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Green Campus Newsletter Chico State



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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 Sempra Energy



TURN OFF THE LIGHTS CAMPAIGN

By Jackie Mercure

Some of the most effective ways to save energy are achieved simply through behavioral changes. The processes used to implement these changes in habit are focused on issue awareness and education. The cost is minimal (compared to a retrofit project designed to have the same results) and if successful can save just as much, or even more, energy.

For these reasons the Chico Green Campus team is partnering up with the Vice President for Business and Finance office on campus to start the 'Turn Off the Lights Campaign'. The Campaign's main goal is to encourage students and faculty to turn off the lights upon leaving their classrooms; a simple, yet effective behavior change.

With this project we hope to not only save energy and cut costs on campus, but have the habit of turning off the lights stay with faculty, staff, and students so that they will bring the idea into their homes and work places. We plan on encouraging this habit change through the use of energy competitions between buildings on campus and also by tabling to educate the campus community on this prevalent, yet easily preventable issue.

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO

By Jackie Mercure

This summer Chico Green Campus began working on a few new and exciting projects. We struck up a partnership with AS Sustainability with the goal of retrofitting the Bell Memorial Union with lighting sensors to conserve energy in rooms that are not constantly in use. The next step for this project is to conduct research by tracking how long the lights are in use in the offices and conference rooms in order to ensure that the retrofits will be placed effectively and yield the best results.

In addition, we worked on expanding our vending miser project from last year. Our previous test group was largely successful (we expect the machines will pay for themselves in under a year) therefore we have compiled a list of other machines on campus that may benefit from a miser retrofit.

This semester is going to be a busy one, but we expect our efforts will result in a great amount of hard energy savings!

GREEN JOBS AND WATER SAVINGS

Recently, the statewide Green Campus Program expanded its scope to include both water conservation and green workforce development. Our interns are excited about the new additions to the program and we are currently brainstorming new project ideas to help us accomplish these new goals.

Your opinion matters! If you have any ideas for new projects that support water conversation or green workforce development please email us at greencampus@csuchico.edu and let us know.



ALLIANCE TO SAVE ENERGY
Creating an Energy-Efficient World



Pacific Gas and Electric Company





SUSTAINABILITY HOUSE

By the numbers...

There are **13** new residents in the house.

Out of **122** Honors Program applicants who applied for Honors housing, **48** indicated Sustainability House as their choice.

Out of the **74** active Honors students who applied for Honors Housing, **31** indicated Sustainability House as their choice.

All **13** new residents in the Sustainability House showed interest in Sustainable living on their Honors Program application.



SUSTAINABILITY HOUSE:

NEW YEAR, NEW RESIDENTS, NEW ENERGY SAVINGS

By Haley Gilmore

The 09/10 school year is off to a great start, especially when it comes to the Sustainability House. For those of you who are not familiar with SH (as we like to call it), it is the only sustainability-themed dorm unit on the Chico State campus. It is located in Konkow House #2, which houses only freshman students enrolled in the Honors Program. What makes SH different from the other Konkow dorm units is that it is retrofitted with both energy and water saving appliances, sponsored by the Green Campus Program.

Two weeks into the school year and residents of SH are already familiar with the Green Campus program. Even before move-in they were aware that they were headed toward sustainable living. Last year, in collaboration with the Honors Program, Green Campus interns were able to get a space on the Honors Program application for applicants to indicate whether or not they were interested in living in SH. This means that all of the 13 current residents in the house choose to live there, which is a head start compared to previous years.



This display board inside SH will be updated monthly to keep the residents aware of current programs and opportunities to get involved with both Green Campus and the entire AS Sustainability Collaborative.

Upon move-in, the new residents were welcomed by program coordinator Haley Gilmore, who presented them with SH Survival Kits, provided by Green Campus. The main goal was to educate the residents from the start about the importance of conserving and reducing through the use of items such as power strips and reusable ChicoBags (which were both included in the kits).

The next step is to get the residents involved with Green Campus or other sustainability efforts on campus. There is now a display board set up in the SH common room that will communicate all things sustainable to the residents and will be updated on a monthly basis. Also, on Sunday September 13th, Green Campus interns will host a mixer at the house with the SH residents. At this event, presentations regarding energy basics as well as the Green Campus Program will be given and GC interns will get a chance to mix and mingle with the new residents. We hope that this will provide an opportunity for the residents to not only learn more about energy and our program, but also make new contacts and feel more connected with their new campus community.

Future programs at SH this semester include incorporating our newly expanded mission statement into the program curricula for the house by bringing in guest speakers promoting water conservation and green workforce development.



CONTACT US!

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STAKEHOLDER OF THE MONTH: KELLY CRONAN

By Haley Gilmore

This month we would like to recognize Kelly Cronan, the new Resident Advisor for the Sustainability House for the 09/10 school year as our Stakeholder of the Month.

Kelly comes to Chico from Roseville, CA. He is a Music Industry and Recording Arts major who loves to create, play, and listen to all different types of music. He plays the drums, and is just recently getting into piano.

Kelly was a resident of the Sustainability House just last year and is excited to be involved with the house again, this time in a leadership role. He believes that sustainability isn't just a "hippie" issue, but that it should be a "people" issue because from a humanity point of view, we are running out of resources the way we are currently living. He believes, as so does Green Campus, that the Sustainability House is a great way to start educating students who know little to nothing about sustainable living.

We are excited for the upcoming year with Kelly and the new residents because Kelly has already been a great help to us. He has opened up the house to us, allowing direct contact between Green Campus and the residents. The school year has just started and the residents already know who Green Campus is and what we are about! The fact that Kelly is himself interested in sustainable living, and that he lived in the house last year, gives us the head start we need to start planning effective programs that are aimed to educate the residents about current issues and what they can do to make a difference.

Thank you Kelly for all of your hard work and help to the Green Campus Program!



New Sustainability House RA, Kelly Cronan outside the house posing with the house's new compost bins.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Green Campus Weekly Meetings: Thursdays at 6:30pm in BMU 307
- Fall 2009 Stakeholder's Meeting: Wednesday October 7th from 2:00 to 3:00pm in BMU 312
- Green Campus Interns are now holding weekly office hours in the AS Sustainability Collaborative Office (BMU 301)
 - Mondays 10-11am, 12-3pm
 - Tuesdays 12-1pm
 - Wednesdays 10-11am, 2-5pm
 - Thursdays 12-1pm