A waste management plan for the University

1. **Waste characterization**: The types and quantities of waste generated within the University shall be characterized. This would help identify areas of waste production and help target resources to improve waste management practices.

2. **Waste reduction**: The waste reduction section will outline the strategies that the university will implement to reduce waste production. Strategies include minimizing the use of paper products, reducing food waste as well as the reduction of packaging waste. Staff and students should be encouraged to participate in moving towards zero waste.

3. **Source separation**: Source separation involves placing bins to segregate waste into different categories, such as compostable waste, non-recyclable waste, and recyclables like plastics, papers, and metal. The waste separation system should have clear labelling on bins to help encourage appropriate waste disposal.

4. **Collection and Transport**: This aspect will cover the transport of the waste from generation points to temporary storage locations and the eventual transportation of the waste to the recycling center or landfill. Regular collection and recycling using licensed haulers ensure the proper disposal of waste, and further sorting of the separated waste shall be adopted.

5. **Education and awareness**: The University should establish programs to raise awareness and encourage proper waste disposal. Training and education campaigns on waste separation methods and signs promoting zero waste and waste reduction activities should be taken up by the University.

6. **Hazardous waste:** Hazardous waste is usually from laboratories, art and photography studios, and workshops. These shall be collected, stored, and disposed of appropriately. E-waste or electronic waste such as old computers, laptops, printers, and mobile phones

necessitates special attention while being disposed of. The following strategies shall be adopted while dealing with e-waste.

a. Recycling: Recycling e-waste is an environmentally friendly way to dispose of electronic devices. Recycling companies specializing in e-recycling use technology designed to separate valuable components from electronic devices and process them to produce clean raw materials to be used for new devices.

b. Donating: The university can participate in donation programs and give out their e-waste to organizations in need. However, caution is necessary when donating to ensure data privacy by wiping the electronic device clean of any valuable information.

c. Refurbishing and Reselling: Old electronic devices can be refurbished and resold for a fraction of the purchase price, economically benefiting students by buying a cheaper device while reducing e-waste. Engaging with agent companies to obtain old devices to be refurbished and resold ensures the need for environmental compliance.

d. Collection Programs: The University can initiate programs such as electronic take-back programs in which staff can submit their old electronic devices at designated collection points on the campus.

7. **Performance monitoring**: There shall be a monitoring mechanism to track the functioning of the waste management plan.