

Green Campus Newsletter

Humboldt State University

September 2006

Issue 15

OFFICES GREEN CAMPUS CERTIFIED

Through office audits, recommendations and retrofits we were able to reduce the energy consumption of three on-campus offices, each by approximately one-third. The offices that received audits and retrofits were the Clubs & Activities', Associated Students' (AS), and Lumberjack's.

Jeff Steuben, Program Coordinator and Office Audit Team Leader, first recorded and monitored the energy consumption of each office. After discussing behavioral uses with the office staff, plans were made to reduce overall energy consumption. This project began Spring Semester 2006 and was completed the first week of school this fall. Each office received a certificate noting their accomplishment in saving energy.

We noticed energy faux pas in every office encountered; there were computers that were not optimized for energy savings and devices that were drawing electricity unnecessarily from the grid. Items such as coffee pots and printers were being left on at all times. These objects draw electricity even when they are turned off or not in use. This is known as a phantom load.



Three Offices Certified Energy Efficient: From Top to Bottom: Editors Jessica Cejnar & Karina Gianola from the Lumberjack; Mike Kittredge and Patty at the Clubs & Activities Office; Program Coordinator Jeff with AS President Tony Snow

THE BOYS (AND GIRLS) ARE BACK IN TOWN

The week of August 15th through the 20th was the official time for new students to move into on-campus Housing. Many eager young faces and anxious parents filled the lines for Move-In Week.

Green Campus (GC) came out in person to greet the newcomers during the Tuesday rush, when about half of the new students arrived. For the first few hours, approximately 50 power strips were distributed along with educational handouts describing how their use can cut energy loads.

After running out of power strips, we spent our time informing roughly 75 of the new students of Housing's new CFL exchange program. Housing purchased 400 CFLs to be given to residents free of charge in return for incandescent light bulbs. Housing considers this to be a good investment to reduce the energy consumption in the residence halls, which has been a growing problem in recent years.

Although Green Campus was not able to be at the table throughout the week there were informative fliers for students and parents to take. As well as a sign up sheet for the CFL exchange and our volunteer and events list.

NEW WEBSITE TAKES THE CAKE! MMM CAKE...

After nearly six months of designing and web programming, the new HSU GC website has officially been published to the web. Check it out at www.humboldt.edu/~greenhsu/

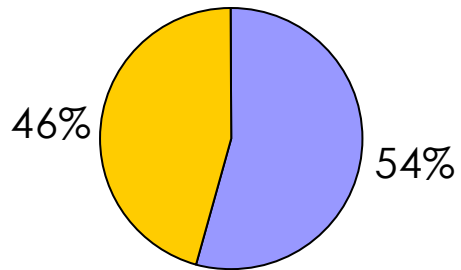
The new design, dubbed "version 1.5" by Program Coordinator Jeff Steuben and Website Consultant Ajay Tallam, has many new improvements over the old design. While the old "version 1.0" still utilized Cascading Style Sheets, (CSS) the new site has been integrated into the Joomla! open source Content Management System, as well as heavily utilizing CSS in its design.

Joomla! allows updates to the website to be made from any computer and simplifies the process a great deal, making up-to-date information on the website a reality. Even though the website has gone official, small changes and updates are always being made to make the design more user-friendly and to work out any bugs in the system.

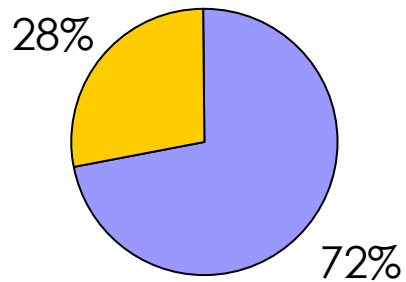
Continuing use of Google Analytics will allow us to track our website traffic and determine what pages are being accessed the most, where users are coming from, how they found the site, and how many people are new or returning users.

Charts to the right indicate the percent of viewer retention of each site. Already we can hypothesize that version 1.5 is seeing more of the same viewers, while still reaching out to new people.

OLD DESIGN OF WEBSITE (VERSION 1.0)



NEW DESIGN OF WEBSITE (VERSION 1.5)



- New Users of Website
- Returning Users of Website

THE ADVISORY COUNCIL TO MEET

We are seeking all interested parties and individuals to attend the Green Campus Advisory Council. This is an open forum to discuss future and potential projects. It will also be the debut of two new Green Campus Program Coordinators and hopefully, Housing's new Energy Intern. The meeting will take place in Goodwin Forum (Nelson Hall East) on September 27, from 2 to 4 P.M. Bring your energy and ideas!

GREEN NUMBERS

Number of New Students Interested in Green Campus: **55**

Number of CFLs Purchased by Green Campus for free distribution to HSU students: **1,000**

Number of CFLs Purchased by Housing for distribution to campus residents: **400**

WATCH FOR....

FREE CFL Exchange:

On the Quad Wednesdays
& Thursdays
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Volunteers Needed
Bring us an Incandescent &
we will give you a CFL!

Coalition Meetings:

Friday, September 16
5 - 6 p.m.
CCAT Living Room

Advisory Council:

Wednesday, September 27
The Advisory Council (open
to general public) will meet
in Godwin Forum, NHE.
2 to 4 p.m. Snacks provided

Movie Month:

Wednesdays @ 7 p.m.
Throughout October
Founder's Hall (FH) 125
Films will include Captain
Planet Cartoons & Oil on Ice

CLUBS COALITION ACTIVITIES

The Environmental and Social Justice club met with President Richmond on September 6 where the decision was made to create a full time Sustainability Coordinator staff position at HSU. We consider this a huge step forward for the University. The Coalition is now in the process of finalizing the position and the details surrounding it.

This semester the coalition hopes to strengthen the number of groups working on Social Justice issues. We are in the process of planning several discussions and lectures around the topic of *environmental justice*, a cause that unites social and environmental advocacy

OFFICE AUDITS CONT. FROM PAGE 1

Phantom loads can be eliminated by either unplugging the device when it is off or by plugging it into an accessible power strip and turning the power strip off when it is no longer needed.

Another notorious energy waster is space heaters. Three space heaters were being utilized in the Associated Students Office. One of the space heaters was removed and two others were replaced with foot warmers per Energy Research Engineer Michael Winkler's suggestion. Green Campus purchased foot warmers and an LCD monitor for the AS Office in order to help them save energy.

EXCHANGE FOR EFFICIENCY

At the outset of the school year, Green Campus purchased 1,000 CFL light bulbs to kick off an energy saving extravaganza. These light bulbs are going to be made available free of charge to any person who wants them, provided that he or she gives us one of their incandescent bulbs in return.

This year an exchange is taking place to ensure that energy savings will be generated by removing older, inefficient bulbs rather than simply adding more lighting loads onto the grid.

For the upcoming weeks, the Green Campus Club will be tabling on the quad, facilitating the light bulb exchange, on Wednesday and Thursday 11:00-1:00.

Come and get a new light bulb!



Green
Campus
will take
me away...



So you
can save
energy
& money
with me!

CALIFORNIA WILL SHRINK GREENHOUSE-GAS EMISSIONS UNDER GROUNDBREAKING PLAN

In arguably the biggest step ever taken in the U.S. to fight global warming, California's political leaders reached a deal last week to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions in the state 25 percent by 2020. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger (R) pledged to sign Assembly Bill 32, under which the California Air Resources Board will set emissions limits for various industries beginning in 2012, and will have the authority to choose whether to institute an emissions-trading system.

The bill will give the governor power to lift emissions caps for up to one year under "extraordinary circumstances." The deal emerged after intense negotiations, and reactions were as expected: greens were satisfied but wished controls had been more stringent; business leaders were ticked off. Schwarzenegger, who's loudly touting his green credentials in his reelection campaign this year, proclaimed, "The success of our system will be an example for other states and nations to follow as the fight against climate change continues." Hint, hint.

Taken from Grist, an online environmental news & commentary magazine: www.grist.org

TO HIRE OR NOT TO HIRE...

A VERY TOUGH DECISION

We are currently in the process of hiring two new Green Campus Program Coordinators. After reading through many qualified resumes we began interviews the first week of September. We hope to have selected two individuals by the second week of September.

The duties of Program Coordinators include attending and facilitating meetings with other Green Campus Program Coordinators, administrators, organizations, and students; designing educational programs, events and activities; as well as generating, tracking, and recording energy savings.

Stay tuned to meet our new Program Coordinators!

CONTACT US:

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