

UR GREEN NEWS

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER
December 2, 2012
Volume 2, Issue 6



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Grassroots Weekly General Interest Meeting

December 3
8:00 p.m.— 9:00 p.m.
Ruth Merrill Center, Wilson Commons

UR Biodiesel Research Meeting

December 3
8:00 p.m.— 9:00 p.m.
Goergen 110

Engineers Without Borders Meeting

December 4
8:30 p.m.— 9:30 p.m.
Morey 402

Engineers for a Sustainable World E-Board Meeting

December 6
7:30 p.m.— 8:30 p.m.
Goergen 110

Earth and Environmental Sciences Seminar by Zunli Lu of Syracuse University

January 18
Stay tuned to the [EES Seminar Schedule](#) for updates.

Beyond the Blue Box — Recycling at the Monroe County EcoPark

January 23
6:30 p.m.
Brighton Memorial Library
2300 Elmwood Avenue
- Lean more about the various items you can drop off for recycling at the Monroe County EcoPark.

SUSTAINABILITY SPOTLIGHT



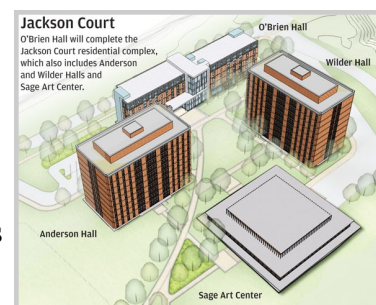
RIT Energy Study on Towers Residence Halls Examines Impact of Visuals on Energy Usage

Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) has partnered with the University to conduct a behavioral energy study on students living in Anderson and Wilder Residence Halls that will assess whether visual messages play an effect on energy consumption behavior.

In late October, Residential Advisors (RAs) emailed their residents informing them of the study. On October 26, students received the educational material, which included: blue decals for the backs of laptops; green stickers for smaller devices; and light switch covers and posters. In order to determine whether there is a measurable impact on energy consumption, energy meter readings are being taken from the buildings through December. The readings collected from both buildings will be compared and examined for the duration of the study.

According to University Recycling Coordinator Amy Kadrie, Anderson and Wilder were chosen because the two buildings are “very similar to one another as a test and control.” Anderson and Wilder were built around the same time, are similar in size and layout, and have a population of mostly upperclassmen. “We also thought it would be beneficial to create a little ‘green buzz’ in the Jackson Court area, especially with the new addition of O’Brien Hall (expected to be LEED Gold),” Kadrie said.

The study originally began on RIT’s own campus, in their Global Village dormitory buildings, but was expanded to the University. RIT assistant professor Dr. Kelly Martin, who runs the experiment, says that because they hope to make this information useful to other universities, testing the visuals at various campuses was best. “We might find [that] what works at one university for some reason doesn’t seem to have the same impact on another,” Martin added.



The study was born from an RIT visual communication class project funded through an Innovation in Graduate Education award offered at RIT. Now that the course has ended, RIT’s Director of Sustainability Enid Cardinal, Dr. Martin, and several other students will continue to analyze the energy readings and then apply for future grants to extend the pilot study, according to Martin.

“We will definitely be sharing the results of the study... We already have some interesting qualitative feedback from students about their reactions to the signage,” Martin said. “I hope to have the energy data analyzed sometime in early January.”

To read more, visit [RIT’s “Visual Communication and Sustainability” page](#). For any comments or questions, please contact [Kelly Martin](#).



HIGHLIGHTS

Take Part in Launching a Campus Strategic Summit

The New Economics Institute seeks proposals from students for a “strategic summit on the transition to a just and sustainable economy.” The Institute is looking for applications that capture the vision of a “New Economy,” a society that prioritizes people

and the planet over profits. If selected, the Institute will award a grant of \$5,000 as well as offer help in making the proposal a reality with trainings and provide access to the Institute’s networks and on-going consultation. “The hope is that this will catalyze a nationwide movement among college students and create a powerful network of student leaders



committed to building the New Economy,” according to the Institute. For students interested in pursuing this initiative further, please contact [Lyle Rubin](#), a current Ph.D. student in the History department at the University. December 8 is the deadline to submit the proposal. Visit [Vision for the Campus Network](#) for more information.

CONTACTS & RESOURCES:

[Sustainability @ the University of Rochester](#)

Facilities
[The Green Dandelion](#)

Dining Services
[Team Green](#)

SA Student Sustainability Coordinator
[Siobhan McLaughlin](#)

The Environmental Sustainability UCIS
[Karen Berger](#)
[Daniel Reichman](#)

Council on Sustainability
[Karen Berger](#)
[Cam Schauf](#)

Sustainability within the community:
[Center for Environmental Information](#)
[EnvironmentRochester.com](#)

E&E Publishing, LLC
Environment & Energy Publishing (E&E) is the leading source for comprehensive, daily coverage of environmental and energy policy and markets.

Scholarship Opportunity for Energy and Environment Master’s Program

For students who will enroll in the master’s program at the University for the 2013-2014 year, the IBERDROLA Foundation is offering scholarships for fields in energy and the

environment. The program will provide scholarships in the following areas: renewable and sustainable energy; environment and biodiversity; clean combustion; energy efficiency and storage; electrical vehicles; and smart distribution networks. The University encourages students specializing in alternative energy, chemical



IBERDROLA

engineering, material sciences and electrical engineering to apply prior to the Feb. 15 deadline. The selection process will evaluate academic qualifications, CV, and reference letters, with special consideration given to applications that submit a definitive certificate of acceptance for the fall term. Visit [the Institute’s site](#) to learn more.

Save the Date: Sustainable Community Development Lecture

On December 10, Dr. David Orr will give a presentation on the role universities can play in community development. The talk will address issues pertaining to how higher education institutions can influence local community

development, sustainability, and economies. The lecture, which is free and open to the public, will be held from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at 10 Clair St., Albright Auditorium of Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, NY. Orr is a professor of environmental studies at Oberlin College and the author of six books, including “Ecological Literacy.” His career as a scholar and entrepreneur spans fields such

as environment and politics, environmental education, ecological design, and climate change. Orr organized the first ever conference on the effects of impending climate change on the banking industry. He was also the driving force behind building Oberlin’s \$7 million Environmental Studies Center, considered a model of green architecture in the United States. To read more about the talk, visit [Hobart and William Smith Colleges](#).

SUSTAINABILITY:

Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

[United Nations](#)



UNIVERSITY of
ROCHESTER

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