

# CSU Chico Green Campus

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OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

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## Faculty Challenge: Open the Blinds, Turn Off the Lights

The first ever "Turn Off the Lights, Open the Blinds" Faculty Challenge will begin October 1 and will end October 12. This two-week long challenge calls for faculty members to turn off their overhead, fluorescent lights and use the natural light available to them through the windows.

After researching rooms that would be suitable to take part in the challenge, those with many windows and a lot of natural light, and sending out over 200 e-mails to faculty teaching a variety of subjects, approximately 25 faculty members have responded and have pledged to take part in the challenge.

Within the next few

weeks Green Campus coordinators will go to each room, count the lights and calculate expected energy and cost savings to be realized during the two weeks of



the challenge. Coordinators will also estimate energy and cost savings for an entire semester and academic year based on the

results of the two-week period.

Participating instructors and faculty will receive gifts for their efforts generously supplied by PG&E. They will also learn about the savings generated by their efforts, as well as the savings they could expect if they were to keep turning off the lights and using natural light only throughout the year.

Every little bit helps and this challenge shows that everyone can be involved in saving energy and money for our university.

## Energy Conservation Advisory Measure: Thermostat Changes

Green Campus Coordinator Fumiko Motohashi is working to turn the Energy Conservation Advisory Measure into a binding resolution. The measure advises Associated Students and the University to generate major energy and cost savings for the campus by changing the thermostat setting for campus buildings by 3 degrees (i.e., buildings on campus will not be heated above 65 degrees or cooled below 81 degrees).

The advisory measure

passed in the AS election during the Spring 2007 semester with about 85% of student support. However, it does not necessarily mean the AS and the University will implement it, since it is an "advisory" measure. The measure must be passed as a resolution in the Environmental Affairs Council and Board of Directors for the Associated Students and in the Academic Senate.

Fumiko, on behalf of Green Campus, is working with individuals in the Academic Sen-

ate to navigate the process and get the advisory measure on the Senate's agenda. The goal is to make a resolution and submit it to the Academic Senate in Spring 2008 for a vote.

If you have any questions or concerns about this issue then we encourage you to send them to Green Campus at : [greencampuschico@sbcglobal.net](mailto:greencampuschico@sbcglobal.net)

# Green Campus Intern Attends West Coast Green Conference



West Coast Green is the largest green building conference and expo in the United States. This year the conference took place September 20-22 at the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium in San Francisco. With 10,762 registered for attendance it was quite an overwhelming experience.

There were over 270 exhibitors showcasing green building products and 250 professionals from the field sharing their experience and knowledge through panels and workshops. The keynote speakers were truly inspirational, providing a wealth of knowledge and motivation that seemed to get everyone in attendance fired up about green building.

Of the many fantastic speakers, Van Jones, Director of Ella Baker Center for Human Rights; Gavin Newsom, Mayor of San Francisco; and Erin Brockovich, Director of Research for Masry & Vitito, stood out as the

most motivational. Keynote speakers also included Sarah Susanka, author of Not So Big House, Steve Wozniak, Chief Visionary Officer and Co-founder of Apple Computer, and Ed Begely Jr., host of Living with Ed on HGTV, among others.

The diversity and quantity of panels throughout the three day conference was staggering. Of the twenty concurrent panels happening at any given time slot, there were always tough choices to be made.

This is truly an annual conference that should not be missed by anyone with even the slightest interest in green building.

## Energy Office Audits

To kick off the new semester, Green Campus is working with the Associated Students Women's Center to perform our first Office Audit!

The Office Audits are set up to be a four step process. First, offices will be assessed and mapped out to create a plan to tackle each office's specific lay out and individual needs.

Then, the actual audit will take place, collecting data using a variety of tools including light and watt meters. The employees and volunteers of each office will also be asked some questions to determine their current habits and knowledge. Green Campus will then use this information to deliver the office a report with suggestions detailing what they could change or improve on to achieve maximum energy savings. At this point, each office will receive a Green Campus

certificate stating their status as a Green Office.

Follow-ups will be performed to ensure bad habits have been changed and our suggestions implemented.

Already with the Woman's Center, staff members have met with interns working for The Woman's Center to do a preliminary walk-through to assess the office and create an individualized plan to suit their needs. During this walk through, GCP staff members began to ask habitual questions regarding the plethora of electric equipment plugged in at the office. Because of this, they have already begun saving electricity, as they've unplugged four sets of decorative lights, a photo printer, a boom box, and a water heater they didn't even know they had!

Soon, GCP staff will return to the office with interns to perform the actual audit and assess what additional savings can be made. Initial energy use and post-audit savings will be reported soon!

If you are interested in having an energy audit on your office please contact Green Campus at : [greencampuschico@sbcglobal.net](mailto:greencampuschico@sbcglobal.net)



*Green Campus Interns Working at the Women's Center*

## Meet the Team

### Staff

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### October Events:

**October 4th 1-7pm:** PG&E  
Bus across from Glenn Hall

**October 10th: 5-6 BMU 210**  
Health and Wellness Forum:  
*Don't Make Going Green  
Make you Blue.*  
Lecture by Amelia Gulling,  
Green Campus Director

**October 22nd-26th:** Resident  
Hall Energy Reeducation  
Competition against Lassen  
and Shasta Hall

**October 24th 10-2** Free  
Speech Area: Campus Sustain-  
ability Day



### The Numbers Tell All:

The Chico Green Campus Program has distributed 587 compact fluorescent light bulbs across the campus since August!:

87 13 watt bulbs

300 90 watt bulbs

200 60 watt bulbs

This gives us a rough estimated savings of 18,785 kWh avoided every year.

Also, about 24, 045 lbs of CO<sub>2</sub> were avoided.

### The Alliance to Save Energy's

"Green Campus Program" is funded by the ratepayers of Pacific Gas & Electric. Strategic Energy Innovations is a sub-contractor of the Green Campus Program.

