

Archive of UC Sustainability News Articles

UPDATED: 11/15/2011

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 Santa Barbara

9/28/2011: UCSB Hosts First South Coast Sustainability Summit

Sustainability decision makers, officials, and representatives from organizations throughout the Santa Barbara area gathered for the inaugural South Coast Sustainability Summit at UC Santa Barbara on Oct. 13. The summit, held at UC Santa Barbara's Loma Pelona Conference Center, brought together officials and staff members from area municipalities and community organizations to discuss common issues in energy, transportation, waste and water management... "We want to get people from UCSB, Santa Barbara, Carpinteria, Goleta and the county to talk to each other, to learn from each other, and, hopefully in the future, to pair our resources and become partners," said Jasmine Syed, sustainability coordinator at UC Santa Barbara and the conference organizer. "It's all about sharing and building partnerships."

<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/article/26382>

7/6/2011: U California Santa Barbara Hall Receives LEED Silver

The University of California, Santa Barbaras Kohn Hall has been awarded LEED-EBOM Silver certification. Sustainable features include passive solar design, natural ventilation and efficient cooling provided by the campus chilled water loop. The hall is also one of 15 university buildings to have piloted the campus commingled recycling program. Kohn Hall is the sixth campus building to be certified through the LEED Existing Building Portfolio Program.

7/1/2011: Article on "Doing science sustainably" cites UCSB and UCD experts

Research laboratories are often the largest consumer of utilities at a research university. Across the country, universities motivated by a desire to be better global citizens, as well as to improve their bottom line have established offices and undertaken efforts to help reduce the environmental footprint of laboratory spaces. Many of these efforts are large-scale projects beyond the reach of individual researchers, such as smart building redesigns and campus-wide initiatives. But theres still plenty an environmentally conscious researcher can do... Campus sustainability teams at UCSB and UC Davis have devised a simple but apparently effective visual reminder: a sticker, placed on the side of the hood, featuring a color gradient from red to green that reflects energy usage at different sash heights. In some labs, weve seen a complete change in behavior when we install the stickers, Getty says. Its very gratifying... Finally, talk to your sustainability office, ask them to perform a sustainability audit, and take an active role in reducing your labs environmental footprint. And dont be afraid to speak out. When you notice one thing thats not quite right, you can fix it in your lab, your building, and even on the campus, says Doyle. You may have someone like me on campus, who can make it universal. So take one thing and follow through with it.

<http://the-scientist.com/2011/07/01/how-green-is-my-lab/>

6/2/2011: U California Santa Barbara Announces TGIF Grants

The University of California, Santa Barbara's Green Initiative Fund (TGIF) Grant Making Committee has announced its grant recipients for the 2010-2011 funding cycle. Composed primarily of undergraduate and graduate students, the committee received 37 applications for various campus sustainability projects from students, staff and faculty, and selected 18 projects to receive awards totaling \$177,080. Projects include the construction and operation of a student-owned Student Food Collective Sustainable Food Cart; the conversion of a campus theater's halogen lights to energy-efficient, low-wattage LED fixtures; and a cover on the campus pool to prevent heat from escaping and water from evaporating during non-operation hours that is expected to cut energy costs by \$48,750 per year.

See also: [List of Student Fees for Sustainability](#)

5/24/2011: U California Santa Barbara Library Boosts Recycling Efforts

The University of California, Santa Barbaras Davidson Library has provided 100 additional recycling bins to increase its trash diversion efforts and help students limit garbage waste. The campus plans to implement several recommendations from a waste audit of the facility by Green Project Consultants including posting recycling material guidelines near garbage receptacles and limiting organic and biodegradable materials that are sent directly to landfills. The university is also looking into developing a compost system for food-related materials, which make up 20 percent of the total waste.

See also: [List of Campus Recycling and Waste Minimization Policies](#) (AASHE Members Only)

5/9/2011: UCSB, community groups reach agreement on LRDP

UC Santa Barbara and representatives of Sustainable University Now (SUN) have reached an agreement relating to the adoption of the campus's Long Range Development Plan (LRDP)... "This was a collaborative, collegial, and informative process," said Fisher. "We, together, affirmed that the campus and the environmental community share many common sustainability goals. This agreement solidifies our mutual approach and commitment to those goals." A statement issued by Ron Cortez and Bruce Tiffney, co-chairs of the Chancellor's Sustainability Committee, said: "UCSB values and appreciates the participation of the community in realizing UCSB's aggressive sustainability goals. We look forward to working with members of the public in working toward an efficient, effective, and sustainable future for Santa Barbara, California, and the nation."

<http://www.ia.ucsb.edu/pa/display.aspx?pkey=2487>

5/3/2011: UCSB Water Project Wins Best Practice Award for Sustainability

UC Santa Barbara has received a Best Practice Award in the annual Energy Efficiency and Sustainability Awards competition sponsored by the California Higher Education Sustainability Conference. UCSB was a winner in the category of Water Efficiency & Site Water Quality for its San Nicolas wetland and library mall storm drain project. The storm drain replacement is part of the campus's infrastructure construction project to replace antiquated utility lines and drains along a corridor that runs from the lagoon to Campbell Hall, on the north end of campus. The project, which includes more than 20,000 square feet of permeable pavers, began last September and will be completed this summer. The San Nicolas wetland restoration project was guided by UCSB's Cheadle Center for Biodiversity and Ecological Restoration, with the support of the Associated Students Coastal Fund. The main portion of the site has been transformed from a large area of invasive Kikuyu grass and weeds to a diverse landscape with more than 36 native species of plants. More than 2,500 plants were installed in the area, which will help absorb water runoff from the campus mesa to the lagoon below.

<http://www.ia.ucsb.edu/pa/display.aspx?pkey=2481>

5/3/2011: UCSB student environmental group wins \$100,000 grant in national competition

A student environmental group at UCSB won a \$100,000 grant this week after receiving the most votes in Dockers clothing companys nationwide Wear the Pants contest. The Environmental Education for the Next Generation group, a nonprofit founded by UCSB undergrad Ryland King in 2009, was the winning organization selected from five finalists in an original applicant pool of 3,300 and was the only student-run association in the competition. EENG trains UCSB student volunteers and places them in local 1st and 2nd grade classrooms to lead weekly lessons about environmental issues relevant to the S.B. community and increase environmental literacy among area youth. King said he will use the money to help fund EENGs presence and outreach on the UCSB campus, and also hopes to expand the programs educational and organizational development programs to the state level.

<http://www.independent.com/news/2011/may/03/ucsb-environmental-group-garners-100000-grant-cont/>

3/9/2011: First-Ever Bicycle Friendly Campus Designations Announced

The League of American Bicyclists has announced the first institutions to receive its Bicycle Friendly University designation. The program recognizes colleges and universities that create environments where bicycling can thrive and provides a roadmap and technical assistance to create great campuses for bicycling. For its breadth of programs, including a cycling network, education programs like the Bike Safety Dorm Challenge, bicycling incentive programs and 21.7 percent of bike commuters, Stanford University (CA) received the only platinum-

level award. Both Gold designations went to UC campuses - UC Davis and [University of California, Santa Barbara](#). One of the nine Silver designations went to UC Irvine.

3/1/2011: [U Calif Santa Barbara Restores Newly-Designated Campus Open Space](#)

The University of California, Santa Barbara has begun the cleanup and restoration of a 69-acre tract of campus land that has been permanently set aside as open space under a conservation easement agreement. The university's Cheadle Center for Biodiversity and Ecological Restoration is overseeing the cleanup of remnant pipes, fencing, cement and other items with the goal of enhancing wetlands along the western border of the property, where some original, less-disturbed soil and native plants remain.

2/14/2011: UCSB's Rec Center: A Zero Net Energy Showcase

Michael Young, UCSB's vice chancellor for student affairs, said that "with the help of funding from UCSB's students, the Division of Student Affairs is implementing a plan to make all its facilities energy independent (zero-net-energy usage) by academic year 2015-16, and we hope to incorporate the SCE recommendations into other buildings to move us toward that goal." Selection as a "ZNE Demonstration Showcase" project by SCE isn't the first time that the Rec Cen, as it's known on campus, has received recognition. It is considered a leader among recreation facilities in the University of California system for renewable energy and sustainability. In 2008, the Rec Cen was recognized by the U.S. Green Building Council with a LEED Silver Existing Building (EB) Certification, the first and still the only university recreation center in the United States to receive such a distinction.

<http://www.ia.ucsb.edu/pa/display.aspx?pkey=2421>

12/15/2010: New waste contract to aid UCSB's pursuit of zero waste

A new four-year waste management contract with MarBorg Industries is being hailed by UC Santa Barbara officials as a significant step toward UCSB's goal of becoming one of the most sustainable campuses in the country. The contract, approved recently by the UC Regents, will remain in effect until 2014. It stipulates that MarBorg will process all of UCSB's solid waste through its recycling facility in Santa Barbara. In addition, MarBorg will collect and compost all campus food waste. In addition, MarBorg will purchase a compressed natural gas vehicle to haul away UCSB's waste. The company also will install 30 subterranean bins on campus in the next year to help divert the campus's green waste from the Santa Barbara landfill. Also, MarBorg will continue to pay UCSB \$25 for every ton of commingled recyclable materials collected from the campus.

<http://www.ia.ucsb.edu/pa/display.aspx?pkey=2388>

8/16/2010: Eight UC campuses make Sierra Club's green rankings

Eight University of California campuses made Sierra magazine's list of [100 Cool Schools](#), which ranks environmentally friendly policies at universities across the country. Leading the way for UC was [Irvine](#), which placed sixth on the list with a score of 84.4 out of a possible 100. Santa Cruz was 11th with score 82, San Diego was 15th with 81.6, Davis was tied for 16th with 81.2, UCLA was 25th with 77.6, Berkeley 32nd with 76.3, Merced 39th with 73.3 and Santa Barbara 44th with 72.2. The Cool Schools survey results will be published in the September/October issue of Sierra, a publication of the Sierra Club.

UC press release: <http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/article/23885>

Chronicle of Higher Ed: <http://chronicle.com/blogPost/Sierra-Magazine-Shuffles-the/26247/>

NPR Talk of the Nation: <http://www.sciencefriday.com/program/archives/201008205>

Environmental Leader Daily: <http://www.environmentalleader.com/2010/08/16/sierra-names-green-mountain-college-as-top-school-in-green-college-ranking/>

8/3/2010: Three UC campuses among the 18 on The Princeton Review's 2011 Green Rating Honor Roll

Eighteen U.S. colleges and universities made [The Princeton Review's 2011 Green Rating Honor Roll](#) for maintaining the most sustainable practices, policies and course offerings among all campuses rated for their environmental friendliness, said the company that created the popular "best colleges" guides. The Princeton Review issued its third annual green honor roll along with its green ratings for colleges yesterday. Guides containing school profiles with the green scores go on sale today and next week. This year 703 schools, the most thus far, submitted environmental information that was scored on a scale of 60, the least possible score, to 99, the

highest possible score. The schools on the honor roll received scores of 99.

<http://www.greenbiz.com/news/2010/08/03/princeton-review-names-greenest-colleges-us#ixzz0wFeajutV>

See also: <http://www.fastcompany.com/1677738/yale-harvard-west-virginia-university-make-princeton-reviews-list-of-green-colleges>

July, 2010: UCSB, UCSC among "Top 10 Eco-Friendly Colleges and Universities" according to U.S. News

View this short, but nationally significant, profile at:

UCSB: <http://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/slideshows/10-eco-friendly-college-campuses/6>

UCSC: <http://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/slideshows/10-eco-friendly-college-campuses/9>

7/19/2010: U California Santa Barbara Buildings Earn LEED Certifications

Two University of California, Santa Barbara buildings have received LEED certification. An addition to the Engineering II building received LEED Gold certification in the new construction category and the Life Sciences Building received LEED Silver certification in the existing buildings category. The Life Sciences Building achievements include water savings of 29 percent, waste minimization strategies and passive solar design. The Engineering II building has achieved water savings of 40 percent and recycled 90 percent of construction waste, diverting 150 tons of materials from landfills.

See also: [List of Green Campus Science Buildings](#) (AASHE Members Only)

5/2010: UCSB Students Approve Funding for Onsite Renewable Energy

Buoyed by the highest voter turnout ever recorded, students at the University of California, Santa Barbara, took an unprecedented step last week when they approved the "Student Services Renewable Energy Initiative." The revenue generated by this fee increase will be used to fund large-scale renewable energy projects at the seaside campus...This fee increase of \$6 per quarter will generate upwards of \$3.4 million dollars by the time it sunsets in 2020...The success of the initiative will also complement the Division of Student Affairs strategic goal of achieving Zero Net Energy for its portfolio of buildings (over 400,000 square feet). The goal of Zero Net Energy is to combine the creation of on-site renewable energy with an aggressive campaign to reduce energy use, thus leading to an elimination of utility costs for electricity and natural gas.

<http://www.sa.ucsb.edu/sustainability/>

4/21/2010: U California Santa Barbara Allots Funding for Green Projects

The University of California, Santa Barbara's The Green Initiative Fund (TGIF) Grant Making Committee has announced its grant recipients for the 2009-10 funding cycle. The 13 projects selected to receive funding include plastic bottle reduction, LED stage lights, building waste audits, a wind turbine installation, a utility conservation incentive program, a water conservation initiative, and other eco-friendly projects.

<http://www.ia.ucsb.edu/pa/display.aspx?pkey=2229>

3/31/2010: Sustainable Industries Magazine Covers Campus Sustainability

UCSB and UCSD are mentioned in an article by AASHE's Executive Director in *Sustainable Industries* magazine. In the article, Rowland discusses the trends of campus sustainability and the ways the movement has progressed over the past few years.

<http://www.sustainableindustries.com/commentary/89605392.html>

3/09/2010: UCSB Receives Bicycle Friendly Business Gold Award

The League of American Bicyclists has named UC Santa Barbara a Bicycle Friendly Business Gold Award winner. UCSB will be among 51 new Bicycle Friendly Businesses announced at the 10th National Bike Summit in Washington, D.C., on Wednesday, March 10...According to Wagner, 49 percent (10,215) of UCSB's students commute by bicycle, as well as 9 percent (420) of the faculty and staff. UCSB also features seven miles of Class I bicycle paths, more than 10,000 secure bicycle parking spaces in bicycle racks, 40 secure bicycle lockers, six bicycle roundabouts, and free showers for bicycle commuters.

<http://www.ia.ucsb.edu/pa/display.aspx?pkey=2198>

1/19/2010: New NREL website helps campuses go green: features UCM, UCSB and UCB

The U.S. Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory and Cornell University have launched a Web site to help campus-based institutions develop clean energy and carbon-reduction strategies. Research campuses consume more energy per square foot than most facilities. Laboratories and data centers run at all hours, using power-hungry equipment and cooling and ventilation systems to ensure high-quality scientific results and meet health and safety regulations. But they also have greater opportunities to reduce energy consumption, implement renewable energy, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. UC Merced was featured as a leading example of effective land use planning with respect to energy conservation and employment of renewable energy in long range and climate action planning. UC Santa Barbara was featured for its laboratory energy conservation programs, and UC Berkeley for its space management policies.

Merced: http://www.nrel.gov/applying_technologies/climate_neutral/land_use.html

Santa Barbara: http://www.nrel.gov/applying_technologies/climate_neutral/energy_conservation_programs.html

Berkeley: http://www.nrel.gov/applying_technologies/climate_neutral/space_planning.html

11/4/2009: UCSB's Composting and Trayless Dining Initiatives

Two of UC Santa Barbara's latest sustainability projects trayless dining and composting are proving to be very successful, enhancing UCSB's reputation as one of the greenest campuses in the country...

Across the UCSB residence hall dining commons system, the total waste per person per meal is down 37 percent, while the average waste per person overall is down 54 percent. The benefits of trayless dining include not only a decrease in food waste, but also fewer dishes/trays to wash, resulting in water and energy savings; shorter food lines, resulting in a smoother process during the peak dining period; less overflow of trays and less chaos at the dish-return areas; and financial benefits for the university. "Less waste means reduced food costs," Horst said, "which will enable us to purchase more sustainable fish, sustainable and organic produce, and other food items."

<http://www.ia.ucsb.edu/pa/display.aspx?pkey=2124>

10/22/2009: UCSB Announces First-Ever Faculty Sustainability Champions

"These two worthy individuals are true leaders on the critical issues of our time," said Lorelei Moosbrugger, assistant professor of political science and chair of the Academic Senate's Sustainability Work Group. "The Senate Sustainability Work Group recognizes that leadership with this award. We hope it will allow Cleveland and Matthys to reach a broader audience on campus and in the community, and underscore the significance of sustainability research at UCSB." The campus's Sustainability Champions are awarded a \$25,000 grant to conduct research and to employ graduate or undergraduate assistants. In addition, champions are asked to teach a freshman seminar in their area of expertise and give a public lecture, Moosbrugger said.

<http://www.ia.ucsb.edu/pa/display.aspx?pkey=2113>

Fall, 2009: UCSB's first appointed faculty "Sustainability Champion" on plans for his fellowship

"I am very honored to be chosen as the inaugural sustainability champion for UCSB. The purpose of the award is to build on the recipients area of research 'to educate the campus and community of the significance of that work, and to explore its application to advancing sustainability at levels spanning from the campus to the planet.' I see an important part of this as helping to increase the breadth and depth of the conversation on campus about sustainability per se...My focus on sustainability is food and agriculture, and solving the food crisis locally and globally. I am collaborating with Residential Dining Services, with the Environmental Affairs Board, and with graduate student Megan Carneys Real Food Challenge project, to encourage discussion of the UCSB food system, including where campus food comes from and how it is produced and transported, and how we can work to

increase environmental and social sustainability. At the community level, I am working during 2009-10 with ten undergraduate students from my World Agriculture class on a project to analyze the Santa Barbara County agricultural and food system, and to encourage discussion of alternative scenarios for a more sustainable future." *see page 4 at* http://www.es.ucsb.edu/general_info/ES_News_files/F09_ES_Newsletter_sm.pdf

8/11/2009: UCSB's Bren Hall Recognized for Being Super-Green

Seven years after it opened as the greenest laboratory facility in the U.S., Bren Hall was honored with the nation's first Double Platinum rating for sustainability from the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) on August 4. Each of the Platinum ratings—one awarded in 2002 for New Construction, when Bren Hall was first built, and the second for Existing Buildings-Operations & Maintenance—is based upon USGBC's LEED Green Building Rating System, a nationally accepted benchmark. <http://www.independent.com/news/2009/aug/11/ucsbs-bren-hall-recognized-being-super-green/>

5/12/2009: UCSB's grad student housing receives LEED Gold certification

UC Santa Barbara's San Clemente Villages graduate student housing complex has been awarded the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) gold-level certification by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC)...The San Clemente project becomes the second largest LEED-certified housing facility on any college or university campus in the country, according to officials with the USGBC. San Clemente Villages features four separate apartment buildings with 973 beds in 325 one-, two- and four-bedroom apartments...San Clemente is the sixth UCSB building to receive LEED certification.

<http://www.ia.ucsb.edu/pa/display.aspx?pkey=2003>

4/29/2009: UCSB scores \$19M in stimulus money

UC Santa Barbara has landed \$19 million in federal stimulus money for new energy research. The money will come in payments of \$2 million to \$5 million a year over the next five years. The university said the funding will help it improve technologies for efficient lighting, capturing solar energy and converting heat into energy. The money came from the U.S. Department of Energy and aims to create jobs in addition to advancing technology. The university said the money will create dozens of research jobs and several support positions.

http://pacificbiztimes.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=805&Itemid=1

See also: [Daily Nexus](#)

2/25/2009: UCSB Group Sells Organic Fertilizer

Compost junkies have opened a whole new can of worms on campus - literally. A sustainability program operating out of Ellison Hall is selling the nutrient-rich mulch of organic soil to local gardeners. The Ellison Hall Sustainability Committee - an organization composed of staff, faculty and students - sells the worm castings and "worm tea" as part of its overarching goal to reduce the environmental footprint of the campus facility. According to UCSB sustainability coordinator Katie Maynard, since the compost program started two years ago, an increasing number of students and staff members have been willing to roll up their sleeves and get their hands dirty.

<http://www.dailynews.com/article.php?a=18408>

11/10/2009: UCSB Unveils Solar Project

The rooftop real estate at UC Santa Barbaras recreation center is now home to a fleet of gleaming solar panels, which have turned the building into a lean, green machine. UCSB Vice Chancellor Michael Young said the recreation center, built three years ago without many of the efficient amenities it sports today, now carries a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver certification, making it the only building of its kind in the country.

<http://www.thedailysound.com/120608UCSBSolar>

December 8, 2008: UCSB unveils solar project

The rooftop real estate at UC Santa Barbara's recreation center is now home to a fleet of gleaming solar panels, which have turned the building into a lean, green machine. UCSB Vice Chancellor Michael Young said the recreation center, built three years ago without many of the efficient amenities it sports today, now carries a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver certification, making it the only building of its kind in

the country. The \$1.5 million solar project will reportedly generate 600,000-kilowatt hours of electricity per year, enough to power 600 homes.

<http://www.thedailysound.com/News/120608UCSBsolar>

December 1, 2008: UC receives multiple 'Go Beyond' sustainability awards from R&D Magazine

Several University of California recipients were recognized by the first annual Go Beyond Awards, which honor individuals, organizations, projects and laboratory manufacturers that "go beyond" the status quo to minimize the environmental impacts of laboratory and other high-tech facilities and lab equipment. The awards were publicly announced by R&D Magazine in the November issue of its Laboratory Design Newsletter.

<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/article/19072>

November 5, 2008: UCSB Custodians Win Green Cleaning Award

Custodians at UC Santa Barbara will receive the prestigious Grand Award for their green cleaning practices as part of a contest sponsored by American School & University magazine, The Green Cleaning Network, and the Healthy Schools Campaign. UCSB was chosen to receive the Grand Award among all universities competing in the green cleaning category. The campus will be featured in AS&U magazine's December edition.

<http://www.ia.ucsb.edu/pa/display.aspx?pkey=1875>

October 28, 2008: UCSB Seeks New Green Proposals; Fund Supports Sustainability Projects

In 2006, students at UCSB voted in favor of creating The Green Initiative Fund to finance environmental projects. The fund, which costs each student \$2.60 a quarter, is now in its second year and is currently accepting proposals for potential sustainable projects on campus for the 2008-09 year. TGIF - the first "green" fee in the UC system - allocates money to projects to reduce the university's impact on the environment. The fund has a budget of approximately \$160,000 a year and students, staff and faculty are all eligible to apply for a TGIF grant. The application is due Jan. 26, with final funding decisions announced in early April.

<http://www.dailynews.com/article.php?a=17566>

September 16, 2008: A Sustainability Blitz at UC Santa Barbara

UC Santa Barbara's commitment to sustainability is getting a boost of energy as the 2008-09 academic year begins. Close to 5,000 students are expected to attend next week's New Student Convocation, where environmentalist and explorer Celine Cousteau will be the keynote speaker. Meanwhile, students, faculty, and staff will be greeted by sustainability messages all over campus thanks to a new effort by campus administrators who have vowed to sharpen the focus of UCSB's environmental initiatives.

<http://www.ia.ucsb.edu/pa/display.aspx?pkey=1847>

April 25, 2008: UC Santa Barbara Adopts Sustainability Plan

The University of California, Santa Barbara recently announced its adoption of a Campus Sustainability Plan, which aims to make significant contributions to energy conservation, resource management, environmental awareness, and sustainability education and research on the UCSB campus and beyond. Developed as a "living document" that will be updated on a regular basis, the plan was drafted by the Campus Planning Committee's 17-member Subcommittee on Sustainability. The group worked in consultation with a broad-based coalition of approximately 75 campus "change agents" representing the faculty, staff, and students. Implementation of the plan is the responsibility of the Associate Vice Chancellor for Administrative Services, who will be aided by a special task force and the Campus Committee for Sustainability.

See also: [UCSB Campus Sustainability Plan Homepage](#)

February 28, 2008: Increasing the efficiency of energy

UC Santa Barbara research could lead to more efficient lights in your home, better refrigeration, less expensive solar cells and improved power-generation turbines.

To advance such ideas to make more efficient use of energy, the university this week is unveiling its Institute of Energy Efficiency.

While much research these days is focused on new energy sources, an important area of research for the future is finding ways to cut down the amount of energy used, said John Bowers, a professor of electrical and computer engineering who has been selected as the institute's director.

"Rather than work on technology to build bigger nuclear power plants, our focus is on increasing efficiency of what's being used," Bowers said. "The cleanest power plant is the one you don't build."

<http://www.venturacountystar.com/news/2008/feb/27/increasing-the-efficiency-of-energy/>

February 4, 2008: UCSD, UCSB Among Campuses Piloting New Sustainability Rating System

The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) has announced the launch of its pilot rating system for sustainability in higher education. Over ninety college and university campuses will test the self-assessment tool, called STARS (Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System). Over the course of 2008 they will provide feedback to AASHE and inform STARS version 1.0, planned for release in spring 2009...We are excited to use STARS to assess our sustainability performance, said Matt Malten, assistant vice chancellor for campus sustainability at Washington University in St. Louis. In addition to using it as a guide to establish our performance baseline, we also plan to use STARS as a platform to help us engage and facilitate on-going collaboration for continual improvement on our campus, with our peer institutions across the country, and with our international partners. In short, STARS will help us confirm that we are affecting the necessary rapid global sustainability progress.

http://www.aashe.org/highlights/pilot_announcement.php

January 31, 2008: UCSB Events Focus on Green Issues

In a bid to face the challenges global warming poses to planet Earth, UCSB - in conjunction with over 1,000 other campuses around the country - will begin a series of events today to discuss possible solutions.

The first full day of events of Focus the Nation will commence simultaneously around the country today, kicking off on campus at 8:30 a.m. in Corwin Pavilion. The UCSB lineup includes a speech from Santa Barbara Mayor Marty Blum. Additionally, it will feature Wal-Mart Director of Corporate Strategy Janelle Kearsley, who will discuss how the mega-retailer is working to reduce its environmental impact.

<http://www.daily nexus.com/article.php?a=15648>

November 15, 2007: UCSB Goes Waterless with Urinals (opinion)

UC Santa Barbara's new waterless urinals save me from unfriendly bacteria and the smells normally arising from going into the wrong bathroom...all males should enjoy hands-free operation on every urinal...The numbers speak for themselves - sewage costs are reduced by \$30 from the old system of urinals while total water usage is cut by 66 percent. Although final estimates have not been fully calculated, waterless urinals cost less than motion sensor urinals and are easier to maintain. And even though initial costs are equal to the flush urinals, waterless urinals plan to save UCSB an estimated \$114 dollars per toilet - as determined by the programs implementation throughout Girvetz Hall.

<http://www.daily nexus.com/article.php?a=15140>

October 5, 2007: Science Magazine Features UCSB's LARS Program

For the price of a few pizzas, Allen Doyle saved his science building \$16,000 in electricity costs this year—and kept more than 6 metric tons of carbon from entering the atmosphere. The six-story structure where Doyle manages a soil ecology lab at the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB), houses 55 fume hoods, each of which burns through as much energy as three averaged-sized U.S. homes. "I offered pizza to anyone who would let us shut off their [unused] hoods for 6 months or more," he says. "I was hoping for three hoods; we got nine." [...] In the spring of 2006, Doyle co-founded a program called Laboratory Assessments for Research Sustainability (LARS)* with campus sustainability coordinator Katie Maynard. Assisted by a team of interns, Doyle goes from lab to lab on campus, identifying trouble spots, offering advice, and throwing in cookies and coffee when necessary. "We're just looking for simple answers that may have a significant impact on campus," he says.

<http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/reprint/318/5847/39.pdf>

September 4, 2007: [UC Santa Barbara Student Launches Carpool Application for Facebook](#)

Determined to create a better way to find a ride and reduce his CO2 emissions, Logan Green, a recent UC Santa Barbara alum, has launched a new Facebook application called Carpool. Carpool helps students, faculty, and staff connect with others in their campus community, whether they are commuting to campus or heading home for the weekend. "Carpool is safer because you can view other people's [Facebook] profiles before deciding who you want to travel with," said Logan. "And it can be useful for campus transportation planners working to reduce single-occupancy vehicle use and transportation GHGs because everyone can join, not just students."

<http://abcnews.go.com/US/story?id=3555783&page=1>, see also:

http://www.torontosun.com/News/Columnists/Davis_Nicholas/2007/08/06/4397321-sun.html

September 30, 2007: UCSB Campus Planning and Facilities Receive Regional Sustainability Award

Clos Pepe Vineyards and Estate Wines has been recognized as a leader in sustainable agriculture and production, receiving Santa Barbara County wine industry's only 2007 Green Award from the Green Award Consortium. Others receiving 2007 Green Awards included the Chumash Resort Casino in Santa Ynez, B&H Flowers Inc. of Carpinteria, UC Santa Barbara Campus Design & Facilities and Valle Verde Retirement Community in Santa Barbara. The prestigious awards were presented to the Clos Pepe family and other winners in a ceremony at UCSB, attended by Congresswoman Lois Capps, D-Santa Barbara, Assemblyman Pedro Nava, D-Santa Barbara, and other local dignitaries.

<http://www.santamariatimes.com/articles/2007/09/30/business/biz97.txt>

May 5, 2007: UCSB Wins Flex Your Power Award; UCSD Receives Honorable Mention

Flex Your Power, California's statewide energy efficiency campaign, has recognized UC Santa Barbara as a leader in energy efficiency with a Flex Your Power Award. A total of 41 winners were selected from several hundred applicants for outstanding leadership in energy efficiency. Cumulatively, award winners over the last two years have saved more than \$172 million, one billion kilowatt hours and reduced greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to removing more than 80,000 cars from the road. UCSD also received an honorable mention in the Demand Response category.

<http://www.fypower.org/feature/awards/5th/profile.html?company=ucsb>

April 18, 2007: UC Santa Barbara Earns 2nd Place in NWF's Chill Out Contest

Colleges and universities are stepping up climate leadership to confront global warming head on and the winners of the National Wildlife Federations national competition, Chill Out, exemplify the significant impact they are making...The eight top winners in the Chill Out competition were featured in a first-of-its-kind webcast on April 18 from George Washington University in Washington DC, which was broadcast onto almost 200 college campuses throughout the country as part of campus global warming events. The webcast featured an address from Al Gore about the important role colleges and universities play in developing solutions to global warming that others should emulate. The webcast included video of each winning schools global warming project, a panel discussion with representatives from the winning schools, climate scientists, and conservation professionals.

<http://www.nwf.org/news/story.cfm?pageId=00F05830-F1F6-7B10-32BD8C0A3A27EEF5>

See also: Description of winners: <http://www.nwf.org/campusecology/ChillOutWinners.cfm>

January 22, 2007: Draft [UCSB] Campus Sustainability Plan a Work in Progress, Says Official

Other UCSB advances have recently been announced on the environmental front. Last month, Marc Fisher, associate vice chancellor for design and facilities, presented the major elements of a draft Campus Sustainability Plan to the Campus Planning Committee. Based on the work of nine groups totaling approximately 75 staff, faculty, and students, under the coordination of Perrin Pellegrin, these elements are designed to save money in the long term and reduce the environmental impacts of campus activities, particularly in the production of green house gases (GHG).

<http://www.ia.ucsb.edu/93106/2007/January22/draft.html>

December 17, 2006: [UCSB Plans LEED-EB Certification for 25 Buildings](#)

UC Santa Barbara has signed an agreement with the U.S. Green Building Council to use the Leadership in Energy

and Environmental Design for Existing Building (LEED-EB) rating system in 25 of its existing buildings over the next five years. UCSB has already completed one successful LEED for Existing Building project in Girvetz Hall, and plans to make all existing buildings LEED certified.

November 27, 2006: UC Santa Barbara Research Building Receives LEED Basic Certification

University of California, Santa Barbara's Marine Science Research Building has received LEED basic certification. The \$25 million building includes waterless urinals and dual-flush toilets, and is powered with wind energy.

<http://www.ucsbdailynews.com/news/2006/12646.html>

March 9, 2006: UCSB's Girvetz Hall Receives LEED EB Silver

University of California, Santa Barbara recently received LEED EB silver certification on Girvetz Hall, which was built in 1955 and is one of the oldest buildings on campus. Girvetz Hall is the first building in the UC system to receive such an award. To achieve certification, Physical Facilities installed waterless urinals; upgraded the building control system; and installed new heating valves with individual thermostats. Custodial services implemented a green cleaning program consisting of green seal cleaning chemicals, zinc free floor finishes, and high recycled content in bathroom paper products and trash bags.

The grounds department is grooming the grounds organically and with minimal amounts of water.

<http://sustainability.ucsb.edu/girvetzceremony/>

February 16, 2006: UC Santa Barbara Seeking LEED Silver on New Student Center

UC Santa Barbara is seeking LEED Silver certification on its new \$18 million, 69,500 sqft Student Resource Building. The facility, which will be completed by this summer, is expected to exceed California's energy code (Title 24) by 30 to 40 percent. Green features include daylighting, natural ventilation and sun shading.

<http://california.construction.com/news/building/archive/0602.asp>

September 28, 2005: UC Santa Barbara to Develop Sustainability Plan

Over the current academic year UC Santa Barbara will be holding a series of workshops to assist the campus in developing a Sustainability Plan. Among other things, the campus plans to examine and improve its use of energy and water, its procurement and transportation practices, and its landscaping and construction practices. To develop its plan, the university will be using the Natural Step framework.

<http://www.ia.ucsb.edu/pa/display.aspx?pkey=1344>

August 17, 2005: UC Santa Barbara Pledges to Track Campus-Wide Green House Gas Emissions

UC Santa Barbara has joined the California Climate Action Registry, a non-profit public/private partnership that helps companies and organizations throughout the United States to track, publicly report and reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. As a participant in the Registry, UCSB will voluntarily measure and report its campus-wide emissions of greenhouse gases. The results will be certified by independent organizations to ensure compliance with Registry protocols and standardization across sectors. "Since 1997, UCSB has reduced its carbon footprint dramatically through an aggressive energy conservation program. Our challenge is to continue this trend while our campus is growing. The California Climate Action Registry will document our past and future successes, and allow our campus to set new goals to reduce our emissions and quantify our results" said Jim Dewey, UCSB's Campus Energy Manager. UCSB is the second campus within the UC system to sign up with the Registry – UC San Diego is a charter member of the program.

http://www.climateregistry.org/docs/PRESS/UCSB_press_release_081105.pdf