

Archive of UC 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 for posting

UC Riverside

October 10, 2011: UCR Chancellor Tim White delivers keynote address at annual AASHE conference

"...about 2,000 students, faculty and staff from universities and colleges across the nation attended the 2011 Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) Conference where I delivered a keynote address. While I tried to weave a story that mattered and inspired, I also reflected on the vital role of higher education in creating solutions to the multi-faceted problems that include social, environmental, political, technological, intellectual, cultural, practical and economic elements. From community colleges and small private institutions to public research universities like UC, we have a unique role in dispelling the myths, discovering the facts, developing solutions, and providing leadership to the complicated dimensions of sustainability. The efforts of our students, faculty and staff encompass not only research and teaching, but engagement with our region and world. Sustainability efforts at UC Riverside include business and plant operations that energize our buildings and reduce our waste. For all of this and our myriad of other efforts to preserve our planet, our campus receives respect and appreciation from colleagues and society."

http://chancellor.ucr.edu/messages/aashe_keynote.html

<http://www.aashe.org/blog/chancellor-timothy-whites-keynote-aashe-2011>

<http://newsroom.ucr.edu/2753>

4/20/2011: UCR featured in U.S. News and World Report for Earth Day

<http://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/slideshows/colleges-get-creative-for-2011-earth-day/10>

4/18/2011: [U of California Riverside Offers Vanpooling Option](#)

In an effort to make commuting to campus more affordable and sustainable, the University of California, Riverside's Transportation and Parking Services has created a vanpooling program. The university hopes the program will reduce traffic congestion and provide another alternative for students, faculty and staff in their commuting options.

3/8/2011: [U Calif System Seeks Energy-Efficient Solutions to Budget Cuts](#)

Facing Gov. Jerry Brown's recent call to cut \$500 million from the University of California system for the 2011-2012 school year, University of California leaders are looking for system-wide efficiencies in the areas of energy usage, among other solutions. The University of California, Riverside, for example, is looking to reduce its power usage by turning down air conditioners.

1/24/2011: [U Calif Riverside Gifted \\$10 Mil for Electric Energy Research](#)

Winston Chung, a Chinese executive who invented a special lithium battery, has donated \$10 million to the University of California, Riverside. The donation will be used to create a long-term endowment for the Bourns College of Engineering. The annual interest of this endowment, estimated at about \$500,000 annually, will be spent to advance research for electric vehicle batteries. This donation will immediately be put to use by establishing the Winston Chung Global Energy Center at the university and two endowed professorship positions.

12/03/2010: [U California Riverside Hires New Sustainability Coordinator](#)

The University of California, Riverside has hired Fulbright scholar and sustainable management M.B.A. graduate John Cook as its new sustainability coordinator. Cook will work to meet the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction goals set in the university's Climate Action Plan with representatives from housing, dining, energy, transportation, sustainability and the Office of the Chancellor. He will also work with students as a mentor on campus LEED projects, developing content for the sustainability website, collecting data for the GHG inventory

and the Green Campus Action Plan, a student-approved referendum that is funded with a per-student, per-quarter fee of \$2.50.

August, 2010: [U California Riverside Students Vote for Green Tax](#)

Students at the University of California, Riverside have passed a green fee referendum. After campaigning in favor of the green tax, students will now pay \$2.50 per quarter for four years. Part of the proceeds will go toward the installation of solar panels to boost renewable energy on campus. The university plans to install solar panels atop the student union structure in the next few years.

See also: [Student Sustainability Fees](#)

4/30/2010: UCR Green Fund passes with 79% of the student vote

The initiative which will install solar panels on the HUB and Lot 30, along with creating new green internships and competitive grants.

Highlander News Article on the results: <http://www.highlandernews.org/news/voters-pass-gcap-rec-center-referenda-1.1436953>

GCAP's Website: <http://votegcapucr.com/>

Official Referendum Document:

<http://www.elections.ucr.edu/SiteCollectionDocuments/GCAP%20Referendum%20Final.pdf>

11/8/2009: UC Riverside joins effort to keep dining scraps out of landfills

(Press Enterprise) By Janet Zimmerman

"We need universities not just to teach about sustainability, but to practice it themselves. Zero waste is where we all want to be," said Fortino Morales, 21, an environmental science major and head of Sustainable UCR, a student group that educates classmates about eco-friendly practices...Composting just plate waste will keep an average of 12 tons a month out of landfills, he said. Much of the material is sent to a composting operation and, eventually, some will make its way back to campus in the form of mulch. The university started working on zero waste last year when it eliminated cafeteria-style trays to cut down on the amount of food taken -- and thrown away. Plascencia estimates "trayless" dining saves about 6 ounces of food per person. Also gone are plastic coffee stirrers and straws, which were contaminating the compostable materials.

http://www.pe.com/localnews/inland/stories/PE_News_Local_S_nowaste09.411cf80.html

10/22/2009: UCR Launches Solar Energy Research Initiative

Chancellor Timothy P. White and Riverside Mayor Ronald O. Loveridge will attend the event. Sustainability has been identified by Chancellor White as a major goal of the university and the City of Riverside has made an initial funding commitment to the effort...Combining research, technology assessment and workforce training, SC-RISE will serve as a regional focal point for solar energy research, applications, demonstrations and education.

http://newsroom.ucr.edu/news_item.html?action=page&id=2199

5/11/2009: UCR Cutting Out Cafeteria Trays

UC Riverside eliminated trays last fall and, since, estimates it has saved 8,000 gallons of water per week. It also is using less dishwasher chemical and has cut food waste because students no longer pile multiple plates on trays...At UCR, Highlander Union Building, formerly the Commons, another food court-style facility, has been trayless since 2007, said Gustavo Plascencia, a dining services general manager...In addition to environmental savings from eliminating trays, UCR no longer has to replace the 1,000 trays that annually went missing, Plascencia said...From Oct. 14 to Dec. 12, food waste was down about 50 percent per student, compared to a weeklong period in 2003, the only other time the university tracked food waste, Plascencia said. He attributes the drop to going trayless and other changes, such as serving smaller portions.

http://www.pe.com/localnews/highereducation/stories/PE_News_Local_S_trayless10.23ef4ac.html

8/3/2009: UC Riverside will embark on five years of exploring the bright future of LEDs

Sometimes people describe a smile as something that can light up a room. But if they were familiar with LED technology, they might say it can light up a room and connect with each piece of electronic equipment nearby. UC Riverside will lead a five-year, multicampus research effort that studies the capability of LEDs -- short for light-

emitting diodes -- a cost-efficient, environmentally friendly source of light that could make for a brighter future. The Multicampus Research Program and Initiatives competition within the UC system will fund the \$3.5 million Center for Ubiquitous Communication by Light, which will be known simply as UC Light.

http://www.pe.com/localnews/inland/stories/PE_News_Local_S_led04.30b0e33.html

4/23/2009: UCR convenience store achieves national recognition

Grilled peanut butter sandwiches and a biweekly farmers market earned Scottys Convenience Store and Grill at UC Riverside the 2009 Best in the Business award for excellence in marketing and merchandising from the National Association of College and University Food Services...The unique menu stemmed from UCR Executive Chef Lanette Dickersons desire to create a signature dish that was protein-based and would meet the needs of vegetarian customers. The sandwiches are not only tasty but inexpensive, ranging from \$1.80 for regular peanut butter and jelly to \$2.50 for gourmet blends with honey, raisins, apples or sweetened cream cheese...The store, which opened in November 2007, offers a range of menu items, with a heavy emphasis on vegetarian dishes.

http://newsroom.ucr.edu/news_item.html?action=page&id=2076

4/21/2009: UCR Unveils Sustainability Plan

UC Riverside unveiled a wide-ranging sustainability plan Monday that outlines hundreds of goals ranging from being waste-free by 2020 to replacing a water-hogging dining hall dishwasher. The 131-page Sustainability Action Plan is in response to a UC-wide push toward sustainability. Some UCR goals outlined in the plan are mandates for all UC campuses, such as being waste-free by 2020 and reducing greenhouse gas emissions in 2020 to 1990 levels. Most goals, however, are UCR specific.

http://www.pe.com/localnews/inland/stories/PE_News_Local_S_sustainable21.386bffb.html

<http://media.www.highlandernews.org/media/storage/paper1400/news/2009/04/21/News/CampusWide.Celebration.Of.Earth.Week-3717764.shtml>

3/16/2009: New UC Riverside Waste Collection Contract Will Compost Food Waste

St. Patricks Day at UC Riverside will be greener this year due to a new program that will amp up the campus comprehensive recycling waste program, including diverting more than 1,000 tons of food trash from the landfill. Last week, as part of efforts to achieve zero waste and a more environmentally friendly campus, officials from UCR and Athens Services signed a two-year contract with five one-year renewal options. The City of Industry-based Athens Services provides waste management services for the city of Riverside as well as several cities and businesses in Los Angeles County. UCLA and USC are among its current clients. Athens Services President Eric D. Herbert said the company plans to immediately start fulfilling its first mandate: to reduce the amount of campus-generated food waste making its way to the landfill. Thats a big task. With more than 18,000 students, and more than 5,000 staff and faculty, food waste accounted for about 40 percent of the 3,963 tons of refuse generated on campus last year.

<http://newsroom.ucr.edu/cgi-bin/display.cgi?id=2039>

September 29, 2008: Inland colleges work to recycle, decrease energy usage

From solar panels mounted on roofs to paper recycling baskets tucked under desks, Inland colleges are going green. Some campuses are getting creative in the push to recycle waste, reduce energy consumption and clean up their carbon footprints. At UC Riverside, the campus dining menu includes eggs collected from chickens raised on campus for research projects.

http://www.pe.com/localnews/inland/stories/PE_News_Local_S_green29.214131b.html

August 13, 2008: [UC Riverside Launches Sustainable Dev & Green Design Certificate](#)

The University of California, Riverside has launched a new certificate in Sustainable Development and Green Design. In the program, students will learn about the concepts and principles of sustainability through green building design, clean technologies and innovative approaches to achieving economic, environmental and social sustainability. The courses required to complete the certificate are offered using distance education and online technology, coupled with classroom and interactive real-time computer systems.

See also: [UCR Sustainable Dev & Green Design Certificate homepage](#)

April 28, 2008: Price per gallon driving Inland residents to change habits

UC Riverside started a vanpool program in 2006 with 12 vans. Today, 21 vans cover areas from Murrieta to Palm Springs to Irvine, university spokesman Todd Ransom said. Vanpools consist of up to nine people, mostly university employees who live near each other, riding to and from work together and alternating driving duties. The university buys the vans and pays for the gas and maintenance using the \$79 per month users are charged and other revenue sources, including parking ticket fines, Ransom said.

http://www.pe.com/localnews/inland/stories/PE_News_Local_D_gas28.3947651.html

April 20, 2008: UCR to recycle e-waste during Earth Week

If you or your business has several outdated and obsolete computers sitting around, you are not alone. The Institute for Local Self-Reliance reports that about 75 percent of obsolete electronics are currently being stored or warehoused because no one knows what to do with them. Computers, like other electronic waste, contain toxins and carcinogens so they are barred from landfills.

UC Riverside has the answer.

http://www.pe.com/localnews/highereducation/stories/PE_News_Local_H_hiednotes21.41593bd.html

January 30, 2008: Global Warming Remains Hot Topic at UCR

UC Riverside is sponsoring two lectures in conjunction with Focus the Nation, a national concern that is organizing student teach-ins on global warming solutions across the country on Jan 31.

Kicking off the teach-in is student Hector Rivera, who was trained by Al Gore in 2006 to present the slide show on climate change, the message of the film "An Inconvenient Truth." Rivera, a UCR sociology student will provide information on climate change and how students can support efforts to implement solutions. The lecture will be held Thursday, Jan. 31 from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. at the University Commons, Room 355. Sponsors include Cal-PIRG, a student organizing group.

<http://www.newsroom.ucr.edu/cgi-bin/display.cgi?id=1764&type=print>

April 9, 2007: UCR students win two awards at competition

UCR undergraduate Engineering students brought home two awards from the WERC (Waste Management, Education and Research Consortium) Environmental Design Contest at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, New Mexico, which took place April 1-4. Sean Brady, Gregory Leung and Christopher Salam won the teamwork award for innovation with their project "Zero Waste Biodiesel." Gregory Leung won the biggest single award of the evening, Intel's Terry McManus Memorial award, for \$1,500. Brian Hawkinson, Dewi Nilasari and Tongzhou Wang also competed for UCR. The team is pictured celebrating at lunch. Their advisors are CEE Lecturer Kawai Tam and Professor Joe Norbeck.

<http://www.ucop.edu/sustainability/transportation/ucrstudaward.html>

July 13, 2006: "A Sustainable Effort" at UCR

The sustainability movement is sweeping UCR, with people who once talked about the environmental movement becoming more and more involved in sustainability.

<http://www.insideucr.ucr.edu/cgi-bin/display.cgi?id=276>

April 27, 2006: Students at University of California, Riverside Hold Biofuels Demonstration

Students at UC Riverside are holding a demonstration of diesel vehicles that they have successfully modified to run on waste vegetable oil collected from restaurants. The event is sponsored by Sustainable UCR, an organization of students, faculty and staff working towards environmental sustainability on the Riverside campus.

<http://sustucr.tripod.com/Press/PRESS.html>

http://sbsun.com/search/ci_3760109