

to demonstrate that they are collecting and recycling a certain portion of discarded electronics each year, equal to a percentage of their average annual sales, as measured by weight. This bill is currently being reviewed by Mayor Bloomberg for final approval and enforcement.

When a computer needs to be replaced in a department at NYU, the old equipment is first evaluated for its reusability. If the unit is unusable, it is properly and locally recycled. If it can be reused, it will be cycled around the department; if it is not needed, it will be made available to other departments through the University's Asset Management Office (see sidebar). During the 2006-07 fiscal year, 308 computers were redistributed through Asset Management, and 132 were given to non-profit organizations.

Each of us can help reduce the hazards posed by electronic waste by being conscious of the ways we dispose of it. NYU faculty, staff, and administrators may contact their building managers for proper disposal; outside the University, the City Recycling Program can aid in finding local recyclers or opportunities for reuse.⁴

Remember that dropping off your outdated electronics with a recycling company does not guarantee they will be disposed of safely. Ask about the company's recycling process and whether they export waste items. Always remember to remove the data on your hard drive before discarding your computer!⁵ And before purchasing a new electronic gadget or computer, consider the quality of its construction and durability to ensure a long, useful life.

⁴ For more information about the City Recycling Program, visit www.nyc.gov/nycwasteless.

⁵ For instructions and information about wiping your hard drive, visit www.nyu.edu/its/security/docs/disposal.html.

Recycling Surplus Through Asset Management

LARRY PENDER

Manager, Administrative Services/Asset Management
larry.pender@nyu.edu

Asset Management successfully relocates NYU-purchased surplus items within the University, including computers.

Approximately once a month, open houses are conducted at 383 Lafayette Street (basement level) where departments can view and inspect current University surplus items and select those items they would like to use.



If your department has items to be recycled, fill out an Asset Management "Surplus Form" (www.nyu.edu/asset) and submit it to the Asset Management Office.

In addition to relocating surplus items within the University, Asset Management maintains a database of approximately 150 not-for-profit organizations to which surplus computers and furniture that cannot be recycled within the University are donated.

For additional information regarding Asset Management's computer surplus and disposals, visit www.nyu.edu/asset/surplus-computer.html.