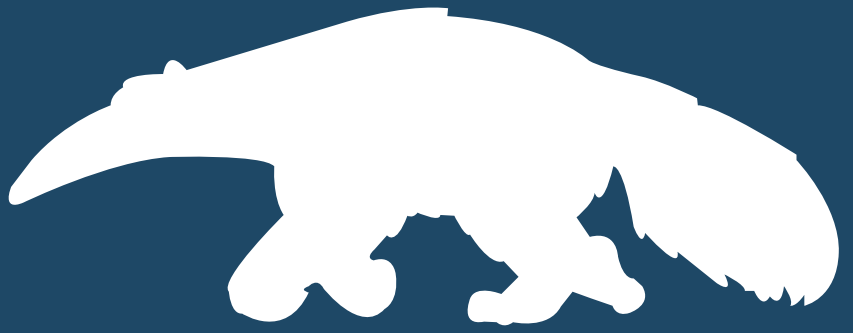


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THE GREEN VINE

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

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WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

11TH ANNUAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY SUMMIT

BY JAENNA WESSLING



UC Irvine PowerSave Campus team members with Wendell Brase, UCI's Vice Chancellor for Administration and Business and Chair of the University of California's Climate Solutions Steering Group.

Every February, PowerSave Campus interns from all 16 California campuses attend the annual PowerSave Campus Energy Efficiency Summit. This year, the 11th annual summit was hosted by Cal Poly Pomona. The Alliance to Save Energy staff members planned three days of fun, engaging, and informational activities for all of the interns.

The first day of the summit consisted of check-in festivities, a pizza party, a tour of Cal Poly Pomona's new energy efficient recreational center, and ice breaker activities that allowed interns from all campuses to get acquainted with one another. The second day, PSC interns engaged in a variety of training workshops, project brainstorming activities, and technology station rotations. At night, the students attended a green career panel full of experienced professionals from energy, governmental, education, and business sectors. Following the career panel, interns socialized with one another, and networked with campus stakeholders. Lastly, the final day of the summit was dedicated to amazing intern project presentations, an eye-opening keynote speaker, a presentation from the creator of the "Billion Dollar Green Challenge", more energy efficiency workshops, and team poster presentations.

Overall, this year's summit was an incredible experience. The summit was full of wisdom, idea sharing, interesting projects, and unforgettable interns. Thank you to all of the staff and interns who made it possible and the best summit yet!



WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

CAMPUS CONSERVATION NATIONALS: BLACKOUT

BY JACQUELINE KHA



Campus Conservation Nationals is the world's largest electricity and water reduction competition program for colleges and universities, and UCI's very own Middle Earth will be participating this year. Headed by interns Jacqueline Kha and Janet Ortega, this competition will pit students against each other in a friendly dorm-to-dorm competition. The winning hall will be based on percent reduction in water and electricity and the winner will receive money to donate to a charity of their choice.

To officially kick off Campus Conservation Nationals, we organized a community-wide Blackout on the second day of the competition. We encouraged students to turn off all lights and unplug appliances before coming out to the event. Once there, students enjoyed free pizza, taking pictures in our photo booth, and enjoying the company of their fellow PowerSavers. Representatives from Theta Psi, Global Sustainability Resource Center, Government of Undergraduate Student Housing, and Middle Earth Council were also in attendance to support our event. Residents were given logistics of the competition and information about our tabling events, which are twice a week.

The beginning of March marks the last week of the competition, so we will have our results out soon. Until then, keep on conserving, anteaters.



WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

WATER YOU DOING TO CONSERVE WATER?

BY JANET ORTEGA

The UCI PowerSave team and UCI Student Housing Residential Education Board were very excited to hold PowerSave's third annual water conservation workshop! Team manager, Janet Ortega held a presentation on the relationship between water and energy use, and how water conservation also leads to energy savings. Learning outcomes were measured with a pre and post survey. After the presentation, participants were able to take home their own water conserving succulent along with a pot to decorate! UCI has been producing great water savings from switching non-recreational turf to native plants. Having students take home their own plant will help them see how adaptive succulents are to California weather, especially with the current water conditions. The team reached over 80 students and hopes to reach more with future workshops!



WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

THE SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE OF UC IRVINE

BY BRIJ PATEL



The sustainability committee meeting is an annual event; it usually takes place at the beginning of the calendar year. It's a time when energy and water leaders around campus get together, these leaders include: Faculties, staff, management, and student. While most of the groups give discuss their current project, by acknowledging the problems and solutions; some faculty members set future goals for the university. After a few years of progress, this university has set high standards for many universities around the country. UC Irvine is taking steps such as adding solar panels to the parking structures, changing inefficient refrigerator systems and creating behavior change in students in order to meet the carbon neutrality 2025 goals. We can be sure to bring back the "Most energy efficient campus" title back to UC Irvine in 2015 with our current energy leaders.

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