

Points of interest:

- What our interns are learning abroad in London.
- Summer Projects
- New Website !
- Energy Efficiency stickers in Mesa Court
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Newsletter

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Green Living In London
by Cynthia Leung (while abroad in London)

For the last six weeks I've been studying at the London School of Economics' Summer School Program and living in their student dorms. Throughout my time living in London, I've noticed some very interesting and potential ideas of new ways to live sustainably.

When I first arrived, I lived with my aunt and uncle in London. On the first night I was there, I assumed that they had no compost bin and proceeded to dump my food in the trash. As soon as they saw this, they told me that I could actually dump the food in the compost bin instead. This surprised me because I had only seen composting as a predominant norm back in San Francisco, but when I asked them why they composted, their answer was, "Why not?"

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Another interesting norm was the fact that conserving energy was always the right thing to do. In England, energy is much more expensive than in the United States. Not only was saving energy a way of being green, it was practical because it saved a lot of money.



CFLs were also present in all the lamps and lights in the rooms. Another interesting feature were power switches on the outlets, just like the ones on power strips. Next to each outlet were stickers reminding students to turn off computers and electronics and flip off the switch when they were done

using them. I was way too excited when I saw this, and even more excited when my roommate started changing her very own energy using habits because of those stickers.

Lastly, in the dorms, the residence hall would reuse any leftover kitchenware left behind by students. This meant that any utensils, dishes, pots and pans, and kitchen appliances from students moving out the year before could be donated for the use of future students in the halls. I thought this was a great idea because for the past three years, I have seen so many appliances go straight to trash because students at the end of the year don't need them anymore. A recycling program like this could potentially save so much waste from going into landfills, while saving students money every year. This would be a great way to further reduce UC Irvine's environmental impact in the future.



Green Campus Intern Cynthia Leung



A Flier explaining appliance reuse

Summer Projects
By Bogdan Rusu

New Website...

I was nearby UCI this summer and continued working on several Green Campus projects. One of our greatest achievements this summer was the completion of our retrofit project for Vista Hall, the sustainability themed hall in Mesa Court. All the faucets in Vista Hall were retrofitted from conventional to sensor operated faucets. We are estimating that the retrofit will result in savings of about 3,000 gallons of water per month. Many thanks to the housing department for working with us and making this possible.

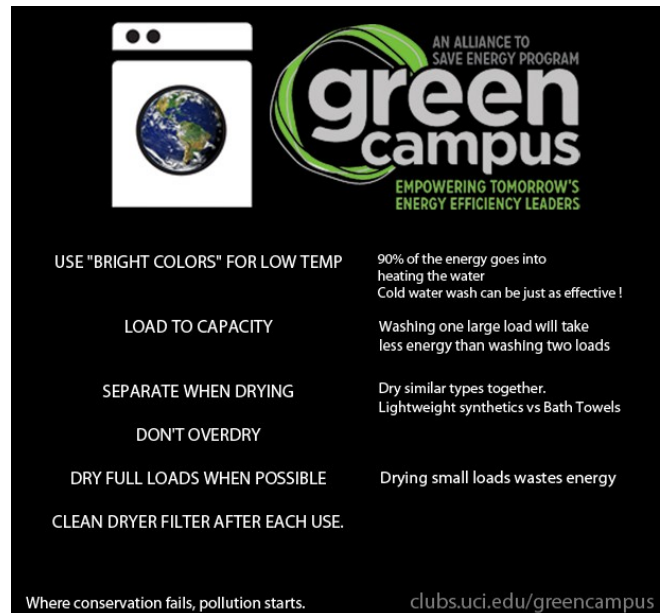
We have also officially launched our updated website; Visit www.clubs.uci.edu/greencampus to check it out.

This summer we met with UCI's new Energy Manager, Matt Gudorf. He is constantly working on energy efficiency projects on campus, and we are excited to work with him in the future. One of the latest projects that he was involved in was a 4 million dollar retrofit project for Rowland Hall that upgraded the laboratory fume hoods.

Another big accomplishment this summer was getting energy efficiency stickers approved by the housing office, who will be posting them in all halls and some complexes. The stickers can be seen below.



Energy Efficiency stickers to be used in all Mesa Court halls as well as some complexes.



Energy Efficiency and the Olympics By Henna Pithia (while abroad in London)



The London 2012 Olympics, and hopefully the London 2018 World Cup, are on their way. Fans around the world are preparing to descend on London for what will be an amazing and spectacular demonstration of national pride, sporting excellence, and...energy efficiency? Perhaps not all we hoped for.

Although the London 2012 committee is doing a fabulous job reusing and recycling materials such as wood, concrete, and other building supplies, the energy efficiency of the stadium is a concern. After talking to the London 2012 Project Manager, Allen Bates, about the energy logistics of the Olympic Village, I was informed that instead of having multiple generators on sight, the committee was building one generator for the whole Olympic Village, which should see to some reductions in energy consumption. However, the most disappointing fact was that there would be no major use of solar energy, wind power, or any other alternative energy to power the Olympic village. In a day and age where climate change is becoming a real issue and the people are pushing for a more energy efficient and sustainable world, the fact that alternative energy was not going to be one of the main energy sources of the Olympic energy supply was quite disheartening.

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On the brighter side, Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, has introduced new rentable bikes all across central London (similar to the rentable bike scheme operated in Paris) that he hopes will help relieve traffic congestion and the amount of carbon dioxide emitted into the atmosphere come time for the Olympics in 2012. Another bonus of the Olympic Village will be that there will be public transportation within the village and there will also be one central cafeteria where all the food will be made, rather than having multiple cookers, stoves, microwaves, etc. in each of the athlete's private kitchens. The Olympic Committee has also decided to plant trees in empty spaces to help offset carbon emissions.

As time winds down and the Olympics draws closer, we can only hope that in place of the large amount of carbon dioxide that will be used for flights to and from London, there will be an environmentally aware public, lots of CFLs, surge protectors, and energy star appliances to help offset the emissions produced by the 2012 Olympics.



Are You Ready for Welcome Week? by Kelly Li

New students get ready, because Green Campus has pulled out all the stops this year for the Welcome Week fair! Look for the Green Campus table on Ring Road throughout the week, where there will be a variety of educational and entertaining features. Come and challenge your knowledge of energy efficiency and UC Irvine sustainability to win some prizes, or just find out more about what Green Campus is doing this fall and how you can get involved. The Green Campus team is excited to kick the new school year off with a bang!

Watch out, as the Energy Hog is on the loose as well! You can't miss this energy glutton, so come find out what you can learn from him.

ENERGYHOG.org

