



The Meantime Coffee Co.  
180 E. Cameron Ave.  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
Nov. 16, 2023

Ms. Eliza Benbow  
The Daily Tar Heel  
109 E. Franklin St., Suite 210  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Dear Ms. Benbow:

I am writing in reference to the article, “Edible Campus festival highlights sustainability and student performers,” published in The Daily Tar Heel Oct. 16, 2023. While I believe this article takes an important step towards educating student readers about sustainability and student groups on campus, this an important intersection that deserves more attention in future coverage. The Meantime Coffee Co., Chapel Hill’s only nonprofit café, is one student-run organization that works to make sustainable food options more accessible on campus.

Food waste, largely a product of unsustainable food production processes, is a large contributor to climate change and other environmental issues. The nearby [Sampson County landfills](#) rank No. 2 in methane emissions, showing how important it is to combat this issue on the local level. Meantime takes steps to reduce students’ carbon footprints through partnerships with student organizations like CompostNow, which reduces waste generated in the café. In addition, Meantime’s food products come from local, small businesses like Carrboro Coffee Roasters and Ninth Street Bakery, which intentionally limit their waste and invest in ethical ingredients.

Actively combating climate change is more important than ever. The [NCEI](#) noted there is a greater than 99% chance that 2023 will be the warmest year on record. Busy student lifestyles can make it hard to stay up to date on where food products are coming from and the environmental impact that decisions about consumption carry. Meantime is a hub where students can consistently find transparent information about where their food is coming from and what it means for the environment. To learn more about Meantime, visit our [website](#). For details about our environmental impact in accordance with globally recognized Sustainable Development Goals, check out our [2022 Impact Report](#).

Sincerely,

Jack Wilson  
Publicist  
The Meantime Coffee Co.  
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