Plastic Recycling at uOttawa
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Research Goals
1. Present the stated goals versus the realities of the plastics recycling system at uOttawa

Image 1: Plastic, metal and glass (uOttawa blue bin signage)

2. Map the average plastic’s pathway from when it is placed in a blue bin at the University of Ottawa to when and where it gets recycled; and

3. Evaluate the current effectiveness of the plastics recycling system at the University of Ottawa and propose ways to make it more effective.

Methods
1. Literature review
2. Blue bin sampling (FSS, SMD, STEM)
3. Speaking with recycling officials

Figure 1: Nov. 19, 2018, 6:20pm.

Results

Figure 2: uOttawa plastic trajectory

Conclusions

Figure 3: 1/3 of uOttawa blue bin contents likely go to landfill

uOttawa can do better:
- Add resin codes to signage
- Clarify wording on signage
- Explain recycling to classes
- Standardize guidelines in all communications
- Reduce plastic use

Bibliography