste management, the better his knowledge will be and will have good behavior as well. In a positive attitude, the tendency of action is to approach, like, expect certain objects. Attitude formation is influenced by several factors, namely personal experience, culture, other people who are considered important, mass media, educational institutions and religious institutions, and emotional factors. Based on this explanation, education is very important to form a positive attitude towards waste minimization so that it is expected to improve waste management behavior. In addition, the study also explained that the existence of knowledge does not directly increase behavior significantly, but by increasing

attitudes, then attitudes will increase behavior and no matter how much knowledge is possessed, if it is not supported by a positive attitude, its influence on behavior will be small. An unfavorable attitude is caused by a lack of knowledge about proper waste management.

The results of data collection from this study found that the waste disposal behavior carried out by the Undana academic community had an impact on the dirty campus environment. This is also due to the lack of knowledge about good and correct waste management. The purpose of this study is to explore the description of knowledge and behavior of the academic community in disposing of waste in the Nusa Cendana University environment.

Method

This research was conducted at Nusa Cendana University, the type of research used was qualitative. Qualitative method is a research method used to research on natural object conditions, where the researcher is the key instrument, qualitative research results emphasize meaning rather than generalization (Sugiyono, 2016). The population in this study is the entire Undana academic community. The sampling technique used was purposive sampling. Purposive sampling is a data source sampling technique with certain considerations. The characteristics of the participants in this study were 4 lecturers, 4 students, and 4 cleaning service/educational staff. Participants were selected based on inclusion criteria, namely participants of the academic community who are active at Nusa Cendana University and willing to be interviewed. While the exclusion criteria are students who are receiving punishment during the education period, lecturers who are on study or work permits, and education personnel who have obstacles. The instrument used was an interview guide with semi-structured interview data collection techniques and data analysis techniques using thematic analysis. Thematic analysis is one way to analyze data with the aim of identifying patterns or to find themes through the data that has been collected by researchers (Braun & Clarke, 2006).

Table 1. *Respondents Characteristic*

Participant Initials	Age	Occupation	Gender
DM	48	Lecture	Male
KG	49	Lecture	<u>Fam</u> ale
HL	36	Staff Rektorat	Male
FN	30	Staff FKM	Male
RD	27	Cleaning Service	Male
HW	36	Cleaning Service	Male
GM	47	Cleaning Service	Male
MHT	38	Univercity Security	Male
YKW	20	College Student	Male
TJM	20	College Student	Female
MNT	21	College Student	Female
SA	23	College Student	Male

Result

This study involved 12 participants who were part of the Undana academic community, including 2 lecturers, 2 staff, 3 cleaning service, 1 security guard, and 4 students. The characteristics of participants in this study consisted of 9 men and 3 women. Based on the results of the interview analysis, 4 main themes were obtained, namely knowledge, awareness, conformity, and facilities. Based on the results of the interview, it was found that the UNDANA campus environment was a lot of garbage and dirty, it was caused by the behavior of students who littered. In this study using determinants in finding the behavior of students who litter, so that 4 major themes were found, namely knowledge, awareness, conformity, and facilities.

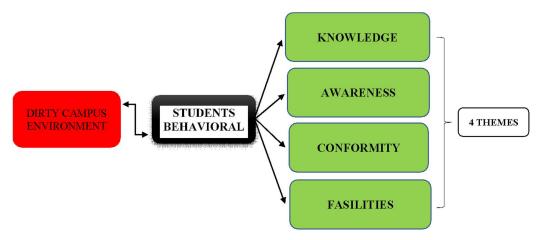


Figure 1. Research Finding

Student knowledge

Knowledge is a form of information obtained by an individual or group that is received either consciously or unconsciously. Knowledge about waste management is information provided about processing waste into something that can be recycled. However, knowledge can affect the behavior of the academic community who litter and cause the campus to look dirty. There are findings resulting from interviews, namely the lack of knowledge of the academic community about waste management.

The lack of knowledge of the academic community about waste management is a finding in this study. The results of the interviews found that there was a lack of education related to waste management both from inside the house to the surrounding environment. Many of them, especially the cleaning service, carry out less than optimal waste processing such as burning. In addition, the interviews also found that there are some cleaning services who have absolutely no knowledge of what waste is and the types of waste. They also have not been facilitated with education related to waste management so that to distinguish the types of waste, how to manage waste and the benefits of managing waste are also unknown.

".... I don't know the difference between organic and organic waste and don't understand what the 4 R's are..." (interview GM, Cleaning service, Male)

"...We have never received education about waste management and we are also new to the program. I also don't know the difference between organic and inorganic waste. I don't know and never heard about the 4Rs..." (interview RD, Cleaning Service, Male)

Evidence from the interview above shows that even the cleaning service does not know how to manage waste properly. As we know, organic and inorganic waste are two different things. Organic waste is a type of waste that can decompose and decompose again without human intervention, such as animal feces, food scraps, and leaves. Inorganic waste is a type of waste that is not easily decomposed such as paper, plastic, glass, and others. In addition, the cleaning service also does not know what the 4Rs are. 4R is a way of waste management in the form of Recycle (recycling), Reuse (reusing), Reduce (reducing), and Replace (replacing). Based on the findings, the basic knowledge above is not yet known by the cleaning service on campus. This is because they have not received sufficient education about waste management.

Awareness

Awareness is also one of the important factors that can influence student behavior when disposing of waste. Based on the results of interviews with participants with the initials HW, he said that it turns out that students lack awareness and sensitivity to dispose of waste. Students do not care, even though the trash cans are around them and only a few meters away, but students still litter. It was also explained that food and beverage waste produced by students was left alone and not thrown into the trash.

"...UNDANA has provided trash bins in each faculty but the strange thing is that they eat and just throw it there, not all students are like that, but

[&]quot;...students are only a few meters away from the garbage bins but they still litter..." (interview HW, Cleaning Service, Male)

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most students don't care about garbage and throw it carelessly" (interview HW, Cleaning Service, Male).

In addition, there is student behavior that makes the trash can a game where if there is trash, they will throw it away from the trash can. If the trash doesn't fit into the bin, they still don't care.

"They don't even throw the trash in the trash can, which is only a few meters away from here to the tree. They throw it outside, the distance between the trash can and their seat is only a few meters, but they don't throw it in the trash can. Just a matter of two or three steps, they just throw it outside. If it goes in, it's okay, if it doesn't go in, they just leave it" (interview HW, Cleaning Service, Male).

The results showed that student awareness in disposing of garbage in its place is still lacking. As said by one of the campus cleaning service above, even though the cleaning service have reprimanded students, their awareness and even behavior is still the same, namely littering in campus locations which makes the campus environment look dirty.

Conformity

The suitability of attitudes and behavior is based on the values believed, so the environment is an important factor in the formation of values that influence behavior. The results of this study found 2 factors influencing the social environment on student behavior in disposing of waste, namely the bad influence of family and the bad influence of friends.

Bad family influence

The family is the closest environment in daily life, it can shape behavior that can become a habit. The results of the interview in this study, the participant with the initials HL said that he at home had a habit of littering.

"Yes, at home we are alone, so we are free to litter" (Interview HL, Rectorate Staff, Male).

Bad influence of friends

Friendships form togetherness and familiarity that form cooperative behavior and support each other, if the friendship is bad it will have a bad impact on mindset and behavior because habits can influence behavior. The results of interviews in this study, participants with the initials SA, HL, said that friends can influence habits in disposing of waste because the behavior of throwing or leaving garbage after eating can be imitated because they are in the same environment.

"Friends who litter can influence behavior, for example sitting together and eating and drinking, after that the garbage is left on the seat, not thrown into the trash, so over time the behavior will be carried over into a habit".

(SA Interview, College Student, Male)

The bad influence of friends can also form a new but bad mindset, the results of interviews in this study, participants with the initials TJM said that if the influence of bad friends is getting bigger, it can form new perceptions that have a bad impact on behavior.

Her friend said "...you're overreacting, it's okay to litter there, there will be officers who clean up the garbage." (Interview TJM, College Student, Female).

Facilities

Facilities play a crucial role in facilitating the implementation of functions and providing convenience to users. This study found that there are differences in the condition of waste bin facilities within the UNDANA campus environment, specifically between adequate and inadequate waste bin facilities. In an interview with one of the FKM staff, it was noted that FKM has provided bins at student gathering points and in each classroom. However, some of the existing waste bin facilities on the UNDANA campus are substandard, unkempt, and dirty, and there is also a lack of sufficient waste bins.

Non-standard trash facilities

MNT participants explained that the bins on campus were not in accordance with the functions or standards of the bins that should be. For example, the provision of bins categorized by type of waste, namely organic waste, inorganic waste, and B3, is not provided by the campus. The models of bins provided on campus are like beautiful buckets and jars.

"...In fact, a good trash can that is sweet so people sometimes don't want to throw it there. It's better to make them out of drums so that they are painted and then separated between organic and inorganic waste like that. If it's something pretty like a flower vase, it's better to take it home." (Interview KG, Lecturer, Female)

The model of the trash can that is shaped like a beautiful bucket or urn makes students also confused, whether this is a trash can or a decoration that is deliberately placed outside.

"...sometimes it is not clear which garbage cans are actually garbage cans and which garbage cans are not garbage cans, for example, suddenly there is a bucket filled with garbage." (Interview MNT, College Student, Female)

Dirty and unmaintained trash facilities

The results of the interview with participant MNT found that the dirty surface of the trash can made students reluctant to throw garbage in the trash can because they would dirty their hands to open the dirty surface of the trash can cover. The dirty condition of the trash can makes students feel lazy to throw garbage in its place.

"Sometimes the bins are dirty and when we have to open the bins, our hands get dirty too. So we don't throw it there." (Interview MNT, College Student, Female)

Lack of trash can facilities

Lack of trash facilities on campus can also cause the campus environment to look dirty. This is evidenced by the results of an interview with one of the students of Nusa Cendana University.

"...I came from there with a drink but I was confused about where the trash can was so I looked for it and found it under the right side..." (YKW, College Student, Male)

Students said that the availability of these bins was lacking, making it difficult or confusing for some members of the academic community to dispose of garbage in its place. This causes some academicians to end up littering or leaving garbage in place,

In conclusion, this study found that the campus environment of Nusa Cendana University (UNDANA) is filled with garbage, mainly due to the behavior of students who do not throw garbage in its place. From interviews with 12 participants consisting of lecturers, students, and cleaning service, four main themes were found, namely knowledge, awareness, conformity, and facilities. Knowledge about waste management among the academic community, especially students and cleaning staff, is minimal. Students' awareness of cleanliness is also low, although trash bins are available, they often litter. In addition, social conformity, both from family and friends, also influences bad behavior in disposing of waste. Waste bin facilities on campus are still not up to standard and not maintained, contributing to a dirty environment.

Discussion

The campus environment of Nusa Cendana University Kupang looks dirty because of scattered garbage. This condition is caused by the knowledge and behavior of the academic community in littering. This is one of the factors causing the waste problem in the campus environment. This behavior is mostly done by students. Because when the lecture period begins the new campus looks dirty, so students

become a source of waste. Student behavior in littering is influenced by four (4) factors, knowledge, awareness, conformity, and facilities.

The lack of knowledge regarding waste management among the academic community, particularly cleaning service personnel, emerged as a key finding in the study. Many individuals are unaware of the distinction between organic and inorganic waste, as well as the 4R concept (Recycle, Reuse, Reduce, Replace). This knowledge gap is primarily attributed to insufficient education on waste management within the campus environment, which leads to suboptimal waste management practices and behaviors that fail to support cleanliness. The results of this study align with the research by Khoiri and Rudiansyah (2019), which suggests that the more knowledge students possess about waste management, the more positive their environmental behavior becomes. However, this study presents an inverse scenario, where low levels of waste management knowledge among the academic community contribute to a campus environment that appears dirty. Furthermore, research by Ramadhan, Halimatussadiah, and Raharja (2024) highlights several factors influencing the lack of student awareness in waste management, including inadequate environmental education, ignorance of environmental impacts, and the failure to enforce waste management regulations. Therefore, it is crucial to provide the academic community with education on waste management to ensure that campus waste is properly managed, resulting in a cleaner campus environment.

The low awareness of students in disposing of garbage in its place is a problem in the campus environment. Even though trash bins are available and nearby, many students still litter. Some students even make the trash can a game, where if they throw the trash and it doesn't go into the trash can, they just leave it there. Despite being reprimanded by the cleaning service (CS), this behavior continues, making the campus environment dirty. The results of this study are in line with research conducted by Hamdan, Denny, Andi and Rudiansyah (2018) that the awareness of waste disposal in the campus environment is very important.

Public awareness of the implementation of waste management is still lacking with many people still throwing garbage out of place. The study also said that the lack of public awareness of regulations and cleanliness in the waste management policy itself, sometimes people do not throw garbage right in the TPS, namely outside the TPS or carelessly because they throw it randomly. Meanwhile, the results of research from Amos' theory (2008) in Ramadhan (2024) state that one of the factors that can affect a person's awareness of the environment is the human factor. A person with good humanity can treat people around him carefully so as not to harm others. Thus, someone who has a high level of humanity will be more environmentally minded and therefore can take good care of the surrounding environment. From the results of this study, the attitude that students should have is awareness in protecting the environment, especially in the campus environment which is a place to get education so that clean and comfortable environmental conditions are needed.

The theory of planned action by Ajzen and Fishbein (1980) in Mahyarni, 2013 suggests that behavior is determined by one's own desire to perform or not perform a certain action. Ajzen and Fishbein (1988) in Mahyarni, 2013 state that a person's behavior depends on the desire to behave, which consists of three components: attitude, subjective norms, and perceived behavioral control. According to Darmawan and Fadjarajani (2022) Attitude can be explained as the way a person interacts with their environment.

Ways of interacting can influence behavior where the social environment can build social norms. The social environment, such as family and friends, has a big influence on students' behavior in littering. Families who habituate littering behavior at home can instill habits that will continue to be repeated. In addition, bad influence from friends also reinforces negative behavior, where the habit of littering by friends can be imitated and accepted as normal behavior. The quality of friendship is influenced by the environment, if friends are friends with people who have bad habits, it can affect behavior and can be affected, including the habit of littering. The results of this study are supported by research conducted by Anwar (2013)

Individuals who are easily influenced usually tend to follow groups to avoid mistakes and sanctions that are generalized as social norms such as ridicule or discomfort when interacting which can affect behavior change. In addition, the findings from Hastuty's (2019) research also support the findings in this study, out of 96 medical officers with a long tenure at the hospital, there were 44 medical officers who had poor behavior in handling medical waste, this was influenced by habits and friendship environment, even though medical officers were initially accustomed to throwing garbage in its place, because they tended to follow the behavior of friends who littered.

Students are individuals who can continue their education at the tertiary level, they should have learned many basic things of science, but their behavior does not reflect the knowledge they have gained, this is supported by a study conducted by Hidayah, Herjanita, and Rihmatho (2021) which found that most students tend not to care and litter, but only a small number of students are responsible for their waste. From the results of the study, it was found that there are 2 factors in the formation of student behavior that can affect their social environment, including: bad family influence & bad friend influence.

The behavior of students who litter on campus is influenced by bad habits formed in the family. If there is a habit of littering in the family, this behavior tends to be carried over to the outside environment, including the campus environment, which then has an impact on campus hygiene problems. This research is supported by the results of research by EB, Syamsiah, Hernofika (2017) On the FTIK campus at the University of Semarang, a lot of garbage is scattered even though adequate trash bins are available, indicating that students still have the habit of littering.

Friends can influence habits in disposing of garbage, because their behavior of throwing or leaving garbage after eating or drinking can be imitated because they are in the same environment, therefore if the influence is getting bigger it can form the wrong mindset and behavior. This research is supported by the results of research by Susanto (2016), peers are the closest people who can contribute to the character

building of a child or student in their social environment. This research is supported by the results of research by Herawati, Kristanti, and Selviana (2019) who found that during break time, some students did not throw garbage in its place after finishing eating, the trash can used was an open type of trash can, so that the garbage could be easily blown by the wind and scattered.

Waste bin facilities on the UNDANA campus are still inadequate, both in terms of quantity, condition, and design. Some bins are not functional, difficult to identify, and dirty and unkempt, so students do not use them. In addition, the lack of trash bins makes students confused and sometimes litter. The limited and poor condition of these facilities has a negative impact on the cleanliness of the campus environment. Facilities are a means to smooth the implementation of functions, or provide convenience to its users. Public facilities are often provided such as roads, city buses, public trash bins, and others. One of the most important public facilities is the trash can. The results of research from Shofi, Auvaria, Nengse, and Karami (2023) show that the better and more complete the existing waste management facilities, the better and maximum management will be provided to deal with waste problems in the waste processing site. This is in accordance with the results of the study which show that adequate trash facilities such as the provision of bins at every point in the campus environment are very influential in managing existing waste.

There are inadequate trash facilities such as the provision of trash bins on campus that are not in accordance with the function of the trash can. Procurement of waste bins that meet SNI 19-2454-2002 standards and TPS in accordance with PUPR Ministerial Regulation No. 3 of 2013, as well as sorting types of waste such as organic, inorganic, and Hazardous and Toxic Materials (B3) is very important. Meanwhile, the models of trash bins provided on campus are beautiful buckets and jars. The provision of bins such as urn models is made so that no one can move them. However, this reduces the functional value of the bin itself. It was also found that dirty and unmaintained trash can facilities such as dirty trash can surfaces make people

reluctant to throw trash in the trash can because they will dirty their hands to open the dirty trash can cover surface.

Implications of Implementation

Based on the results of the research, recommendations were found that can be applied to Nusa Cendana University. Lack of knowledge is one of the factors causing the campus environment to become dirty because of students who litter. There needs to be an educational curriculum related to structured waste management in the campus environment. Students must get in-depth information on how to manage waste, from the selection to the processing of organic and inorganic waste. Education about waste management can also be done through seminars or training involving the entire academic community, so that all parties have the same understanding of the importance of maintaining a clean campus environment.

To increase awareness in littering, it is necessary to create routine activities such as Clean Friday which is held once a month to set an example for the entire academic community or an environmental care student activity unit (UKM) program that can empower students to increase student awareness about the cleanliness of the campus environment. In addition, CCTV is provided in the campus area to be able to monitor the behavior of students or the academic community in littering, as well as the placement of educational posters that can be a means of reminding and increasing awareness in a visual form for students to want to throw garbage in its place.

Conforming to social norms can influence individual attitudes and behavior. Based on the Theory of Planned Behavior developed by Ajzen (1991) in Mahyarni, 2013, this theory explains how attitudes towards a behavior form an evaluation of whether the behavior is considered beneficial or not. The way a person interacts is also influenced by the social environment, which in turn can shape behavior. Suggestions for application implications that match behavior change in the social environment can be applied by the campus by having a clear SOP (Standard Operating Procedure) related to waste management, including involving the role of student role models who care about the environment as inspiration for other students

and involving the role of students in maintaining campus cleanliness through environmental groups that can monitor and help maintain discipline in disposing of waste.

Improving trash bin facilities is a solution to reduce the campus environment that looks dirty because students' litter. Trash bin facilities must be equipped and placed in strategic locations that are easily accessible to students, and well maintained to prevent students from littering. In addition, increasing the workforce of cleaning service is also needed so that existing facilities remain in good condition and clean consistently and are maintained. Encourage active participation from the entire academic community in maintaining a clean and comfortable campus environment. The implementation of recommendations is expected to help overcome the problem of cleanliness in the campus environment through increased knowledge, awareness, conformity, and adequate facilities.

Conclusion

This study reveals that knowledge, awareness, conformity, and facilities affect student behavior in waste management on campus. Lack of knowledge and education about waste management, as well as low awareness, leads to littering behavior. In addition, the influence of the social environment, such as family and friends, also shapes bad habits in littering. Although there are adequate waste bin facilities, several obstacles such as the lack of clear categories and the dirty condition of the bins are also factors that hinder proper waste disposal behavior. Therefore, we recommend that there is a need for an educational curriculum related to structured waste management in the campus environment, creating an UKM environmental care program that can empower students to increase student awareness about the cleanliness of the campus environment, making a clear SOP (Standard Operating Procedure) related to waste management and increasing the workforce of cleaning service is also needed so that existing facilities remain in good condition and are

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consistently clean and maintained so that the facilities are well maintained so that students do not litter so as to make the campus environment clean.

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