

TOLMAN HALL 4TH FLOOR ENERGY SURVEY



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Contact: Elizabeth Peele,
elipeele@berkeley.edu

This energy survey was conducted in the offices of the Institute of Personality and Social Research (IPSR). Elizabeth Peele, an administrative assistant for the IPSR department, gave our team a tour of several offices, a computer lab, the seminar room/library, and a kitchenette.

PAST PROJECTS

The entirety of the Tolman Hall has undergone a grant-funded internal improvement. New lights were installed and baffles were cleaned. However, despite these recent renovations, Tolman is slated to be demolished within the next three years due to its poor seismic rating.

EXISTING PRACTICES

Ms. Peele was very aware of energy use and is active in maintaining energy efficiency in the IPSR department. She has already put up stickers in this department to remind others to turn off appliances and lights when not in use. During the survey, she stated, "I wanted to do an energy survey years ago, but they didn't offer anything like this, so this is fantastic." Elizabeth Peele was cognizant of which occupants in the building were switching off lights at the end of the day and turning off their monitors at night. She even makes an effort to defrost the refrigerator every year and unplug appliances when they are not in use. Elizabeth hopes to create a Facilities Committee that can monitor the energy usage of the IPSR, and she plans to implement this through the floor's pre-existing emergency response buddy system.

Lighting:

Occupants of the building usually do not use overhead lights, as the natural lighting is sufficient for most offices and rooms on the outer perimeter. This differs from the computer lab, which is located in the inner corridor and has no windows, forcing graduate students and faculty to use several overhead lights. Some occupants would rather have task lamps: Urusla Beermann, a post-doctoral researcher in IPSR who has an office in Tolman, commented during the survey that she "prefer(s) the little lamps to the overhead one." However, Tolman residents are discouraged from choosing this option because they would have to pay for lamps themselves. For this reason, many occupants of the floor are interested in pursuing a grant to install more efficient light bulbs and purchase ENERGY STAR fridges and printers.

HVAC:

The occupants are comfortable with the temperature of their workspace and feel it is neither too cold nor too hot. As there is ample natural lighting in the rooms on the outer perimeter, most occupants do not use overhead lights, and this helps to keep rooms cool. Instead of using personal fans, many occupants open windows. However, there were several personal fans on this floor that were accessible to occupants who wanted them, but unplugged when not in use. The building receives steam heat, which is centrally controlled, but some rooms such as the seminar room/library have manual heating systems. Ms. Peele mentioned that there are valves that can be turned on or off to specific rooms, but this requires crawling in tight spaces, and is generally not a practice employed by occupants of the floor.

Appliances:

In the computer lab, there were 7 computers, 4 printers, 1 large Ricoh Aficio MP 4001 copier, and an older Sanyo mini-fridge. It seems as though most professors use personal laptops and personal printers on this floor, while many graduate students use the

shared printer in the computer lab. Elizabeth Peele has declared several old printers to the Disbursement Office and plans to replace 3 outdated printers with Energy Star ones. Most computer monitors and lights are turned off at the end of the day. In several offices, there are personal fans, DVD players, old VHS players, and outdated mini-fridges. In many cases, these outdated or unused appliances are on power strips that are turned off. However, the myPower team did observe external hard drives, old microwaves, and unused printers plugged in when they were not in use. Upon visiting the kitchenette on the fifth floor, Ms. Peele expressed her interest in a new refrigerator that consumes less energy and would replace the current General Electric (#69-10-00903). In addition to this large fridge, there were several appliances in the kitchenette: a TV, fan, espresso maker, water boiler, George Foreman mini-grill, and microwave, all unplugged. The old microwave on the counter, which is used by some residents of Tolman Hall, was still plugged in. Overall, residents of the IPSR are very conscious about their energy consumption and make an effort to unplug unused appliances and turn off monitors and lights at the end of the day.

Requests from Occupants:

- One graduate student would like to have a task lamp for her office, as she much prefers this to overhead lighting.
- Elizabeth Peele wants an energy saving refrigerator for the kitchenette.
- Occupants would like funding for energy-saving appliances, such as ENERGY STAR printers and computer monitors.
- Occupants would also like to recycle their old appliances and e-waste.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recycle old appliances and other e-waste by going to the Berkeley Overstock and Surplus website at http://businessservices.berkeley.edu/Electronic_Waste_Disposal.
- Consider purchasing ENERGY STAR appliances.

- Use task lamps instead of overhead lights when possible.
- Consolidate personal printers or use the computer lab to print documents.
- Refrain from placing items on top of refrigerators, as this increases energy usage and the temperature of the room.
- Clean the coils and defrost the refrigerator annually.
- Continue to power down computers and monitors, switch off power strips, and turn off lights at the end of the day.
- Implement energy-saving practices with a Facilities Committee!



myPower Monitor & Lightswitch Plate Stickers

Further Resources:

- Contact myPower for more monitor and light switch stickers.
- Become a Power Agent! Go to: mypower.berkeley.edu/about/power_agents.html
- myPower Office tips available at: mypower.berkeley.edu/takeaction/office.html
- Recycle old computers and appliances! For more information, go to the Berkeley Overstock and Surplus website: businessservices.berkeley.edu/overstock