North Carolina State University was honored with the Outstanding College or University Program Award by the Carolina Recycling Association during its annual conference and trade show on March 25th in Myrtle Beach, SC.

The Outstanding College or University Program Award honors a program that promotes sustainable resource use through waste reduction, reuse, and recycling on a college campus and uses innovative aspects to increase recycling and educate students.

It is common knowledge that college students consume large amounts of pizza, but NCSU tackled the lesser-known solution about what do with the large amounts of waste generated. In March 2014, NCSU launched a pizza box composting program in collaboration with University Housing. What began with two pizza box dumpsters quickly grew to six and to date over 9000 pizza boxes have been composted through the program. Students can compost pizza boxes, leftover pizza (if that exists on a college campus), paper plates, and napkins. The dumpsters even accepted pumpkins in the fall. All of the material goes to Brooks Compost to be recycled back into nutrient rich soil amendments.

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For more information, please contact the CRA’s Awards Committee:
Amanda Cutshaw 828-649-2311
Lauren McKinnis accepts the 2015 Outstanding College or University Program Award on behalf of North Carolina State University from Carolina Recycling Association President Patrick Darrow.