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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

INSIDE THIS











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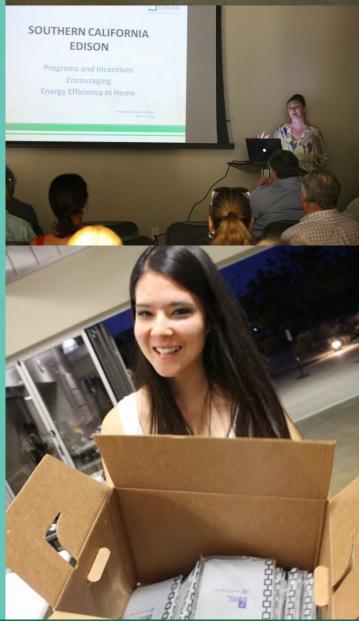
ENERGY EFFICIENCY NIGHT

BY JAENNA WESSLING

On Wednesday, May 14th, Irvine Campus Housing Authority coordinated with University Hills to host a Sustainable Living Workshop at the University Hills Community Center. Many residents of University Hills attended the event, as well as various speakers from Southern California Edison, Southern California Gas, SunPower, ICHA, Irvine Ranch Water District, and UCI staff members. After a few words from Vice Chancellor Wendell Brase and ICHA's President, Jane Laning, guests enjoyed refreshments and the companies presented important facts and tips to save water and energy in the residents' homes. UCI campus Energy Manager, Matt Gudorf, presented crucial ways to create energy saving plans and implement them through a list of "10 No Cost Ways to Save Energy". Southern California Edison representative, Lisa Hanneman, described their programs and incentives that encourage energy efficiency at home. Addison Marks from Sun Power demonstrated the cutting edge technology of SunPower's solar panels and outlined the benefits of solar power. Lastly, Shavonne Mays from Irvine Ranch Water District promoted indoor and outdoor water conservation through their rebate and incentive programs.

When the presentations concluded, guests were encouraged to visit the companies' booths for further information. The UCI PowerSave team also set up a table to discuss their energy efficiency objectives on campus, answer questions, and gave additional energy saving tips and pamphlets to the residents. This event was a great way to encourage sustainable behavior and to promote the benefits of residential building retrofits. The workshop was very entertaining and informative, and the team hopes to participate in it again!





MEGA ENERGY COMPETITION

BY BRIJ PATEL



Saving energy has always been a priority for the University of California Irvine campus. After hosting multiple energy competitions and energy saving events, the team is glad to bring back the Mega Energy competition. Every fall, PowerSave interns host the event in Mesa Court, while multiple UC and Cal State Universities compete for the highest energy savings. Interns Brij Patel and Jaenna Wessling will be managing the competition at UCI. The Mega Energy competition is a 5 week long process, where during the 1st week a baseline will is recorded so we can track our energy saving progress in the following weeks.

As students become more educated about energy efficiency, the energy consumption will start to decrease from better energy saving behavior. The goal of this project is to save as much energy as possible in the housing communities during the five week process. UCI has been a part of this competition for multiple years and have had savings over 25,000 Kwh; this is an 8% reduction from the baseline energy use. Housing communities at UCI have always been extremely supportive of such competition, they provide the interns with many helpful tips on how to go about these projects and also help them analyze the data they obtain from the meters. The interns plan on making this event widespread throughout the campus through advertising and hosting energy awareness campaigns near the Mesa Court housing community. Stay tuned for more details on the upcoming projects.

2014 WATER BATTLE

BY JANET ORTEGA

The PowerSave team is eager to start planning projects for the 2014 – 2015 school year! After having a successful Water Battle in the Fall Quarter of 2013, Janet Ortega hopes to have another water saving competition later this year. The battle will take place in one of UC Irvine's freshmen residential halls, Middle Earth. The team hopes to encourage Middle Earth residents to conserve water throughout their everyday lives. With California going through this drought, every drop of water saved can make a difference. UC Irvine has made amazing efforts to reduce the campus' water usage by planting native California plants around campus. This competition will be a great way for students to get involved in UC Irvine's efforts towards water conservation.



FOR-CREDIT INTERNS

BY JAENNA WESSLING



The UCI PowerSave Team is looking forward to adding new for-credit interns to our team this summer. The interns will aid the UCI team by performing audits within residential communities on campus, helping organize upcoming water and energy competitions in the fall, and brainstorming to create new energy saving projects on campus. We hope the interns will gain hands on experience with energy auditing tools, communicating with stakeholders, understanding and promoting energy efficiency, and much more! Many great applications have already been received and are currently being reviewed by the PowerSave team.

THANK YOU

BY JAIMIE WAN

Thank you everyone for the past amazing 4 years. I am eternally grateful for the investment of my PowerSave co-interns at UCI and our sister campuses, stakeholders, and the professional staff in my growth as an intern and individual. You have all left lasting impacts on me and I appreciate the values you have all taught on me about why energy efficiency and sustainability are worthwhile as a career aspiration and lifestyle. I hope to stay in touch with every one of you as I embark on this new chapter of my life after graduation.

"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, Nothing is going to get better. It's not." - The Lorax

Thank you again for the beautiful friendship. Peace, love, happiness. Let's keep in touch! Contact me: wanjc@alumni.uci.edu

