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The Green Vine

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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

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MESA COURT MEGA ENERGY COMPETITION

BY JACQUELINE KHA & JAENNA WESSLING

In preparation for our upcoming Mega Energy Competition in the Fall, interns Jacqueline and Brij briefly presented to members of the Mesa Court Council with plans to implement the program. This year, Cal Poly Pomona, CSU Fullerton, CSU Long Beach, UC Irvine, and UC Santa Barbara will be placed in a head-to-head competition to save the largest percentage of energy. Each school will step up to try to out-save their opponents. At the meeting, Jacqueline and Brij explained the guidelines and timelines for the competition, as well as future advertising in the dormitories and around the Mesa Court community. Each Resident Advisor will be given a student registration sheet, which we will use to email residents with weekly updates and a post-survey. We look forward to meeting with the Mesa Court Council again for further planning and a more in-depth presentation to the new residents.

The UCI PowerSave Team also presented for Mesa Court hall representatives to give them information and flyers to give to their Resident Advisors and post on their hall bulletin boards. In addition, the team has boothed in front of Mesa Commons Dining Hall and promoted a photo challenge that encourages students to take photos of themselves saving energy and come to our booth to receive prizes. Southern California Edison has also helped to encourage Mesa Court students to form energy efficient practices by bringing their interactive Sprinter van with an energy bike, globe suit, and various informational materials.



ANTEATER INVOLVEMENT FAIR

BY JAENNA WESSLING

Every year UCI hosts the Anteater Involvement Fair. This event is the first time during the school year that campus organizations can come together and introduce themselves to freshman, as well as other visiting students. The PowerSave Campus team participated in the Anteater Involvement Fair this year and reached over 200 students. The team created an interactive activity that allowed students to gain knowledge about their energy usage in a fun way. The activity was a matching game of the wattages and gallons per minute of everyday appliances that the students might use in their residences. Students were able to sign up for our mailing list, and received boba and power strips for completing our activity.

Many students learned ways to reduce their energy usage based on the knowledge of how much energy their light bulbs, laptops, and air conditioning uses. Many of the students seemed very enthusiastic to physically participate with our team and often surprised themselves with how much they knew about energy in ways that they might not have thought about before. Our team would love to see this energy efficiency knowledge applied to our upcoming Mega Energy Competition in the freshman residential community, Mesa Court!



ANTEATER ENERGY SAVING TIPS

BY MEGAN CRAWFORD



Hey fellow Anteaters! Welcome back to UCI! The Powersave Team has a few energy saving tips for you to start the next school year off right. For those of you that frequently rely on cars and shuttles, try riding a bike, skateboarding, or walking. This will use significantly less energy, decrease your personal carbon footprint, and is a great form of daily exercise. When using electrical appliances and gadgets (especially those phone chargers), remember to unplug them after use. Even after turning them off, these items still use up energy when plugged into an electrical outlet. Another good alternative to unplugging each item is to use a power strip, but don't forget to utilize the on and off switch. Before leaving a room, remember to turn off the lights and only use the necessary amount of light needed when the lights are turned on. While doing laundry, use the cold water setting on the washer and only complete full loads. Instead of using an electric dryer, hang dry clothes to save energy. Rather than having an 8 hour Netflix marathon during your free afternoon, crack open a book or go hiking. Last but not least, just be conscious of the amount of energy you use over the course of a day, week, or the entire quarter, and try to save energy whenever possible. Good luck in the new school year, Anteaters!

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