



OF GREEN U

[@ UC Irvine]

Volume 6, Issue 2

March 2011

Inside this issue:

Green Campus Interns Prepare for the Green Workforce 1

UCI For-Credit Internship Presentation at the 2

GCP Alumni Speaks at Club Meeting 3

Technology De-Brief from the 2011 Summit 4

Green Careers Only One Step Away 5

Mesa Court Earth Hour 5

Environmental Sustainability Conference 6

Upcoming Grant Proposals– Call for Retrofit Ideas 6

Green Campus Interns Prepare for the Green Workforce

by Cynthia Leung

On January 30, Green Campus interns from all over the state were given the opportunity to learn about the emerging green workforce, as well as other useful skills, at the 2011 Green Campus Energy Efficiency Summit. Through career workshops that enhanced interviewing and workplace skills, a Green Campus alumni panel, and Energy Career Panel, interns learned new skills which will help them as graduating interns who will soon enter the green workforce.

Two of the workshops geared towards the next generation of job searchers were “Navigating Hallway Conversations: Tops for Entering the Workforce” and “Mock Interviews: Practice Really Does Make Perfect” hosted by Strategic Energy Innovations Deputy Director, Steve Miller. “Navigating Hallway Conversations” was a session that focused on ways to take your first steps when it comes to interviews, personal development, and accomplishing your goals. Several Green Campus alumni also took part in this session and suggested such advice as knowing the skills you are good at and emphasizing them in a job, continuing to learn and develop yourself even after getting a job, finding things that work towards your goals and preferences (travel, vacation time, salary), and to network by asking to grab lunch to learn more about a position you may be interested in.

“Mock Interviews” had a different focus that was aimed towards practicing common questions in interviews and demonstrating how Green Campus offered experience and applicable answers to a wide variety of questions. A reoccurring piece of advice was telling a story through STAR: State the SITUATION, define the TASK, describe the ACTIONS taken, and relay the RESULTS. Jackie Mercure from CSU Chico made an effort to sit in the hot seat and was interviewed in a mock interview. From the mock interview, interns were able to learn how to incorporate their Green Campus experience in answering interview questions.

Following these two workshops was an Alumni Panel that focused on the insight from four graduated Green Campus interns who now all work in a green profession: May Chiu – Environmental Affairs Representative, Sole Technology, Lauren Mills – Energy Analyst, Food Service Technology Center, Jess Wall – Program Assistant, Water Program, Natural Resources Defense Council, and Chad Worth – Researcher, San Luis Obispo Renewable Energy Secure Communities Project. Each panelist offered advice from very different green workforce areas. Overall, the panelists placed importance on good networking. They also identified self-starting skills, confidence in experience, and personal ambition to learn as big factors in getting into their current positions. The alumni also did not forget to mention the influence of their Green Campus internship on their current profession. Many acknowledged the training programs and conferences as places where they learned useful skills and that the internship experience itself had opened up their eyes to careers that they were not originally considering pursuing. Jess Wall even stated, “Thanks to Green Campus...I have a future.”

Lastly, the Energy Career Panel presented a panel of four green workforce professionals that included representatives from the corporate, government, nonprofit, and utility sectors: Lauren Rank – Program Manager, Los Angeles County Office of Sustainability, Pam Wallace – Business Development Manager, Honeywell Building Solutions, Charles Segerstrom – Manager of Energy Centers, Pacific Gas & Electric, and Larry Zarker – CEO, Building Performance Institute. A central theme in this particular panel was to be flexible and to take chances in an area that you are passionate about.



ALLIANCE TO SAVE ENERGY
Creating an Energy-Efficient World



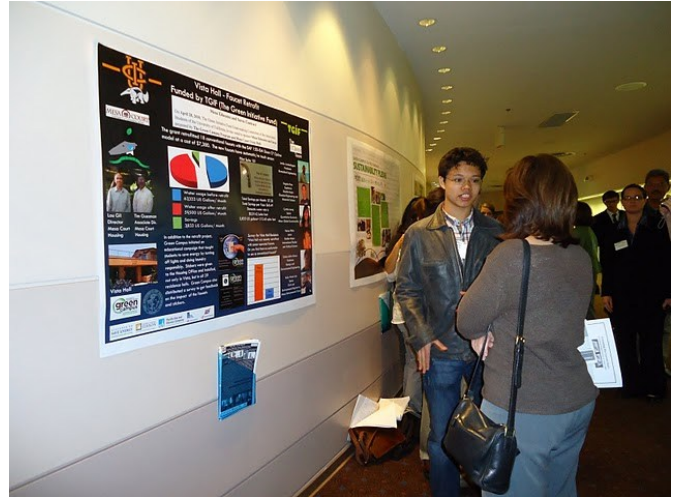
Pacific Gas and Electric Company



Sempra Energy utility



Sempra Energy utility



UCI For-Credit Internship Presentation at the Summit

by Cynthia Leung

On January 30, UC Irvine Green Campus intern Cynthia Leung presented on the team's for-credit internship program at the 2011 Green Campus Energy Efficiency Summit at a training workshop entitled "Managing Green Campus Helpers: For-Credit Interns and Volunteers." The presentation centered on the structure of the UC Irvine Green Campus team in terms of supporting the for-credit interns in their assignments.

Throughout the past year, several changes have been made to improve the system including the development of for-credit intern roles as coordinators (club, event, intern, and volunteer), extending the internship to a multiple quarter internship, and organizing the various levels of involvement in terms of project planning and implementation.

The new roles within the for-credit internship have created a new opportunity for for-credit interns to take on more responsibility within Green Campus. As a specific project coordinator, specific tasks are always to be covered by the designated intern, making it clearer within the team how to distribute tasks and work efficiently.

Another change is that the internship now also lasts a minimum of two quarters. With this new requirement, less time is needed for training, and more time can be directed towards implementing and seeing a project through its intended goals. The success of this change will be assessed at the end of the year when the current for-credit intern team completes its first multiple-quarter internship.

Lastly, the presentation covered the organization within Green Campus outside the paid and for-credit interns, which allows for interested students to select various levels of involvement. First, club members and volunteers are not required any specific hours, but are free to work on projects as they begin their implementation phase. Second, for-credit interns are required five hours, and primarily work on the implementation phase, while also learning more about the planning phases. Last, Project Coordinators of the program take on specific roles within the team, are required anywhere from 7-15 hours of work, and primarily work in the project planning phases.

Through this structure, the UC Irvine Green Campus team hopes to offer a wide variety of options to the student population for involvement in the field of energy efficiency.

Green Campus Alumni May Chiu Speaks at the Green Campus Club Meeting!

by Cynthia Leung



Green Campus Club members got a very special visit on February 23 from UC Irvine Green Campus alumni, May Chiu! Chiu, the Environmental Affairs Representative from Sole Technologies, came to club meeting to discuss her work with Sole Technologies and the path she took towards getting her green job. Prior to her graduation from UC Irvine, Chiu worked with Shyla Raghav to launch the Green Campus Program at UC Irvine. From there, she worked with organizations such as Strategic Energy Innovations, a green business consulting firm where she studied and became certified as a LEED AP, and Global Green USA before landing her job at Sole Technologies.

Chiu began the presentation with a show of current projects Sole Technologies was working on to become more sustainable. She introduced the concept of Lifecycle Analysis, where a company looks into environmental impacts from the full life of a product, from its manufacturing phase to its post-consumer phase. Part of the “cradle to grave” concept was reflected in several nifty products. One product used old ground up shoes as buoys to help soak up oil. Many of these were actually shipped to the BP spill in an effort to help contain the oil. In addition, tools such as an infrared camera and indoor

air quality probe were introduced to the club to show the auditing tools used to perform various building assessments.

One of Chiu’s campaigns within Sole Technologies encouraging the company to take a strong stance on sustainability was the campaign “Buy a Shoe, Plant a Tree,” where Sole Technologies pledges to plant a tree in Costa Rica for every shoe that is bought from one of its shoe lines. What was interesting about the campaign was that it was able to tie together the message of sustainability to the target audience of Sole Technologies: surfers, skaters, and action sports athletes. The project involved the locals living in the region of Costa Rica, workers from Sole Technologies, as well as many celebrity action sports athletes who will be able to market and campaign for the project.

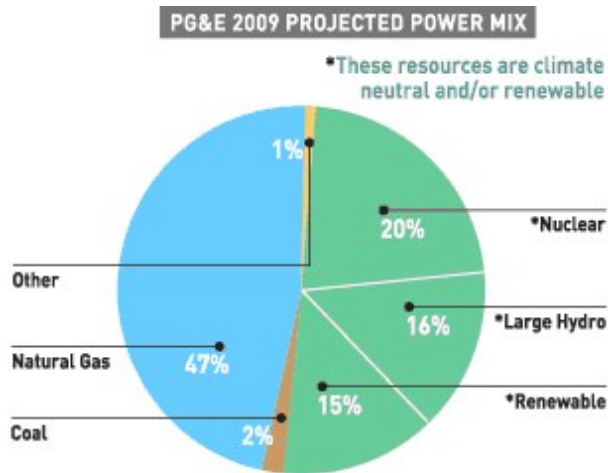
On behalf of Green Campus, we would like to thank May for coming to our Green Campus meeting!

Technology De-Brief from the 2011 Green Campus Energy Efficiency Summit by Jambu Jambulingam

The 7th Annual Green Campus Energy Efficiency Summit hosted by the Alliance to Save Energy taught Green Campus interns from across the state numerous tips and techniques on how to make their campuses more resource efficient. Some of the presentations that sent the ballpark home for Green Campus intern Jambu Jambulingam were the ones discussing home energy audits. The first presentation, led by Alliance staff member Morgan King, taught interns about the definition of energy efficiency in the context of residential homes. By giving numerical equations as to how to calculate how energy efficient a product was, the interns were able to see how much energy the product would be saving if it was put to use. The presentation also focused on how energy flows into and out of a system, going into depth on what type of inputs and uses the energy is put to. The interns learned how energy got to homes from the local energy distribution centers and how utilities created energy through their Power Mixes.

When comparing energy use differences between residential and commercial buildings, Green Campus interns came to the conclusion that HVAC was the culprit for the residential sector, while lighting was the culprit for the commercial sector.

After learning to identify common locations for energy waste in a home, interns learned more about the science behind



Note: Power mix includes all PG&E-owned generation plus PG&E's power purchases.



the loss by understanding how insulation and window's high conductance could lead to loss of energy. Learning about topics such as the U and R factors, differences between paned windows, and building envelopes, Green Campus interns were put to the test by detecting leaks in the building envelope in the room they were in at The Pointe at Cal State Long Beach. The instrument used, the Black & Decker TLD100 Energy Series Thermal Leak Detector, stunned most of the interns with its simplicity and functionality.

Later during the summit, Alliance staff member Wen Lee went through a detailed explanation on lighting, giving specifics on the different types of lamps available. Her presentation also covered common faults with ballasts and lamps, and provided quick fixes for the problems. This information will definitely help the UCI team in future lighting retrofits, and the team will be purchasing the thermal detector in the near future; it will surely be a great addition to our energy audit tool kit!

Green Careers, Only One Step Away

by Kelly Li



On February 17, Green Campus and the UCI Career Center invited the CEO from Coto Consultant firm, Christina Schwerdtfeger, to hold a career panel that exposed students to the “green” work force. Christina Schwerdtfeger is a female entrepreneur who established Coto Consultant firm in 2009 and has also been awarded as winner of EBJ and CCBJ. This consulting firm is an accredited greenhouse gas verifier with State of California. The main goal of this firm is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Schwerdtfeger also manages programs that promote sustainability and creates reports that suggest recommendations to businesses wanting to become “green.” During the presentation, Schwerdtfeger mentioned numerous times that the “green” field is not limited to only engineers, but is open to other professions as well. She is one perfect example, as she was originally a bench chemist but now she owns Coto Consultant. Many of her projects involve hazardous waste, air and water quality, pollution prevention, etc.

Green employment has been growing drastically. In California green employment has increased 3% vs. the overall economy, which has only grown 1%. Schwerdtfeger suggested that green careers are an increasing sector of the job market and have been growing every year. It is a big umbrella career that involves all professions. Schwerdtfeger also believes that it is a good career path for the young graduates.

This career panel has given UCI students a great opportunity to learn about the green job market and has given them more choices for the future.

Mesa Court Earth Hour

by Calum J. Kenny

Thursday, March 10 will mark the first ever Mesa Court Earth Hour. Green Campus Program Interns Calum Kenny and Henna Pithia are currently in the works for promoting, facilitating and hosting an ‘Earth Hour’ within one of UC Irvine’s largest freshman housing communities, Mesa Court.

The event will consist of several components. Firstly, GCP Interns Calum Kenny and Henna Pithia, with the support of the GCP Club and the for-credit interns will be making factual environmental awareness posters and displaying them across the upper Mesa lawn for the community to see and read. Secondly, pledge sheets will be delivered to each residence hall in Mesa Court, where each RA will be responsible for gathering as many pledges as possible; the hall with the most pledges with supplementary photographic evidence shall win the competition and receive a fun, environmentally friendly prize. Thirdly, GCP Interns Henna Pithia and Calum Kenny will be hosting a movie screening in the Mesa Court housing community that deals with sustainability. Pledges will be collected and there will be a raffle draw for the participants of the movie screening.

As publicity continues, GCP hopes that the community will react positively, responsibly and mindfully, with members of the housing community not only saving energy during Earth Hour, but also take their learning into account in their everyday life decisions.

Environmental Sustainability Conference at Vanguard University by Henna Pithia

On Friday, February 4 Green Campus intern Henna Pithia attended the 3rd annual Environmental Sustainability Conference at Vanguard University with stakeholder Jennifer Gamble and Global Sustainability Hall resident Ismail Hafez. This conference featured key note speakers such as Shaheen Sadeghi, founder and CEO of Lab Holding LLC, and breakout speakers Derek Sabori, director of sustainability and CSR at Volcom, Martin Diedrich, founder of Diedrich Coffee and Kean Coffee, Deep Patel, founder of gogreensolar.com, and Craig Shields, founder of 2GreenEnergy.

Although the focus of this conference was on small green businesses, intern Henna Pithia was able to connect Green Campus' values and beliefs to the work identified by key speakers such as Shaheen Sadeghi and Martin Diedrich. After talking with Martin Diedrich, founder of Diedrich Coffee, about the effects of coffee on water and energy consumption, intern Henna Pithia was able to relate these efforts to Green Campus' goals for saving energy. Dietrich discussed how his vision of the future of his coffee shop includes one in which water consumption and energy use is drastically reduced by recognizing and potentially doing something about the energy used to transport water from Northern California to Southern California.

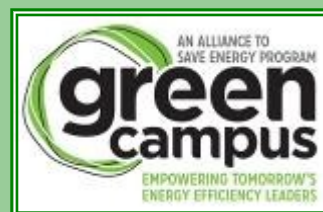
Another issue that intern Henna Pithia was able to connect to Green Campus was that of behavioral change. As a team, Green Campus strives to help educate others about ways in which they can reduce the use of energy and water by making simple day to day changes. Keynote speaker Shaheen Sadeghi really emphasized the power of individuals in making small behavioral changes that bring consumers back to locally produced items, community sourced products, and an overall simpler life that uses less resources including water and energy. This idea is something that the Green Campus program uses in its Sustainable U programs in Mesa Court and Middle Earth.

The conference was a successful and informative event which enabled the Green Campus team to connect with important and forward thinking people in Orange County who were extremely open to energy and water conservation. Intern Henna Pithia looks forward to working with these individuals in the future when it comes to planning and implementing water and energy efficiency projects on campus at UC Irvine.

Upcoming Grant Proposals – Call for Retrofit Ideas by Bogdan Rusu

Green Campus is planning to start looking into on-campus energy and/or water efficiency retrofits that would average a payback period of 1 to 5 years. The team is looking at retrofits that would result in the most resource and monetary savings over a reasonable amount of time.

Green Campus will then put together grant proposals for the most feasible projects. If any stakeholders or readers have information about good retrofit ideas, contact Green Campus intern Bogdan Rusu at brusu@uci.edu. He will be making the cost-benefit analysis and will calculate savings and payback periods. Some examples could include: upgrading the irrigation systems on campus with timers in efforts to save water, showerhead and faucets retrofits, installation of water and electric meters, etc.



February Metrics (Event—# of people)

- Green Career Panel— 35
- Club Meeting— 23
- May Chiu Speaker Event— 9
- Green Room — 15

Contact Green Campus:

Cynthia Leung
cgleung@uci.edu
Henna Pithia
hpithia@uci.edu
Bogdan Rusu
brusu@uci.edu
Kelly Wensi-Li
kellywensili@yahoo.com
Jambu Jambulingam
jjambuli@uci.edu
Calum J. Kenny
ckenny@uci.edu

greencampusuci@gmail.com

