GREEN CAMPUS AND HAAS TEAM UP FOR ENERGY SAVINGS

This case study highlights how the myPower program can complement existing work to reduce energy on our campus. Many individuals and groups regularly contribute to permanently reducing the amount of energy we use—below is one example of how students have worked with others to do so.

HAAS ENERGY CHALLENGE

Have you noticed an energy-saving campaign on campus? If so, Green Campus might have been behind it. The Green Campus Program is a student-led internship program created by the Alliance to the Save Energy with four goals including realizing measurable energy savings, educating the campus community about energy consumption, integrating energy concepts into curriculum, and promoting green careers.

The "Haas Energy Challenge" is a competition at the Haas School of Business that challenges Haas students, staff, and faculty to save energy compared to their own baseline. The goal of the competition is to reduce energy consumption by at least 3%. A savings of 3% earns the school a bagel party, and a savings of more than 7% earns the school a fruit, cheese, and cracker party.

Building occupants are encouraged to save energy through a combination of the following tips:

1. Please do not use screen savers, they do not save energy! Turn off your monitor when not in use instead.
2. Switch off the lights when you leave and when there is enough natural light.
3. Shut windows when you leave, especially over the weekend.
4. When you go home for the day and on weekends, please turn off printers, computer speakers, and monitors.
5. Ensure the A/V equipment and lights are off when you finish in a classroom.
6. Take the stairs instead of the elevator.
7. Turn off your power strip whenever possible.

Additionally, Green Campus interns purchased smart strips (a 'smart' power strip device), compact fluorescent lights, and tasks lights to give to occupants to boost savings.

Typical savings from the Haas Energy Challenge have ranged from 3.8% in spring 2009 and 11.3% in spring 2009. An 11.3% savings during the one-month competition is equivalent to about $3,000 in avoided costs.

The project has now been put on hold while a new baseline is calculated to accommodate building upgrades. Historically this effort was made possible with help from Gerardo Campos, Facilities Manager at the Haas School of Business, and Arline Wyler (now retired), Assistant to Dean Richard Lyons.