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Bright Green News

The Campus Sustainability Newsletter

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The Office Update



Please encourage your friends and colleagues to join our [list serve](#).

Become a fan of our [Facebook Page](#)!

Have an idea for an article contact [Kira Stoll](#), BGN editor.

Contact us:
sustainability@berkeley.edu

Check out our website:
<http://sustainability.berkeley.edu>

Fall Student Sustainability Forum—Sept. 19th

Interested in joining some environmental clubs on campus? The Office of Sustainability is hosting their annual Student Sustainability Forum for new and returning students to learn more about the many campus environmental organizations and how to get involved.

Come listen to over 30+ campus environmental groups speak and find the group that is right for you! The Fall Student Sustainability Forum will be comprised of short presentations delivered by representatives of various campus environmental organizations, while also having time for networking, questions, and mingling

among the groups and with attendees. The forum is a perfect place to find volunteer and job opportunities, discover the latest scoop on new inspiring green projects at Cal, and become a part of our fast-growing green community.

Please join us on **Thursday, September 19, 2013, from 6:00pm-7:45pm, in the Residence Hall Unit I All Purpose Lounge.**

Tasty and organic snacks will be served, and be sure to bring all your friends! **All students are welcome.**



For more information, visit our [Facebook event page](#).



“Like” Us on Facebook Page!

Did you know that the Office of Sustainability is on Facebook? If not, you should [follow this link](#) and “like” our page!

This page is regularly updated with news stories, job and internship opportunities, and campus wide events. It is a great space to stay in touch with the many events and programs that Cal



has to offer, as well as learn about all the exciting ways to get involved with the environmental community on campus.

In the spirit of spreading sustainability awareness across campus, the Office is working to promote its Facebook page and boost the number of its followers. Those who “like” the Facebook

page will be the first to hear about the Office’s exciting new campaigns and programs for the semester. Rewards, including gift certificates, sustainable products and organic goodies, will be associated with different campaigns throughout the year.

Be sure to not miss out on all that the Office’s Facebook page has to offer and “like” [our page](#)!



Apply for a Fall TGIF Mini-Grant!

The Green Initiative Fund now offers an annual fall semester grant program, known as “TGIF Mini-Grants”, with a goal of awarding \$20,000 in mini-grants. The spring TGIF grant program will continue each spring semester, with a goal of awarding \$300,000+ annually to larger and more complex projects. The Mini-Grant Application awards grants of \$500-\$2,000 for small projects expected to be completed within one year. For more information, [click here](#).

2013 Fall TGIF Grant Deadlines

1st opportunity: Monday, **October 7, 2013** by 5pm
2nd opportunity: Monday, **November 18, 2013** by 5pm

Talking Louder About Climate Change & Solutions



Check out The Climate Reality Project's newest video — [Price of Carbon](#). “Carbon pollution is not only disrupting our lives, it’s hitting our wallets. Comedian and musician Reggie Watts shows how, laying out the billion-dollar connection between fossil-fuel energy and dirty weather events like Superstorm Sandy caused by carbon pollution.”

Watch the video [here!](#)

The call for a price on carbon is gaining momentum around the world. China has [announced plans](#) to introduce a tax on carbon pollution, and South Africa [will follow suit in 2015](#). Australia...implemented its own price on carbon last year, and in the first six months saw an [8.6 percent drop in carbon pollution](#) in its electricity sector and growth in renewable energy use. Here in the United States, California this year launched what is known as a “[cap-and-trade](#)” program to establish a carbon price and give industry a flexible way to comply. **Excerpt from [The Climate Reality Blog—Maggie Fox, 3/26/13](#)**

Solar Energy Could Supply One-Third of Power in U.S. West

“Low-cost solar power could supply more than a third of all energy needs in the Western U.S., if the nation can hit its targets for reducing the cost of solar energy, according to a new study by researchers at the University of California, Berkeley...”



“Given strategic long-term planning and research and policy support, the increase in electricity costs can be contained as we reduce emissions,” said study leader Dan Kammen, Distinguished Professor of Energy in UC

Berkeley’s Energy and Resources Group. **“Saving the planet may be possible at only a modest cost.”**

Read the complete article at the UC Berkeley [News Center](#).



New Video Conferencing Pilot—it’s Free!

The campus is offering video conferencing through Blue Jeans to all faculty, staff, and students on a trial basis at no cost. The trial period ends on **September 20, 2013**. The service will allow you to place video calls to colleagues and



collaborators around the globe. You can use the service from your computer, iPad, smart phone, or landline. Up to 25 individual sites can be connected in one conference call. It’s easy to get started: [sign up](#) using your @berkeley.edu e-mail address.

Like the service? Have suggestions on how to improve it? The workgroup needs your feedback on your experience with the Blue Jeans service. **Submit your feedback [here](#).**

About 10% of UC Berkeley’s greenhouse gas emissions are from fossil fuels burned for our business related travel. Increasing use of web-based tools and video conferencing to work with others can help the campus get the work done – in personal and effective ways – while reducing the climate impacts of hopping into a car or on to a plane to accomplish the tasks.

Each year members of our campus travel over **112 million miles** (half way to the moon) by plane on business.

myPower (to save energy) Updates

myPower Berkeley is working hard to promote operational excellence and to save energy on campus. Check out these exciting news blurbs about myPower and energy saving on campus:

Wurster Hall — Battle of the Buildings!

Wurster Hall has been selected to participate in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA’s) ENERGY STAR National Building Competition: Battle of the Buildings! Over the course of the 2013-2014 school year, we’ll battle it out against more than 3,200 buildings and tenants

nationwide to see who can reduce their energy waste the most. Last year, the top 15 finishers all reduced their energy use by more than 30%, so we have our work cut out for us! UC Berkeley’s PowerSave Campus Program and myPower Initiative will be working hard to guide everyone in our efforts and sponsoring exciting events throughout the competition.

To learn more about this competition, read the full news update [here](#).

We Focus on Service

Check out this great [new video](#) showing how these Berkeley staff are living by our operating principle, “We focus on service.” We’re especially excited that it features campus Lead High Voltage Electrician, Bridget Hall and Physics Building and Operations Manager, Eleanor Crump.



Interested in Sustainability and Looking for More Units?

Communication Sustainability - ESPM 98/198, 2 units | Thursday 7-9pm

This class aims to encourage students to collaborate and critically assess the ways in which environmental issues are presented via various media outlets (including websites, the blogosphere, advertisements, film, political campaigns/speeches, non-profit outreach, the popular press, theater, radio, and print literature). The end goal of this class will be for students to closely analyze and ultimately develop, through collaboration, improved methods and strategies for presenting both written and visual environmental information that will truly allow for an open and meaningful public discussion of the environmental challenges our society faces.

Building Sustainability @ Cal - Ed 98/198, 2 units | Tuesday/Thursday 5-6pm

This course will provide students with an introductory knowledge of waste, energy, and water audits, environmental education, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design for Existing Buildings (LEED), and planning for sustainable building design. The course is based on a service-learning model of education. Students will be assigned in groups to work collaboratively in campus buildings with student facilitators and

building management to implement predetermined sustainability projects.

Environmental Student Organizations at Cal - ESPM 98/198, 1 unit | TBA

The Student Environmental Resource Center (SERC) DeCal. We recognize a growing need for a way to reach incoming freshman and transfer students and inform them about campus environmental groups. This decal is ideal for those who are interested in getting involved but aren't sure where to start. The course offers the contacts, resources, and support needed for one to integrate themselves in the campus environmental community. While we aim to introduce students to many of the UC Berkeley environmental student and community organizations, we also strive to provide future volunteer, internship and job opportunities in and around our campus.

Energy Efficiency & Alternative Fuels -ERG 98/198, 2 units | Monday 6-7:30pm

This energetic course will give an introduction to energy topics and explore the social, environmental, and economic consequences of our carbon-based economy. We depend on energy to fuel our cars and airplanes, grow and

transport our food, light our cities, warm our homes, cook our food, and power our machinery, appliances, and electronics. As we continue to deplete our energy sources (and pollute our air and water in the process), the challenge to satisfy our need for energy continues to mount. How will our generation respond?

This course is facilitated by PowerSave Campus Program interns. For more information about UC Berkeley's PowerSave Campus team, see: powersavecal.weebly.com.

Berkeley Urban Garden Internship (B.U.G.I.) - ESPM 98/198, 2 units | Tues. 5-7pm

This class takes a hands-on, interactive approach to exploring the food system, the importance of growing food in the city, and what we as community members and students can do to make positive changes.



We will take this journey together through weekly class meetings that will consist of a guest speaker or fieldtrip followed by a discussion about the week's event, assigned readings, and our volunteer experiences.

Dow Sustainability Innovation Student Challenge Award (SISCA)



Are you a UC Berkeley graduate

student working on an innovative, interdisciplinary, sustainable solution to world challenges in Energy and Climate Change, Water, Food, Hous-

ing, or Human Health? The fourth annual Dow SISCA Competition at UC Berkeley is seeking to award projects like yours.

The **grand prize winners** will receive **\$10,000** and the **runner-ups** will receive **\$2,500**. All applicants will also receive feedback

from judges and mentors who are experts in their fields, industry leaders, and Dow representatives.

The **deadline to submit your project** is **October 14, 2013 at 12:00pm**. For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/14hwAT7> or

Looking for a Student Member for CACS

Are you a student and interested in helping to shape campus sustainability? The Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Sustainability is seeking a student to fill an "at large" position this year. The Committee is charged with advising the Chancellor on matters pertaining to the environment and sustainability as it directly relates to the University of California, Berkeley. To fulfill this, CACS draws strength from its diverse composition of faculty, staff, students and alumni.

The mission of the Committee is composed of three central goals:

1. To engage the campus in an ongoing dialogue to reach environmental sustainability
2. To integrate environmental sustainability with existing campus programs in education, research, operations, & public service
3. To instill a culture of sustainable long-range planning and forward-thinking design

To apply, submit a short statement about your interest in the membership position by email to: sustainability@berkeley.edu.

Learn more about CACS [here](#).



Chancellor's
Advisory
Committee on
Sustainability