

# Green Campus Newsletter

## Humboldt State University

July/August, 2006

Issue 14

### **AUDIT PROJECT COMPLETES PHASE II**

In June, Green Campus interns Jeff Steuben and Jocelyn Orr gathered data for the Eureka Housing Authority about the typical energy use and areas for potential improvement in several housing projects. In July, we continued with that project by writing up a comprehensive report of our results and outlined areas for improvement in the housing development. In the second phase of the project, we researched the energy use patterns of residents based on our field observations and the typical appliances and habits we saw. The audit report was completed early August and submitted to the Housing Authority, which will then forward the report on to Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This report fulfills the Housing Authority's obligation to HUD to have energy audits completed on its properties every five years. An excerpt of the report research is located below.

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### **GREEN CAMPUS GET TOGETHER**

In the last week of June, the HSU Green Campus crew gathered with all the other Green Campuses for our annual End of Year Meeting. This was a great time for all the program coordinators to talk to each other and share ideas for new projects, give and receive advice about project successes and failures, welcome new program coordinators and say goodbye to graduating coordinators. This year, the meeting was held in beautiful, sunny Santa Barbara at the University of California campus, which also hosted the 4<sup>th</sup> annual UC/CSU/CC Sustainability conference. At the meeting, coordinators from each of the Green Campus programs had a chance to share their green knowledge. There were discussions of best practices, projects for the summer and fall, and outcomes shared of last year's projects. The Humboldt Green Campus team shared some ideas related to stakeholder communication strategies at the meeting, and got a lot of ideas in return from our CSU/UC compatriots.

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Jocelyn teaches other GC interns about good stakeholder relations at Green Campus's End of Year Meeting.

### **GREEN NUMBERS**

- Number of Unique individual visits to our website in June: 62
- Number of website page views during June: 219
- Number of representatives of Humboldt State at UC/CSU Sustainability conference: 6

## WATCH FOR....

### GC Tabling at HOP:

August 18th, 0900-1100  
on the HSU quad.

Handing out CFLs and power-  
strips during move-in week.

### Website Updates:

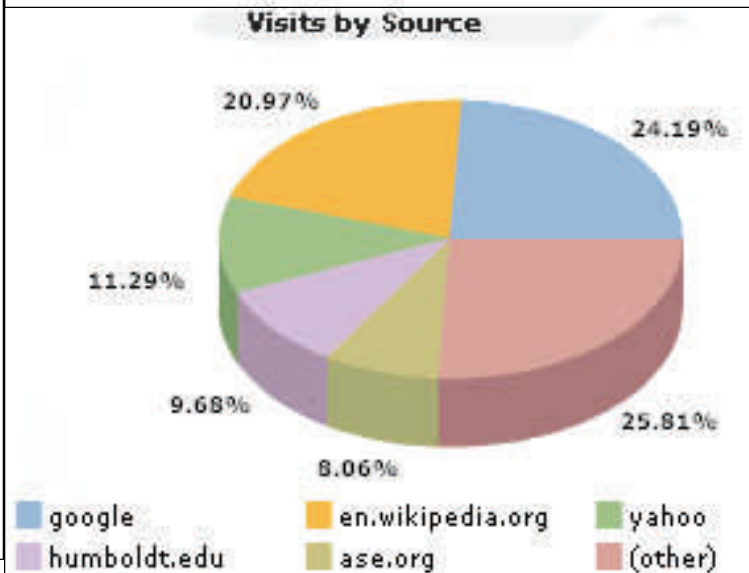
As an ongoing effort to improve  
the website, periodical updates  
will be made to transition the  
older site to a cleaner, more  
informative website.



Jeff tells about our summer plans to  
the rest of the interns at the End of  
Year Meeting

## WEBSITE STATS DIGEST- JUNE 2006

How people find out about our website



## GOOGLE ANALYTICS REVEALS DATA

Google Analytics, a website tracking tool, has been installed on HSU Green Campus's website in order to analyze our website traffic. The above graph shows the routes web users have taken to reach our site. According to this data, most of our visitors are finding us through the popular search engines, google and yahoo. However, a surprising amount of users have arrived at our site from the wikipedia entry for "Humboldt State University." Also surprising is that our parent non-profit, the Alliance to Save Energy (ase.org) is only responsible for a meager 8% of our website traffic. Other features of google-analytics range from where the user traffic originates from, and what internal page they enter and leave from once on our site.

## GREEN CAMPUS GET TOGETHER CONT.

Afterward, the coordinators attended their choice of break out session for skill sharing in the areas of campus activism, project documentation and media outreach. The break out sessions allowed coordinators from each campus to focus on the skills they would like to improve upon of the up coming year. After the meeting we congregated for dinner and socializing. Like any conference, the value of "social hour" could not be under stated, as networking with other students and professionals is incredibly important for a program such as Green Campus. In addition to many UC and CSU students, the professional realm was well represented, as companies had set up booths to share their business opportunities with the rest of the conference-goers.

## AUDIT PROJECT PHASE II CONT.

Report Excerpt:

" 'For each 10°F reduction in water temperature, you can save between 3%–5% in energy costs.' (eere.energy.gov)

There were a wide range of water heater settings viewed during the audits, with a surprising amount of them set 140° or higher. Households should consider whether or not that temperature setting is completely necessary, and if not, should at least be reduced to 130°, if not 120°. A reduction from 140° to 120° would save 6%–10% in total water heating costs. At no cost to implement, payback is immediate."

The complete report will outline all possible energy saving retrofits, along with their simple pay-back time. These recommendations included lowering water heater settings (immediate payback) to purchasing Energy Star refrigerators (5 year pay-back).



Jeff scrutinizes the meter readings while taking data for the Eureka Housing Authority.

## OFFICE AUDITS: LESSONS LEARNED

With several completed campus office energy audits completed under our belt, it's time to sit back and reflect on the project. With a total realized energy savings of about 5200 kWh per year, the project definitely wasn't a failure. These savings come from retrofits such as LCD monitors and footwarmers, as well as adjusting computer settings and changing office behavior. We feel that the energy savings generated per year is significant enough to attempt other projects similar to this in the future. However, considering that we only completed 3 audits over an entire semester, whether or not they are the most cost-effective project for Green Campus to pursue in the coming year remains to be seen. **CONT. PAGE 4**

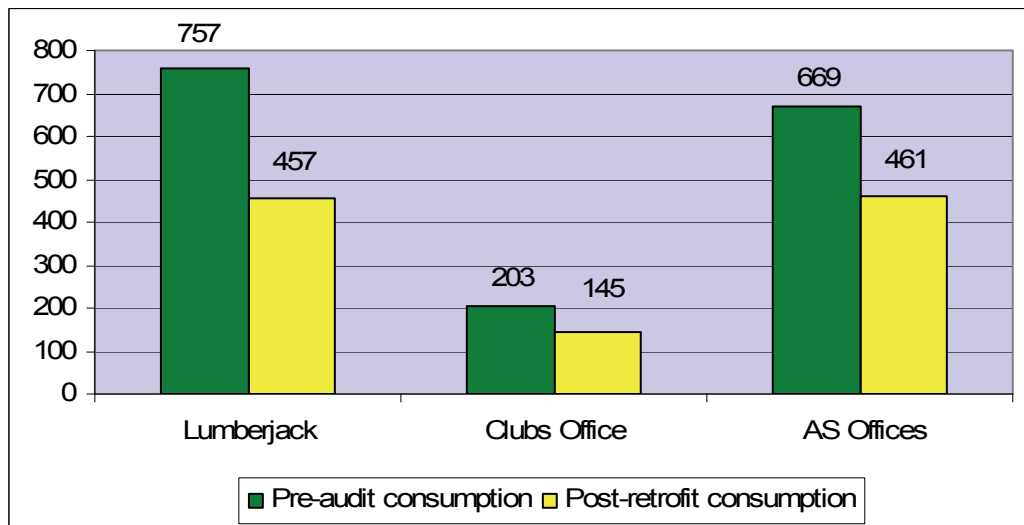
Office Audit  
Energy  
Reduction  
(kWh/month)

% Saved—

Lumberjack:  
39.6%

Clubs:  
28.6%

AS:  
31.1%



## LESSONS LEARNED CONT.

One of the points of this project was to generate press about the audits, which is why three highly trafficked areas were chosen to be audited. Publicizing the projects could have been better for this project, which is something we will continue to work on. Our other greatest hindrance to the project was a lack of manpower to do many audits all over campus.

In order to remedy both of these issues, a potential solution would be to set up department or office based energy competition which would result in a more direct education of the office staff in the ways of energy saving as well as creating a buzz as competition heats up. Another possible solution would be to involve HSU students to perform these audits for class credit as a part of another class or independently.



Footwarmers are an energy efficient alternative to space heaters. Thanks to Michael Winkler for the suggestion. These will be given to the AS office staff.

## CSU CHICO'S DR. MARK SPEAKS

At the End of Year Meeting this year, guest speaker Dr. Mark Stemen was brought along to teach our generation some useful facts for being a leader in his break-out session entitled "Ten Things I Wish I Knew Sooner as a Student Activist" Here are some of his words of wisdom:

1. Be nice to office staff
2. Press are people too
3. No issue is more important than the group
4. There are other campuses than yours
5. Look before you leap—don't speak before you know the facts
6. Nobody understands the room reservation system
7. There are great books about campus activism
8. Faculty & staff want you to push boundaries
9. Leadership is hereditary— find and cultivate the next generation of leaders once in power
10. It all happens much easier if you're having fun!

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