

Green Campus Program - LA Community Colleges



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A well-trained and engaged student body is critical to the ability of college campuses to achieve their energy efficiency and sustainability goals. Green Campus currently trains intern teams at **16 California university and community college campuses** to plan, carry out, measure, and report on energy efficiency projects. This generates interest in and prepares students for entry to the energy efficiency field, which, while rapidly growing, is experiencing an increasingly serious shortage of qualified applicants for technical and managerial “green collar” jobs.

I consider the [Green Campus] interns to be an extension of my position as campus energy manager, with a direct focus on energy conservation projects. Especially valuable to me is their ability to effectively reach out to students and faculty.

*Dennis Elliot, Energy Manager
Cal Poly San Luis Obispo*



CPUC Commissioner Dian Grueneich and CSU Chief of Plant, Energy and Utilities Len Pettis present Green Campus Interns with an award at the 2007 CSU Facilities Management Conference.

Green Workforce Successes

- ✓ **Job Placement:** Former interns have been placed in the energy efficiency and sustainability field at companies including: PG&E; SCE; Google; US Green Building Council; UCSB; UCSD; HSU Campus Center for Appropriate Technology; Cogent Energy; International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI); and the Alliance to Save Energy.
- ✓ **Additional Internships:** Interns have pursued concurrent internships at utilities, which include PG&E and SDG&E.
- ✓ **Advanced Degrees:** Former and current interns are pursuing graduate study in the sustainability field.

How Green Campus Can Add Value to Community Colleges

• Measurable Energy Savings

Green Campus offers opportunities for a campus to save money by implementing energy efficiency technologies, behavioral change campaigns, and education and outreach to the campus community and beyond.

• Promotes Student Engagement

Green Campus employs student interns *from each campus* to develop solutions that promote cost and energy savings, along with education and outreach opportunities, that are tailored for success for each unique campus. By working with campus staff, faculty and administrators on real campus projects, they gain hands-on work experience and facilitate projects that would not otherwise happen due to tight budgets and busy schedules.

• Develops Educational Opportunities

The program sponsors educational opportunities for students to complement, and integrate into the academic framework of the campus. By providing intensive and ongoing energy efficiency training to the students, they can then work on highly technical projects that augment their classroom study.

• Creates Green Workforce Pathway

By building bridges between students and employers, including ESCOs, utilities, local businesses, and the Alliance itself, the Green Campus Program builds student efficacy, and in so doing the capacity of the community as a whole.

Green Campus has helped...save a significant amount of energy, and more importantly, [it] has given our students an opportunity to lead others in meaningful changes far beyond the electrical grid.

Dr. Mark Stemen, Professor of Environmental Sciences, CSU Chico

