

Press Release

A waste collection race as part of the Alliance Days 2019

206 kg of plastic waste is dumped into the world's oceans every second. 80% of the waste in the seas comes from inland. On 12th March, as part of the Alliance Days, some thirty students from the Centrale-Audencia-ensa Alliance organized a waste collection race in Nantes. The race came about on the initiative of Together for Earth, a student movement that aims to federate the environmental associations of universities and colleges nationwide.

This year's edition of Alliance Days was held on 12th and 13th March, 2019. Bringing together a thousand students, first years from Audencia Business School and Centrale Nantes and third years from Ensa Nantes, the Alliance Days are a major event for the three schools to draw on the benefits of their close partnership and allow the students to discover the plurality of skills they acquire within the three schools.

As part of last year's edition, a student movement came into being: Together For Earth, which aims to create links between young people from all backgrounds in order to take concerted and innovative action. For the 2019 edition, which marks the first anniversary of the movement, a novel race was devised in collaboration with the Alliance: a race to collect waste, taking in all three school campuses on the route. The participants set off at 7pm on Tuesday evening from Centrale-Audencia or ENSA towards the Ile de Versailles. Several routes varying between 4, 6 and 9km were possible. Gloves were also provided.



By the end of the race, 27 bags and more than 50kg of waste had been collected: **over 400 cigarette butts, 42 cigarette packets, 70 metal cans, 132 items of food packaging, 32 plastic cups and 20 glass bottles.**

The students were working with the Surfrider Foundation. Thus, the waste collected on Tuesday was categorized and counted, thus contributing to the Surfrider Foundation's database. They will then be able to raise awareness among institutions concerning the main sources of pollution, which is found especially in the seas.

About the Alliance

The strategic alliance between Centrale Nantes, Audencia Business School and ensa was thus formed in 2014. This alliance brings together engineering, business studies, architecture and design in order to enhance teaching, research, industrial partnerships and international visibility with regard to the three establishments. The resulting blend of expertise leads to value creation and provides an excellent breeding ground for innovation. The three establishments combined have 8000 students, 710 researchers, teachers and research staff as well as over 450 international academic partners. Further information: <http://www.centrale-audencia-ensa.com/>

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