

# **Archive of UC Merced Sustainability News Articles**

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**Note: This is not a complete list. If you know of articles that are not included on this list, please send them to [andrew.coghlan@ucop.edu](mailto:andrew.coghlan@ucop.edu) for posting**

## **Merced SunStar Covers UC Merced's Climate Efforts**

"A national commitment has a lot of value," said [John Elliott, UC Merced's Energy Manager.] "This is a global problem, a national problem, and colleges are the ideal organizations to lead the way on this." Elliott and others on campus are trying to steer residents away from car-oriented lives to improve the air quality of the Valley. Elliot said the university considers air quality and commuting requirements in how it develops campus, trying to house as many students on the grounds as possible.

<http://www.mercedsunstar.com/167/story/471163.html>

## **September 2008: UC Merced on a Green Streak: New gold-rated data center highlights UC Merced's new growth.**

The University of California, Merced, the 10th and youngest campus in the statewide system that includes the prestigious UCLA and UC Berkeley campuses, is more than a new school. With its eco-friendly buildings and energy-efficient data centers, it's a new school of thought.

<http://www.edtechmag.com/higher/september-october-2008/uc-merced-on-a-green-streak.html>

## **September 2, 2008: UC Merced dining hall gets even greener**

UC Merced students can now watch their food grow, and eat it too. This week, the college unveiled a new, landscaped terrace at the Yablokoff-Wallace Dining Center on campus. The terrace features a culinary herb garden where dining center chefs can pick rosemary, lavender, basil, thyme and mint, among other things. The dining hall is going green in another way, too. Diners will now be served on plastic and metal dinnerware, as opposed to the disposable dishes of the past. For students taking their food to go, eco-friendly recyclable containers are available.

<http://www.mercedsunstar.com/167/story/427613.html>

## **March 24, 2008: UC Merced turns food waste into green waste**

Eat corn with corn. Then store the leftovers in corn. Sound silly? It's actually as practical as disposable flatware.

UC Merced is taking its vaunted "green" practices a culinary step forward. This time, sustainability efforts are headed toward the kitchen.

Biodegradable corn-made utensils and leftover containers, plus a new composting program, are new methods the campus' dining services have deployed to divert waste from landfills.

<http://www.mercedsunstar.com/167/story/194871.html>

## **February 1, 2008: Professors turn focus on global warming**

Hundreds of campuses from around the country recently took part in Focus the Nation, discussions and presentations from all levels about climate change. Even though it was a national event, UC Merced's participation localized it in more ways than one.

The day unfolded on campus with talks by UC Merced scientists and professors and other experts. Local students and community members alike drifted in and out of the room as topics ranged from modern glacier retreat to music and environmental activism.

<http://www.mercedsunstar.com/167/v-print/story/132494.html>

**January 2008: "University Research Facility is a Teaching Tool for Eco-Minded Students"**

"The University has committed to achieving Silver certification in LEED for New Construction for every new building and maintaining those certifications through LEED for Existing Buildings - putting environmental responsibility at the forefront of the school's identity...Merced's budget was set more than five years before construction began, and during that time building costs soared. 'There was a gaping hole in the budget by the time we got around to building,' says Carol Tomlinson-Keasy, who served as chancellor from 1999 through 2006. 'The first things people wanted to take out were the energy-saving things,' remembers Tomlinson-Keasy. But the environmental advocates held strong."

[http://greensource.construction.com/projects/0801\\_UniversityofCalifornia.asp](http://greensource.construction.com/projects/0801_UniversityofCalifornia.asp)

**January 14, 2008: UC Merced Library Complex Earns LEED Gold**

A second major building complex at the University of California, Merced has earned LEED Gold certification for excellence in environmental performance from the U.S. Green Building Council. The Leo and Dottie Kolligian Library, a heavily used complex in the heart of the campus, earned its Gold certification in the LEED for New Construction (LEED-NC) category.

[http://www.ucmerced.edu/news\\_articles/01142008\\_library\\_complex\\_awarded\\_leed.asp](http://www.ucmerced.edu/news_articles/01142008_library_complex_awarded_leed.asp)

**October 11, 2007: UC Merced tour has energy officials seeing green**

UC Merced's gray and tan buildings were described as green during a tour of the college. A 2 million-gallon storage tank on campus, clearly the color of steel, was also called green. And green was the hue given to the university's lighting system. UC Merced facility planners were not going color-blind on Tuesday as they led a group from the California Institute for Energy and the Environment (CIEE). The group, which works for the entire University of California system, was there to see green.

And to them, green was defined by the conservation of energy.

<http://www.mercedsunstar.com/167/story/52839.html>

**April 13, 2007: UC Merced Green Suite: Earth-friendly Dorm Opens for Bobcat Day**

MERCED - The University of California, Merced's Green Suite will open its doors to the public on Saturday, April 14, in conjunction with Bobcat Day. The first space of its kind in the Central Valley, the Green Suite is a showcase of environmentally friendly practices and products located in UC Merced student housing. The unoccupied three-room suite will be part of the standard UC Merced campus tours and will educate thousands of people every year on how to lead a greener lifestyle.

[http://www.ucmerced.edu/news\\_articles/04132007\\_green\\_suite\\_earth\\_friendly.asp](http://www.ucmerced.edu/news_articles/04132007_green_suite_earth_friendly.asp)

**March 27, 2007: UC Merced's First Campus Complex certified LEED-Gold**

The University of California, Merced's first building complex, known as the Central Plant, has been recognized for environmental excellence by the U.S. Green Building Council, the university recently said.

<http://www.bdcnetwork.com/article/CA6428451.html?nid=2073>

**March 15, 2007: UC Merced Building Receives LEED Gold Certification**

The University of California at Merced is trying to set the standard when it comes to environmentally friendly buildings. UC Merced's central plant earned a gold certification under the category of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, a prestigious distinction sought by many universities and companies across the nation.

<http://www.modbee.com/reports/ucmerced/story/3259.html>

**November 30, 2006: UC Merced Joins California Climate Action Registry**

University of California, Merced has joined the California Climate Action Registry. As a member, UC Merced commits to annually track, report, and certify its campus-wide greenhouse gas emissions. The University announced its participation in the registry in conjunction with the campus-designated Energy Awareness Day. Several other UC Campuses including San Diego, Davis, Berkeley, and Santa Barbara have also joined the Registry.

[http://www.ucmerced.edu/news\\_articles/11292006\\_uc\\_merced\\_signs\\_on.asp](http://www.ucmerced.edu/news_articles/11292006_uc_merced_signs_on.asp)

<http://www.mercedsunstar.com/local/story/13066072p-13719977c.html>

**December 4, 2006: In Good, Green Company: UC Merced Joins USGBC Portfolio Program Pilot**

What does UC Merced have in common with Starbucks, Toyota, Subway and Bank of America? They're all participants in the US Green Building Council's Portfolio Pilot Program, which provides cost-effective "portfolio" solutions to help improve environmental performance in construction and operations. Ultimately, it will streamline the accreditation process for UC Merced in the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program sponsored by the USGBC.

[http://www.ucmerced.edu/news\\_articles/12042006\\_in\\_good\\_green\\_company.asp](http://www.ucmerced.edu/news_articles/12042006_in_good_green_company.asp)

**September 11, 2006: UC Merced aims to be model of eco-friendly campus**

Modesto Bee (California)

From low-flow shower heads to carpet made from recycled soda bottles, University of California at Merced officials say they are taking unprecedented measures to conserve.

UC Merced has pledged to construct every campus building to meet the U.S. Green Building Council's "silver" standard, a mark no other college campus has met, council officials say.

<http://www.usgbc.org/News/USGBCInTheNewsDetails.aspx?ID=2596>

**September 7, 2006 University of California Merced's Green Campus Opens to Students**

UC Merced welcomed its inaugural class this week. Campus officials believe the UC Merced will be the first campus in the United States where all the buildings will meet or exceed the LEED Silver standards. All buildings are being constructed with recycled materials and are being built to achieve energy savings of about 45 percent above the state standards. Each building will have a special energy management system that will monitor use to maximize efficiency. The buildings are designed and positioned to maximize the warmth of the sun and the coolness of the winds from nearby Lake Yosemite. The new campus also has a new 1.9 million-gallon thermally regulated storage tank that allows the campus to cool water at night and use it during the day for drinking and air conditioning. In addition, storm water will be collected for irrigation.

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2005/09/06/BAG1OEISK51.DTL>