

Green Campus Newsletter



Humboldt State University

Issue #71, May 2012

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Green Campus Updates

By: Brietta Linney

Welcome to the May 2012 newsletter!

The Green Campus Program has been very busy during April. Our second annual **Water Awareness Month (WAM)** came to a close on April 10th with a successful Water Festival where students learned from local organizations about current water issues both locally and nationally. This was our second WAM, and lots of hard work went into making this year even more fun than last year. Special thanks to Elisabeth de Jong for organizing our Water Photo Contest!

We hope you enjoy our last newsletter of the Spring 2012 Semester!

World Water Day

Festival Pictures

Far right: Max Tanti and Adrienne Spitzer at the festival



Visit: HSUgreencampus.com
Contact us at: GreenCampusHSU@gmail.com

SLAMfest

By: Adrienne Spitzer

This year the Sustainable Living Arts and Music (SLAM) festival was a free, all day event on April 21st at Humboldt State. The Green Campus Program (GCP) tabled on the UC Quad with other organizations and student groups who were there to spread the word about sustainable practices.

A few highlights from the daytime activities included: Schatz Energy Research Center tabled to promote clean and renewable energy sources, Bayside Park Farm taught people how to start a garden and offered other educational material about their farm, Humboldt Hardware held workshop demonstration about sustainable woodworking and how to repurpose wood, and Occupy Road Trip told people about their journey to Washington D.C. Throughout the day, there was live music in the background and plenty of happy people out enjoying the sunshine.

Workshops were held from 10 a.m.—4 p.m. in various buildings around the quad. Max Tanti from the GCP team led a workshop titled “How to save energy and money in your home”. Tanti educated attendees about energy jargon and energy auditing basics. He also showed students how to use energy auditing tools, such as a kilowatt meter, to assess energy use of some everyday appliances. Tanti was able to answer student’s individual questions and gear the workshop toward their interest in specific aspects of energy and energy audits. Max successfully educated the small group who came about how to monitor and reduce their energy use in their homes.

This festival was a great way to bring the campus and Arcata community together to share and explore sustainable living. The GCP was very happy to participate and be a part of this educational and fun event.



Adrienne Spitzer talks to students about water conservation at SLAM Fest



Max Tanti presenting at the SLAM Fest (Pictured above and below)



Green Campus Submits HEIF Grant

By: Max Tanti

The deadline for proposal submissions to the Humboldt Energy Independence Fund (HEIF) was April 23rd. The Green Campus team is excited to have submitted a complete grant which the committee will review in early May.

Every semester, students contribute a small portion of their fees to HEIF, which goes toward sustainability initiatives on campus. This semester Green Campus had two proposals in the running. The first submission focused on installing waterless urinals on a pilot campus bathroom. This proposal was put on hold, however, due to issues related to the waterless technologies.

The next proposal was to upgrade the 14th Street parking lot lights to a Light-Emitting Diode (LED) bi-level lighting system. LEDs are the most efficient type of light on the marketplace and are quickly surpassing Compact Fluorescent Lights (CFL) as the preferred technology. The bi-level lighting system uses motion sensors that will decrease the light output when there is no movement for an extended period of time.



The existing High Pressure Sodium pole in 14th Street Lot

If this proposal receives HEIF funding you may notice the following changes to the 14th Street parking lot. The lighting will be a cooler blue color and will be distributed more evenly over the lot, allowing for better vision. Movement will cause an increase in light levels in that area. This retrofit is a pilot project that if successful, will be expanded to other parking lots on campus. We are excited to potentially bring this emerging technology to HSU and most importantly reduce the impact we have on the planet.

In Fall 2012, Green Campus will be working with HEIF to host brainstorming sessions for students who have their own ideas for ways that HSU can reach energy independence. There will be free pizza and the chance for students and campus stakeholders to collaborate on brainstorming ideas. Students from all majors are encouraged to attend and talk to stakeholders about ways their ideas can become realities through HEIF.

Check for updates on the HEIF website in the fall and, of course, Green Campus will remind students about this amazing opportunity when we return in August. So put your thinking cap on this summer and bring back some ideas to HSU! The committee is looking for interested students to become voting members.

Email heif@humboldt.edu if you are interested in learning more about brainstorming sessions or becoming a voting member of the committee.

Celebrating Green Workplace Assessments

By: Jenna Bader

It is almost summer for HSU students, staff, and faculty. The Green Campus interns are busy preparing for the Green Workplace Assessment Award Ceremony. On May 4th the Green Campus Program (GCP) will hold a private event for the three certified offices from this Spring 2012 semester and our three certified offices from Fall 2011.

The Green Workplace Assessment Certification Program (GWACP) at Humboldt State successfully certified the 6 following offices for their tremendous efforts in increasing energy efficiency on campus:

Spring 2012

1. Service Learning Center (Certified Gold)
2. Learning Center (Certified Bronze)
3. Marketing and Communications Department (Certified Gold)

Fall 2011

1. Student Health Center (Certified Bronze)
2. Housing Grounds (Certified Bronze)
3. Schatz Energy Research Center (Certified Gold)



Stacy Becker and the Service Learning Center accept their gold award on Friday May 4, 2012



Matt Brunner and the Marketing and Communications Department accept their gold award on Friday May 4, 2012

The award ceremony will be an event to present the newly certified offices from the Spring 2012 semester with their GWACP certificates and to highlight some outstanding energy savings practices from each workplace.

The newly certified offices from this semester will be saving a total of 24,057.78 kWh/year, equivalent to 12,606 pounds of CO₂ saved from the atmosphere or 147 trees planted and grown for 10 years.

The Service Learning Center, Marketing and Communications Department, and Learning Center went above and beyond when it comes to energy efficiency and pledged to change some behaviors in exchange for green certification points.

Some of these behavior changes include: getting rid of personal fans, turning off printers and computers nights and weekends, closing windows when the HVAC is on, swapping out old light bulbs with CFL's, encouraging carpooling, and using tap water instead of bottled water whenever possible.

All departments have been a pleasure to work with. This event will allow the GCP team to recognize these offices for their commitment to energy efficient and sustainable practices in their workplace.



Metrics for March

22 Students signed our interest sheet at the **SLAM Fest**

78 Students attended **World Water Day**

There were 28 photos submitted to our **Water Photo Contest**



Meet the Project Coordinators!

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"The Alliance to Save Energy's Green Campus Program is funded by the ratepayers of California under the auspices of SCE, PG&E, and Southern California Gas Company."

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