

[@ UC Irvine]

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Issue 5

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Above right: The UCI Green Campus Club will be having an event to set up and decorate the green room.

Below: In addition to organic and eco-friendly products, the green tour dorm room will feature ENERGY STAR-certified small appliances.



The Green Room Set to Open at UCI

By Courtney Gill

The Green Campus Program, in collaboration with Housing at UCI, is working on an exciting new project called “The Green Room.” The Green Room will be a tour dorm room in Mesa Court full of energy saving and organic products. Housing has reserved a room in Camino Residence Hall for this project and the target date for opening is April 21, 2007. The Green Room room is designed to encourage prospective freshmen and transfer students to choose UCI by showing them that we are an energy friendly campus. The room demonstrates different ways that students can save energy through their purchasing decisions. Hopefully any current students and faculty who tour the room will also take away ideas on how to change some aspects of their lives to save energy.

In preparation for the Green Room’s opening, we have been researching different types of products that we would like to incorporate into the room and have been soliciting donations from stores to obtain these products. Whenever possible, electronic devices in the Green Room will be ENERGY STAR-certified, and all lighting will be supplied solely by CFL’s to reduce energy use.

(continued on Page 4)





Above: All of ASUCI's shuttle buses have been converted to run on 100% biodiesel fuel.



Above: The Volunteer Center partnership will feature 30 organizations celebrating Earth Day.

Earth Week at UCI

By Danielli Marfori

UC Irvine has a number of exciting events leading up to Earth Day to promote the school's march toward energy efficiency and sustainability. In addition to the Food Waste Event in Mesa Court (see "Food Services Collaboration" article on page 5), UCI will also feature B100 Day. The product of a partnership between the Associated Students of UC Irvine (ASUCI), Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S), Fleet Services, and Parking & Transportation, B100 Day celebrates the fact that UCI is the first university in the nation to convert its bus fleet to run on 100% biodiesel, or B100 for short. B100 Day will take place from noon until 1PM on Tuesday, April 17, 2007 on the main driveway loop next to the Administration Building and Ring Road. City of Irvine Mayor, Beth Krom and Vice Chancellor of Administration and Business Services, Wendell Brase will arrive in one of the soy bean-powered B100 shuttle buses. Vice-Chancellor Brase plans to talk briefly about UC Irvine's current energy reduction program, our commitment to more green building practices, our co-generation facility, and the benefits of biodiesel. Mayor Krom will talk about the city's strong ties with the university and its history of being at the forefront of the environmental movement. Dr. Richard Stein and other owners of biodiesel-powered cars will make their vehicles available for display and there will be demonstrations of the biodiesel production process. Food will be provided free of charge.

The Volunteer Center has also created an Earth Day Committee which includes a representative from all the environmental groups on campus as well as the surrounding community and regional environmental organizations. Events such as a free screening of "An Inconvenient Truth" (organized by CALPIRG) will be held all throughout the week leading up to Earth Day, which is celebrated at UCI on the same day as the annual Wayzgoose Festival on April 21, 2007. As one of the leading environmental organizations at UC Irvine, the Green Campus Team will have a booth set up all day, the booth will feature information on energy efficient appliances, energy saving tips and CFLs. Wayzgoose has long been a part of the UCI campus tradition, and the Green Campus Team hopes to help make Earth Day one of its main showcase events at the festival.



Ongoing Lab Audits

Samantha Kao

The Green Campus Program's ongoing campaign to reduce energy consumption in campus labs entered a new phase in the past few months, with the roll-out of a new occupant survey and lab audit, and increased collaboration between Green Campus, Facilities and Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S).

Since winter quarter of this year, we have been surveying plug loads and lighting in labs in Natural Sciences I, as well as interviewing lab occupants about hours of operation and various energy use practices. In addition, we have been looking at fume hood use in Natural Sciences I, II and McGaugh Hall to establish a baseline for how often fume hood sashes are being closed when not in use.

These efforts are in preparation for a competition that we are organizing on one floor in Natural Sciences I. This competition will challenge lab occupants to lower their fume hood sashes when not in use and to turn off any unneeded lights and equipment. With the help of EH&S staff, we are measuring fume hood sash positions throughout the labs and will compare the post-competition results with the findings of our pre-competition baseline survey. In addition, UC Irvine Energy Manager, Paul Wingco, is installing a temporary sub-meter on the targeted floor. The data that this sub-meter provides will augment building level data and will help us to gauge how well the lab occupants responded to the competition. We will know the results of the competition by the end of this quarter.

As part of our lab conservation efforts, we have met with more than 30 Teaching Assistants (TAs) in the past month. Each of these TAs works with about 30 students in labs throughout campus. During our meetings with the TAs we explained the opportunities to conserve energy in labs and asked TAs to alert us if they incorporated an energy conservation message into their work with students

Since fall 2005, the UC Irvine Green Campus Program Interns have been trying to get lab occupants to save energy by lowering fume hood sash position. Campus labs account for about 2/3 of the energy used on UCI's research-intensive campus and a single fume hood uses as much energy as four average houses!

UC Irvine at a Glance: Taking a Look at the Numbers!

This month:

CFLs given to Pippin Dining Commons and Verano Place = 144

**Basic Kitchen Audits = 1
(Brandywine Dining Commons)**



UC Irvine's Newest Interns!

By Danielli Marfori

The UCI Green Campus Team would like to welcome its newest Interns, Samantha Kao and Courtney Gill. Courtney is a second-year Neurobiology major and Earth Systems Science minor who has been a member of the Green Campus Club since Fall 2006. She worked on the PEAK Program as a for-credit intern and was trained to teach elementary school kids energy conservation practices. Samantha Kao is a third-year International Studies major who was also a for-credit intern and helped the Green Campus team with lab audits and research on products for our Green Room. The team is confident that Samantha and Courtney will continue the Green Campus Team's great relationship with faculty, staff, and administrators and also keep expanding our campus-wide student outreach activities. We are excited to have them onboard!



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Green Room (continued from Page 1)

We hope to include an Apple laptop, since Mac OS X allows the user to control the power consumption of the laptop. Also, Apple has replaced cathode ray tubes (CRT's) monitors for its desktops with flat-panel displays that consume up to 80% less energy when in sleep mode.

All of the Green Room's ENERGY STAR products will feature signage describing the benefits of energy efficiency and where to purchase the products so that switching to these products will be more convenient for those who tour the room.

All cloth products in the Green Room will be made of natural materials, such as organic cotton and hemp, both of which are grown without pesticides. We hope to include clothing, sheets, blankets, and bags in the Green Room that are made from these sustainable materials.

All hygiene products in the Green Room, such as soap and laundry detergent, will also be environmentally friendly, and paper products will include high recycled content.

Area stores— such as Target, Timberland, Adventure 16 and Trader Joe's— are potential sponsors, providing either discounts or donations of these environmentally friendly products.

The Green Room is modeled after similar projects at other college campuses that have been successfully implemented. At other campuses, students have lived in these rooms and eventually, it would be wonderful to have volunteers wanting to reside in our Green Room. The Green Room is a wonderful step for UCI in educating people about energy conservation in a creative way. We hope it has such a profound effect that it will continue to be exhibited in years to come.

Green Campus Club Goes Sailing!

By Danielli Marfori

As part of our effort to build a thriving Green Campus student club, the Green Campus team organized a team building night sailing event for its club members on April 2, 2007. Eleven club members attended the trip to the UCI Sailing Club's Sailbase at Newport Harbor. Sailbase's volunteer staff went over basic safety rules and then for three hours, groups of three to four members each boarded four of the smaller sailboats for a relaxing sail along the quiet harbor. The boats were powered solely by wind, and the club members had the opportunity to help direct the boats and learn how to work the sails. Overall, it was a very successful trip! The Green Campus Club hopes to do more future events like this that foster a sense of community and strengthen the Green Campus Club.



Left: *The Green Campus Club in Newport Harbor at sunset.*

Right: *The view of Newport Harbor in the moonlight from one of our sailboats.*



Left: *UCI Sailing staff goes over safety rules while onboard the boats.*

Collaboration with Food Services

By Danielli Marfori

The UCI Green Campus Team has partnered up with UCI Dining on a number of programs to promote campus-wide energy efficiency in dining services, beginning with residential dining. UCI Dining/Food Services contracts with the Aramark Corporation to provide food services to the UCI campus. This spring quarter, UC Irvine will have its first ever Food Waste Exhibit held in Pippin Dining Commons in the Middle Earth Housing Complex and in Mesa Commons in the Mesa Court Housing Complex. The lunchtime event will encourage freshmen to waste as little food as possible by having a competition between the two dining halls. Residents will be required to dump their leftover food in designated receptacles, both receptacles will be weighed and the dining hall with the least amount of waste per student will win. Residents will be informed of the negative effects of food waste in terms of energy wasted during the production and disposal of food. In addition, UCI Dining will also continue to inform the residents of the various ways in which Food Services has become more sustainable.

Green Campus and UCI Dining/ Aramark are also collaborating through the dining hall energy audits. Green Campus Interns used the knowledge and skills that they acquired from the Energy Efficiency Summit to conduct a preliminary kitchen audit for Brandywine Dining Commons, the smaller dining hall in Middle Earth. Plans for similar audits are underway for Pippin Commons and Mesa Commons as well. While Brandywine Commons already uses low-flow spray nozzles for dishwashing, the Green Campus team found that it could replace incandescent bulbs in the serving area with CFLs. Green Campus also hopes to work as a bridge between UCI Dining and Southern California Edison to do more comprehensive energy audits in the near future for all three residential dining commons.

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