



NJHEPS

June 2007

From the Executive Director:

May and June are always a busy time of year for colleges and universities, with end of semesters, graduations, and the joys of preparing next year's budgets, since most schools fiscal year ends on 30 June. The same holds true for NJHEPS, and we have been busy, with a lot of news to report.

First, I am glad to let our readers know that on 4 June, the New Jersey Presidents Council, the presidents of all the degree-granting higher education institutions, passed without a dissenting vote, a resolution that "... recommends that all New Jersey presidents of higher education institutions seriously consider signing the national Presidents Climate Commitment within the coming months, in light of New Jersey's long-standing commitment to combating the threat of global warming (as evidenced by the prior NJPC commitment in 2001 to reduce GHG emissions) and the stated goal of the State of New Jersey to reduce GHG emissions back to 1990 levels by 2020 and by 80% by 2050."

Going "climate-neutral" as described in the Presidents Climate Commitment (PCC) will show leadership on the part of the NJ higher education community in meeting the State GHG reduction goal mentioned in the Governor's Executive Order #54 issued earlier this year (and referenced in the resolution). Incidentally the Governor's GHG reduction goals are expected to be also codified in state law by the NJ Legislature's passing of the NJ Global Warming Response Act later this week.

NJHEPS' commends the NJ President Council for this national leadership action, and stands ready to support any school in NJ that needs help in preparing and implementing a campus climate neutrality plan. For example, NJHEPS has already held our first NJHEPS Climate Change Committee workshop on 12 June at Rutgers in New Brunswick, to provide support and answer technical questions on how to actually conduct a campus GHG emissions inventory, prepare a

campus climate neutrality plan within the 2-year timeframe suggested by the PCC, and proceed to reduce GHG emissions and purchase offsets for those emissions we can not eliminate. Over 300 schools across the nation have signed on to this commitment, including Rowan University, Rider University, William Paterson University and TCNJ. Some schools have already announced their goal for when they will become climate neutral (although that is not required to be done until an institution's climate neutrality plan is completed), including NYU (2050), Middlebury (2015) and the College of the Atlantic (2007). We expect to hold several more meetings/workshops of the NJHEPS Climate Committee over the coming year to meet the informational needs of our members, and would like to put together an NJHEPS Climate Change Planning Guidance Document for member schools by the end of the year, similar to the High Performance Sustainable Building Guidelines issued by NJHEPS.

Speaking of the NJHEPS Sustainable Building Guidelines, we held a great workshop on 14 June at NJIT in Newark to unveil the latest update of these Guidelines. Much of the work on this update was led by Bill Bobenhausen, President of the Sustainable Design Collaborative and co-chair of the NJHEPS Green Design Committee, along with a lot of volunteer effort by members of the Green Design Team, including Mike Korntas at Rutgers, Nick Fabbroni at UMDNJ, Ken Olsen of Ocean County and a host of other NJHEPS member school personnel, not to mention NJHEPS' own Terra Meierdierck. We look forward to updating these Guidelines on a regular basis, especially since sustainable and green design is changing so rapidly.

NJHEPS has also been active in representing our members in forums such as the recent NJDEP GHG Pan Stakeholder meeting, the NJ Sustainable State Institute Energy Plan meeting, the Eastern Academy of Management conference on Sustainability (where I moderated a panel on "Toward Greener Campuses"), and

a number of regional events such as the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) stakeholder meeting in NYC and the Environmental Auditing Roundtable meeting in Philadelphia. We also continue to participate in organizations such as the NJ Corporation for Advanced Technologies (which uses technical experts from NJ universities to verify the performance claims of energy and environmental technologies), the Institute for Sustainable enterprise at FDU, the Northeast Campus Sustainability Consortium (NECSC), and the national Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE).

I should also mention two dates that you should perhaps reserve for attending interesting events that are coming up;

- 1) 10-12 July for the Environmental Leadership Program's "Emerging Leaders- Emerging Solutions- Taking Action on Climate Change & Global Warming" conference being held at NJIT from 10 to 12 July (see www.elpnet.org/climate_change/conference.php for more information) and of which NJHEPS is a sponsor, and
- 2) the Northeast Campus Sustainability Consortium's "Envisioning the Sustainable Campus in 2020: Working Together to Get There" conference on 8-9 October at Bowdoin College in Maine (more information will be posted at www.bowdoin.edu/sustainablebowdoin as it becomes available).

There is plenty of other exciting things going on in the sustainability world that affect college and universities, and we plan to keep you informed with our next mid-summer edition of our NJHEPS newsletter. I hope it will make good beach-reading, and enjoy your summer and vacations!

John Cusack

Natural Gas-Powered Refuse Truck Demo

PSE&G's Utility Marketing Services is partnering with California-based refueling station and natural gas fuel provider Clean Energy, and Hallahan Truck Sales (Long Island, NY) to provide a natural gas-powered refuse truck demonstration for Interstate Waste Services of Jersey City.



Hallahan is providing an Autocar Xpeditor® WXLL compressed natural gas-powered (CNG) refuse truck that is being used by Interstate in the Clifton area. CNG is being made available locally at PSE&G's Clifton CNG station.

With thousands of Class 8 diesel-guzzling refuse trucks operating in New Jersey, natural gas could provide significant environmental benefits for our state. Natural gas-powered refuse trucks are cleaner, quieter, and reduce dependence on foreign oil. Best of all, their use could save municipal, county, and private refuse fleets money on fuel cost.

Public and private heavy-duty fleet owners/operators are under ever-increasing pressure to comply with state and federal diesel emission reduction programs. To learn more, contact Dick Duffy (973)430-7664, E-mail: Richard.Duffy@pseg.com

DOE Proposes Regulations for Loan Guarantee Program



DOE issued proposed rules last week for its Loan Guarantee program, which will help spur investment in projects that employ new, clean energy technologies. By providing the full faith and credit of the U.S. government, loan guarantees will enable DOE to share some of the financial risks of projects that employ new technologies and that avoid, reduce, or sequester air pollutants and greenhouse gases. Projects must employ new or significantly improved technologies as compared to commercial technologies in service in the United States at the time the loan guarantee agreement is executed. Under the Fiscal Year (FY) 2007 Continuing Resolution, Congress provided DOE with authority to issue guarantees for up to \$4 billion in loans.

DOE seeks a broad portfolio of large and small projects from a wide variety of technologies. DOE requested guarantees for up to \$9 billion in loans in its FY 2008 budget request, including \$4 billion in loans for projects that promote biofuels and clean transportation fuels and \$1 billion in loans for projects using new technologies for electric transmission facilities or renewable power generation systems. Projects seeking loan guarantees will undergo the disciplined and rigorous reviews necessary to take proper account of the potential risks of a project. Ultimately, the issuance of the loan guarantees will depend on the merits and benefits of particular project proposals and their compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements. The DOE's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NOPR) will be open to public comment for 45 days once it is published in the Federal Register. <http://www.lgprogram.energy.gov/>

Events

Geothermal Training By Richard Stockton College Geothermal Project



June 25, 2007 , Morristown, NJ

Registration begins at 8:00 AM with a Continental Breakfast
Geothermal Technology II from 8:30 AM until 12:30 PM

GEOHERMAL TECHNOLOGY II: FOR DESIGN PROFESSIONALS

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will review Geoechange Technology giving overviews of multiple case studies. Project design details include: Heat/Gain Loss Data; Test Bore & Thermal Conductivity Test; Borehole Layout; Software Applications; Ventilation Issues. Also included are computer design software updates and life cycle costs will be investigated in detail. The attendee will become familiar with GHP Technology as it relates to LEED Certified buildings. (Suggested Prerequisite: Some knowledge of Geothermal Technology is assumed. Quick overview will be given.



INSTRUCTORS: Lynn Stiles, Ph.D. Richard Stockton College of New Jersey
Howard Alderson, P.E. Alderson Engineering, Inc.

For more information contact: diane.hulse-hiller@stockton.edu or 609 652-4677



Please register at: <https://intraweb.stockton.edu:443/eyos/page.cfm?siteID=82&pageID=31&action=geomain>

Restoration of the Hudson-Raritan Estuary: What Do We Value and How Do We "Value" It

Jun 26, 2007 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM, NYAS, 7 World Trade Center, 250 Greenwich St. 40th floor, NYC

Speakers: Mark Bain, Cornell University; Brad Sewell, Natural Resources Defense Council; Marta Alicia Panero, The New York Academy of Sciences

Achieving restoration in the Hudson-Raritan Estuary depends on a vision for improving the environment for aquatic life and increasing benefits to people. However approaches to valuing these benefits poses difficulties including: defining ecosystem targets, setting performance metrics within a rubric of legal compliance, and utilizing cost-benefit analysis as the primary assessment criteria.

This symposium is part of the United States Society for Ecological Economics (USSEE) NYC Conference Creating Sustainability within our Midst: Challenge for the 21st Century, which will be held from June 23 to June 27. Further information about this conference is available at the USSEE website.

<http://www.nyas.org/events/eventDetail.asp?eventID=9363&date=6/26/2007%206:30:00%20PM>

Happenings

Emerging Leaders, Emerging Solutions: Taking Action on Climate Change and Global Warming

July 10 - 12, 2007, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Newark

Global warming is the defining issue of the 21st century, yet we are just beginning to experience and understand the full breadth of the challenge. We know that global climate change will require each of us to act; what to do is the question. ELP invites you to join us in Newark, New Jersey on July 10-12 as we start a national dialogue to find an answer. Despite the lack of a national plan for action, leaders in state and local governments, businesses, universities, and grassroots organizations have begun to establish model climate policies and are encouraging everyday citizens to take action in increasingly effective ways. Collectively, these efforts represent a blueprint for changing the way that decision makers and the general public respond to the threat of global warming.

Emerging Leaders, Emerging Solutions will highlight these emerging strategies, leaders and ideas. Speakers and panelists will share their models for success, and participants will discuss ways to create change and address the problem from their spheres of influence. Particular attention will be paid to issues such as: the appropriate balance of market-based and regulatory approaches to climate policy, issues of equity and justice in the formulation of climate policies, and the role of a wide range of solutions and policies from energy consumption and emissions reductions to alternative energy development, transportation and land use planning. Emerging Leaders, Emerging Solutions will be co-hosted by the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

http://www.elpnet.org/climate_change/conference.php

Green Design Guidelines Now Available

NJHEPS newly renewed Green Design Guidelines are now available for order. To request a copy please contact Terra Meierdierck at tmeierdierck@njheps.org or 973.642.7848



Want to share progress towards sustainability on your campus? Please send news items to Terra Meierdierck (tmeierdierck@njheps.org) for inclusion in our newsletter.

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NJHEPS STAFF

John L. Cusack, Executive
Director
Terra Meierdierck, Research
Analyst
Sean Millington, Intern
Swapnil Patil, Webmaster

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New Jersey Higher Education
Partnership for Sustainability
c/o NJIT - YCEES
138 Warren Street
Newark, NJ 07102
p: 973.642.4881
f: 973.642.7170
www.njheps.org