



June/July 2009

Green Campus Newsletter Chico State



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WORKING OUR WAY TO ZERO

By Haley Gilmore

Green Campus interns came together from all over the state to attend the 8th Annual UC/CSU/CCC Sustainability Conference hosted by UC Santa Barbara. The conference theme was *Working Our Way to Zero*, where professionals, university faculty and staff, and students alike came together to share best practices through presentations, workshops, and practical demonstrations. Current Chico Green Campus interns, as well as outgoing intern Mahmoud Saad, traveled to the conference together to bring back new ideas and insights for future projects, as well as share their own knowledge with fellow change agents in sustainability from across the state.

The conference was organized into 13 different educational tracks, ranging in topic from health, to social equity, to procurement, and energy. Green Campus interns were free to choose which sessions to attend depending on their interests and what they could apply most to the needs of their campuses.

Preceding the three-day conference was the Green Campus End-of-Year meeting, where interns experienced a more intimate setting to learn about each other's successes and failures from the past year. Interns from different campuses shared the journeys of some of their successfully implemented projects, providing their peers with ideas about future projects and advice on what, and what not, to do. Graduating interns also gave advice to returning interns, and members from different campuses came together in small groups to help each other plan new projects for the upcoming semesters. Collaborating with other Green Campus interns is an advantageous privilege; it gives us insight to unforeseen issues through the perspective of students in the same position as us.

Attending the conference was an invaluable experience that provided us with new project ideas to bring back to Chico.



Chico Green Campus interns planning projects for the upcoming semester at the End-of-Year meeting.



We would like to thank the Alliance to Save Energy for providing our team with the opportunity to attend the conference.



Energy Savings Since January 2009

Chico Green Campus total savings from the 08/09 school year:

13,623 kWh saved (realized)

\$1,907 savings (realized)

Potential annual savings if behaviors are continued:

103,201 kWh (estimated)

\$13,416 savings (estimated)



STUDENTS COME TOGETHER, SHARE BEST PRACTICES

By Emily Ramsey

Green Campus interns, along with other students involved in the sustainability efforts at their campuses, attended the 2009 Student Convergence that followed the 8th annual UC/CSU/CCC Sustainability Conference hosted by UC Santa Barbara. After two days of attending panels, the students came together to finish off the conference, sharing both ideas and inspiration.

Attendees were able to choose from eleven different student-led panels that highlighted their best practices touching on all aspects of sustainability, ranging from transportation to media initiatives and virtually everything in between. A few panels attended by Chico Green Campus interns are highlighted below.

Greeks Go Green, presented by Robert Ellsworth, Green Campus Program, San Diego State University—In this presentation, Robert shared the journey of SDSU's Greeks Go Green program to foster sustainable behavior and energy efficient operations in fraternity and sorority houses. His case study covered the successful startup of the program, to maintaining the program, and all the ups and downs in between.

Real Food Challenge: Are You Up For It?, presented by Hai Vo, UC Irvine and Timothy Galarneau, UC Santa Cruz, UC Sustainable Agrifood Systems Fellowship—This interactive workshop gave students an opportunity to share information about their university's food services and learn from each other's successes and failures. Chico interns were given a chance to share the achievements of Chico State, with our Compost Display Area, university organic farm and dairy, and the Associated Students bill that was passed to encourage the AS to buy local food.

Students Taking on Big Projects: A Guide to Overcoming Inefficiency, presented by Katherine Heflin, Green Campus Program, Stanford University—Katherine talked about Stanford's outdoor lighting project, demonstrated the basic format for taking on new projects, and gave encouragement with the theme, "All You Need is a Plan and Persistence".

CHICO TEAM IS HIRING

By Jackie Mercure

With the new semester right around the corner, and being in the midst of planning new and exciting projects, it goes without saying that we need some help! We are hoping to expand our team, looking for several new interns to bring their ideas and passion to the Chico Green Campus program before the start of the new school year.

Through recruitment we are hoping to find students majoring in more technical fields, in order to better equip our team to take on more retrofitting projects. However, we are open to anyone who is passionate about energy savings and has ideas and a work ethic to back up their aspirations. We are looking for someone who, like us, wants to communicate to students, faculty, and staff alike that energy savings is important.

If you know any students who are interested and qualified for a paid program coordinator position, or a for-credit internship position, please have them email a resume to us at greencampus@csuchico.edu.



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STAKEHOLDER OF THE MONTH: HALLI BOVIA

By Jackie Mercure

For those of you who follow our newsletter, this is a new column we are adding in order to recognize our valuable stakeholders. We will be acknowledging a different stakeholder each month for all they do for us.

We are proud to announce that our first Stakeholder of the Month is Halli Bovia, Chico State's Sustainability Coordinator.

In the past Halli was very instrumental in working with us to install power down software in the computer labs around campus. Recently, we met with Halli during the 2009 UC, CSU, CCC Sustainability Conference and spoke with her about the projects we were planning for fall semester so that she could identify where she could be of the most help to us. One of our main concerns with the upcoming semester was our ability to advertise our program effectively. Fortunately, Halli is currently creating a podcast with her PR student interns to advertise all of the sustainable works happening around campus. Green campus has already begun to work with the PR interns. Chico director Jackie Mercure worked on an introduction for our program and we discussed highlighting several other projects including the Sustainability House and vending misers.



We are proud of the accomplishments we have made by working with Halli and recognize that her service to us is invaluable. Thank you Halli!

BIG PLANS, NEW SAVINGS FOR UPCOMING SEMESTER

By Jackie Mercure

For the fall semester Chico Green Campus is planning to start several new projects but also expand and continue many of our past successes. Some of the new projects we will be working on include a BMU lighting project, Power Down software outreach, and a Turn off the Lights Campaign.

The BMU lighting Project, in partnership with AS Sustainability, is a project aimed at retrofitting the BMU with light sensors. We have already determined some target rooms where we believe these sensors will be the most effective and are currently working on acquiring a device called a HOBO® datalogger to track when the lights are on in order to determine the potential savings.

For our Power Down outreach project, we plan to advertise to both staff and students to expand the use of computer power management software. In working with campus staff we are going to advertise a power management program we initiated in the computer labs to see if campus departments will be interested in using it in their offices. For the students we are advertising a free download from Verdiem. This download, known as Edison, allows students to set the program for the amount of energy they are interested in saving. It also tracks and displays the amount of money, energy, and CO2 that is saved while using the program.

For the Turn Off the Lights campaign we are working with energy manager Neil Nunn to create potential energy savings by making sure students, faculty, and staff turn off the lights when they leave a room.