

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 San Francisco

8/2011: Dolby Regeneration Medicine Building at UCSF earns LEED Gold

The U.S. Green Building Council awarded UCSF's new Ray and Dagmar Dolby Regeneration Medicine Building LEED-NC (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design new construction) Gold Certification last week...To achieve LEED Gold on such a structurally complex building located on a challenging, sloped site is a significant accomplishment...Sustainable principles are reflected in the buildings design which integrated the use of low-emitting materials, including carpets, paints and adhesives and high-recycled content and recycled materials. Over 75 percent of the demolition materials were reused and diverted from the landfill. Other unique green features include: integration of water efficient devices and energy efficiency strategies, built-in recycling containers in strategic locations, more than 90 percent of areas have access to natural light, and a terraced, green roof that functions as open space for scientists and staff as well as providing additional roofing insulation.

<http://sustainability.ucsf.edu/1.92>

7/2011: UCSF doctor leads transition to reprocessing in the Electrophysiology Lab

When it comes to sustainability, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle is the mantra. But when it comes to the surgical or invasive procedures environment, there can be resistance to the idea of remanufacturing and reusing medical equipment. Yet here at UCSF, the Electrophysiology (EP) lab, which performs cardiac catheterization, cardiac ablations, pacemaker implantation and ultrasound (Intra-cardiac echocardiography) catheterization, has successfully implemented a catheter reprocessing program, where a third-party remanufactures the catheters to their original manufacture specs and resells the product at a discount price. Initially, the program was unsuccessful due to various concerns around quality, reliability, safety and acceptance. After the appointment of Dr. Byron Lee as UCSF Electrophysiology Lab Director last year, and improvements in the quality of reprocessed products, the EP lab overcame objections and launched a successful program, saving money and reducing waste.

<http://sustainability.ucsf.edu/1.94>

6/2/2011: U California San Francisco Launches Green Office Certifications

The University of California, San Francisco has launched a new Green Certification Program. The initiative aims to assess offices and administrative spaces, identifying areas where occupants could improve sustainability within their respective area. The Office of Sustainability will work closely with department-based Green Teams, requesting that a given team complete a self-assessment. Additional opportunities for making the space more environmentally friendly will be provided by Green Campus interns.

2/10/2011: U California San Francisco Unveils Medical Center Green Roof

The University of California, San Francisco has opened the doors of its Dolby Regeneration Medicine Building, which features a terraced green roof. The \$123 million building was paid for with grants and donations. The university has \$12 million left to raise.

11/18/2010: Newly Opened MSB Lab Earns LEED-CI Gold Certification

The Craniofacial and Mesenchymal Biology (CMB) Lab at HSE-15 on UCSF's Parnassus Campus, given a gala opening on October 29 by UCSF Chancellor Sue Desmond-Hellmann, UCSF Dentistry Dean John D.B. Featherstone, and Craniofacial and Mesenchymal Biology Program Director Ophir Klein, has been awarded a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Certification, earning the United States Green Building

Council's (USGBC) LEED Gold rating for commercial interiors (LEED CI). The CMB Lab is the first LEED GOLD Rating received by UCSF.

<http://dentistry.ucsf.edu/about-the-school/news-room/press-releases/2010/11/18/newly-opened-cmb-lab-receives-leed-environmenta>

6/4/2010: UCSF Medical Center Receives Recognition for Environmentally Sustainable Practices

UCSF Medical Center and UCSF Childrens Hospital received a Partner for Change Award from Practice Greenhealth for integrating environmental responsibility into its operations. Practice Greenhealth is the nations leading membership and networking organization for institutions in the health care community committed to sustainable, eco-friendly practices...The Environmental Excellence Awards recognize success stories, said Anna Gilmore Hall, executive director of Practice Greenhealth. UCSF Medical Center is a successful model of how health facilities can develop and implement pollution prevention programs to greatly improve the health of their patients, staff and community.

<http://today.ucsf.edu/stories/ucsf-medical-center-receives-recognition-for-sustainable-practices/>

September 15, 2008: UCSF to start \$1.6 billion hospitals project

The University of California is set to move forward with a new \$1.6 billion hospital complex in San Francisco that is being touted as the greenest medical center ever built in California. Next week, the university's governing Board of Regents is expected to give final approval for the six-story, 289-bed complex of hospitals next to UCSF's new Mission Bay biomedical campus. Six years in planning and expected to open in 2013 or 2014, the hospital complex will be among the most advanced in California. <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2008/09/13/BAV212Q6M5.DTL>

August 13, 2008: UCSF Medical Center Receives Rebates for Going Green

UCSF's top energy-consuming buildings have been targeted for retrocommissioning – a reevaluation and resetting process for existing facilities to map out energy- and cost-saving strategies.

<http://pub.ucsf.edu/today/cache/news/200808122.html>

June 25, 2008: A cheaper way to get solar power installed

UCSF wanted solar power for its new Mission Bay campus but was daunted by the cost. So the school found a new way to go solar - get someone else to pay for it.

University administrators turned to MMA Renewable Ventures, a San Francisco company that finds financing, designers and installers to build renewable-energy projects. In return, MMA owns and operates the finished project. The company stuck solar panels on UCSF's Genentech Hall as well as a nearby parking garage. MMA owns the panels and sells the power to the school, under a contract that locks in electricity prices for the next 20 years. The rates are lower than Pacific Gas & Electric's, and the school didn't have to pay for the panels up front.

"It's very simple - we got someone else to take on the headaches, and we get the power," said Maric Munn, the school's director of facilities management.

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2008/06/25/BU8O11EDAK.DTL>

April 21, 2008: UCSF Forms Chancellors Advisory Committee on Sustainability

UCSF Chancellor Mike Bishop, MD, has formed the Chancellors Advisory Committee on Sustainability (CACS) to be co-chaired by Senior Vice Chancellor Steve Barclay and Tomi Ryba, chief operating officer of UCSF Medical Center...The CACS will examine UCSF's effect on the environment, evaluate and propose policies and programs, as well as coordinate the actions of groups and individuals who are concerned about the environment. See the list of committee members below...The formation of the CACS demonstrates the University's ongoing efforts and long-term commitment to reduce its impact on the environment while fulfilling its mission of *advancing health worldwide*.

<http://pub.ucsf.edu/today/cache/news/200804211.html>

January 22, 2008: UC Continues Progress in Sustainability Practices

The University of California has been a leader in its sustainability practices, gaining momentum and national recognition in 2007 by expanding its sustainability policy.

By completing energy efficiency projects across the system, UC has saved more than \$5 million annually, according to the fourth annual report on sustainability. The entire report presented to the UC Regents on Jan. 15 is posted on the [UC Office of the President website](#).

For its part, the staff-initiated UCSF Sustainability Committee has been championing the cause since 2004. Led by Steve Wiesenthal, associate vice chancellor of Capital Programs & Facilities Management (CPFM), the committee has been working in a number of areas to reduce the campus' carbon footprint.

<http://pub.ucsf.edu/today/cache/news/200801181.html>

January 7, 2008: UCSF to Host Focus the Nation Teach-in

UCSF Medical Center, in association with the University of California Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, will sponsor "Focus the Nation," a national teach-in, on Wednesday and Thursday, Jan. 30 and 31.

[Focus The Nation](#) is an unprecedented educational initiative on global warming solutions for America occurring at more than 1,000 universities and colleges and in all 50 states on Jan. 31.

<http://pub.ucsf.edu/today/cache/news/200801041.html>

December 14, 2007: [UCSF Names Sustainability Manager](#)

John Pihl has been named UC San Francisco's first sustainability manager, a new position within Capital Programs & Facilities Management. Prior to joining the University, Pihl worked for Kaiser Permanente, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, and Hewlett-Packard in various positions related to sustainability. Pihl is a licensed architect and a LEED accredited professional.

October 10, 2007: UCSF Mission Bay taps McDonough

The University of California at San Francisco's (UCSF) Board of Regents approved a proposal in May 2007 to build a new 289-bed medical center in San Francisco's Mission Bay neighborhood. Upon completion in 2014, the center would be the first new hospital built in the city in 40 years. The university selected San Francisco-based architects Anshen and Allen and Charlottesville, Va.-based William McDonough and Partners to lead the design of the hospital... While the design of the campus' first three buildings predated the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification program, the university has since committed to designing what it calls "LEED-certifiable" buildings. The school plans to construct buildings that meet LEED criteria, but funnel the money it would have been spent on certification into energy-efficient building features.

<http://www.sustainableindustries.com/greenbuilding/10094176.html>

May 9, 2007: UCSF to Host Earth Fest, Bike to Work Day on May 17

Faculty, staff and students are encouraged to bike to their UCSF sites on Thursday, May 17, when the University celebrates the annual Earth Fest.

<http://pubaffairs.ucsf.edu/today/cache/news/200705085.html>

<http://www.ucsf.edu/synapse/content/2007/05/10/earthfest.html>

June 2, 2006: UCSF Recognized by EPA as One of the Best Workplaces for Commuters

Top commuter benefits earned UCSF a place on the inaugural 2006 National List of Best Workplaces for Commuters from Colleges and Universities, awarded by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

http://pub.ucsf.edu/today/feature.php?news_id=200606016

January 17, 2006: UCSF Completes First LEED-Certified Laboratory Renovation

UC officials today will discuss 2005 highlights in environmental sustainability, including UCSF's first project certified for its Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design.

<http://pub.ucsf.edu/today/cache/news/200601131.html>

May 4, 2005: Campus Establishes UCSF Sustainability Committee

Reflecting a growing interest in environmental protection, UCSF has formed a sustainability committee with key campus and medical center representatives who will work to coordinate earth-friendly efforts.

http://pub.ucsf.edu/today/news.php?news_id=200405032