



# NJHEPS

# May 2008

*From the Executive Director:*

As our colleges and universities approach the end of their spring semesters and graduation, it is important to reflect on the importance of the students in making our world (and our higher education institutions) a more sustainable place. Very often, students can be a driving force to help us see that we are not as sustainable as we should be, and make their voices heard, such as in the recent vote by the Student Senate at Stevens Institute of Technology asking their President to sign the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment (ACUPCC), or the many student-run events during Earth Week last month.

However, we have a responsibility to make sure each and every student that passes through our doors comes out with an understanding of how sustainability issues (i.e., environmental, social and economic issues) interact and affect their lives and what they can do personally to make society a better place and more sustainable. If they do not learn this information about the importance of sustainability during their educational career, they will be at a major disadvantage in their future business, government, academic or family careers, and we will have failed them.

Some New Jersey campuses are starting to do this by “greening” their curriculum, and others are making significant efforts to practice what they preach in their campus operations and purchasing policies. Others are reaching out to their local community, including the business community as well as municipalities, to help them understand how aiming for sustainability can make themselves a more efficient, cost-effective and solvent entity or society. Some are starting to use their endowments to both earn needed income AND encourage more sustainable business practices through their informed proxy voting and investment decisions. Some are encouraging their students to become active in the

political process and ask candidates for office how they will make sound and sustainable decisions if elected. 14 New Jersey colleges & universities are taking a leadership role in trying to solve the major societal crisis of the 21st century, climate change, by signing on to the ACUPCC’s goal of becoming a “climate-neutral” campus, and others are making significant investment commitments to reduce their GHG emissions over the coming years. However, I can’t say I know of any schools in New Jersey that are doing all of these things, so we still have some work to do! Of course, that is why NJHEPS exists, and we are always glad to help you on your journey towards sustainability.

As part of that effort, NJHEPS recently held our Spring Green Design Workshop at Rutgers’ Cook College Campus Center on May 2nd. We had a great crowd, and fantastic presentations on a variety of subjects related to Green Design and sustainability. One of my favorite presentations was how Rutgers University has saved lots of paper (and trees!) and money by moving their design and construction drawings review process to an entirely electronic process, which means that drawing reviews are done faster and documented more completely, and both Rutgers and potential (and winning) bidders save a great deal of money by avoiding printing hundreds (and sometimes thousands) of drawings that then became rapidly obsolete during the design, procurement and construction process. Many thanks to Mike Kornitas and the folks at Rutgers whom helped with the arrangements for this event.

At the end of this month on 30 May, NJHEPS will host our 4th Climate Change Management workshop at UMDNJ’s campus in Piscataway. Managing higher education’s climate change risks and taking advantage of energy efficient opportunities to address this issue in our facilities, operations and

curricula, are critical in a state with a mandatory goal of reducing GHG emissions by over 20% by 2020, and 80% by 2050. Details of this workshop are listed elsewhere in this Newsletter, but I am particularly looking forward to hearing about how to establish a baseline for our GHG emissions and the many practical solutions we can use to implement GHG reductions in a cost-effective and efficient manner, in which will both save us money and protect society and the planet from the risks of human-induced climate change.

Incidentally, I would like to point out that everyone involved in climate issues in higher education should review the recently issued NJBPU draft New Jersey Energy Plan ([www.nj.gov/emp/](http://www.nj.gov/emp/)), and the forthcoming NJ GHG Reduction Recommended Sector Action report (due in June 2008 from NJDEP), and submit comments on them over the coming months.

It also would be EXTREMELY useful for all of you to call, write and/or email your State senate and assembly representatives to press them about the critical need to better support higher education in New Jersey at the State level, and not to cut the portions budgets related to higher education. These are not expenses or costs, but rather an important investment in New Jersey’s future!

I realize you may not read this until your final exams are over, grades are calculated and distributed, and graduation occurs, (and budgets adjusted) but NJHEPS will continue to be active all summer, so please take time to enjoy the summer and relax a little before facing our myriad sustainability challenges again in the fall.

## *The Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards*

Ocean County College, Rowan University, Princeton University and Rutgers University – all known for their commitment to higher education in New Jersey, but did you know they have all been recognized for the outstanding environmental leadership? These four NJHEPS members are all among past winners of the state's premier environmental awards program administered by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection, and co-sponsored by the NJ Corporation for Advanced Technology (NJCAT) – The Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards.

This program was designed to recognize outstanding environmental performance, programs and projects within our state; and since the program's inception eight years ago, New Jersey's colleges and universities have received six awards. Most recently, in November of 2007 Rowan University received an award for their efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through wind energy purchases and their participation in the American College President's Climate Change Challenge. Also in 2007, Rutgers University was recognized for the Agricultural Experiment Station's Environmental Stewardship Program which provides training and experiential learning for individuals involved in community-based environmental problem solving and program development.

Prior winners also include:

- Dr. Christopher Obropta of Rutgers University was recognized in the Environmental Leadership category in 2003 for his work in the area of water resource protection.
- The Trustees of Princeton University were recognized in 2005 for their land conservation and historic preservation efforts.
- Dr. Kevin Lyons of Rutgers University received an environmental leadership award for his efforts related to "green purchasing" at the university.

In each case we celebrate the program or individual achievement but equally important is sharing information about these winning programs/projects so they can be replicated throughout the state.

The GEEA web page located at <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/eeawards> features information about these and other recipients of the GEE Awards.

It is no surprise that among the most prominent environmental issues facing New Jersey and the rest of the world is climate change and sustainability. We saw the prominence of this issue reflected in the applications received for the 2007 awards and expect that many of the application for 2008 will continue to reflect this important issue as well as other environmental priorities for our state.

DEP Commissioner Lisa P. Jackson has discussed these priorities for her and her agency for the coming two years. While climate change is high on the list, other issues such as: increasing our recycling rates, better supporting sustainable growth and development, protecting our natural resources and conserving and protecting our critical water supply are equally high on the list. Clearly, these are all issues our colleges and universities have been working on, and as we can see from the past winners, have excelled at.

A new feature of the GEE program this coming year is the inclusion of the Clean Water NJ program categories. This award program, established in 2007, is intended to recognize excellence among those permitted under the NJ Municipal Stormwater Regulation Program. Our public colleges and universities are eligible for these awards as well. In fact last year Rutgers University was the winner in the "public complex" category. For more information about this program please visit [www.cleanwaternj.org](http://www.cleanwaternj.org)

NJCAT as co sponsor of the event sees the GEEA as furthering its mission to promote the development and expansion of sound environmental and energy technology in the state. As an organization, NJCAT represents a unique synthesis of the professional and academic worlds dedicated to applied research for the solution of pressing, real-world environmental problems.

Key players in this work are the State's premier research universities. The participation of Rutgers University, Stevens Institute of Technology, and NJIT on the Board of Directors has helped NJCAT to be recognized as a leader in the development, evaluation, and ultimately implementation of new environmental technologies.

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## Events

### *Upcoming Geothermal Training*

June 9th, 2008: Registration begins at 8:30 AM with a Continental Breakfast  
Geothermal Technology II from 9:00 AM until 1:00 PM  
Rutgers Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, New Brunswick, NJ  
Presented by Richard Stockton College Geothermal Project

Geothermal Technology II: For Design Professionals  
An additional module with individual hands-on: use of design software (GHLEPro) for all participants!  
AND relationship of GHP systems to LEED certified buildings.

Course Description: This course will review Geoexchange 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.

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

Professional Development Hours (4.0 PDH's) for NYS licensed Professional Engineers  
Course # PS 002296 by: The Practicing Institute of Engineers, Inc. (PIE) under NYS

For more information contact: [diane.hulse-hiller@stockton.edu](mailto:diane.hulse-hiller@stockton.edu) or 609 652-4677  
<http://intraweb.stockton.edu/eyos/page.cfm?siteID=82&pageID=30>

### *LEED NC Technical Review Workshop*

May 16, 2008, 8:30 am – 5:00 pm  
Rutgers Center for Green Building, 33 Livingston Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901  
It is our first of 2008, so we anticipate it will sell out early. Are you ready to enter the rapidly growing green building market? Attend the LEED® for New Construction and Major Renovations Technical Review Workshop presented by the U.S. Green Building Council. Gain the knowledge needed to maximize commercial building performance, achieve LEED certification and take the LEED Professional Accreditation Exam. [www.usgbc.org/Workshops/Workshoplister.aspx](http://www.usgbc.org/Workshops/Workshoplister.aspx)

### *Preconstruction Services: The Role of the Owner, Designers and CM in Achieving LEED Certification - A Case Study*

May 12, 2008, 6pm - 9 pm  
Preconstruction Services:  
Maggiano's Little Italy, Hackensack, NJ  
Second of what will be three Spring 2008 North Branch Dinner Meetings. Open to all USGBC Members (and guests) but not to exceed capacity of 100. Meeting topic of discussion shall be "Preconstruction Services - The Role of the Owner, Designer and CM in Achieving LEED Certification Targets; A Case Study" and will be presented by Chair of the North Branch, Steven Arsht of Skanska USA. For Registration: [www.acteva.com/booking.cfm?bevaID=159180](http://www.acteva.com/booking.cfm?bevaID=159180)

### *North Jersey Greendrinks*

Thursday, May 29th: 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. South Park Bar & Grill, 30 South Park Street, Montclair

Every month, environmentally conscious people, from a variety of different backgrounds, meet up for a drink and to network with other like-minded people in a casual and informal setting. It's a great chance to relax, meet new people, develop new ideas, find employment, make friends, catch up with old business contacts, develop new business contacts, and talk about environmental issues. Cost: Free !!!

For more info. email Jim at: [green@northjerseygreendrinks.com](mailto:green@northjerseygreendrinks.com) or visit [www.northjerseygreendrinks.com](http://www.northjerseygreendrinks.com)

# Happenings

## Climate Change Management Workshop

May 30th, 9 am to 2 pm  
UMDNJ Piscataway Campus  
Kessler Building, West 1

The Agenda is as follows:

- 9:00 to 9:30 Welcome from UMDNJ's Director of Construction, Nick Fabbroni & NJHEPS Executive Director, John Cusack
- 9:30 to 10:00 Representative from NJDEP: Update on NJ GHG Emissions Reduction Plan
- 10:00 to 10:30 Chris Connolly, Nalco: Air Handler Optimization, The Potential Impact on Energy Reduction
- 10:30 to 11:30 Lisa Westerfield, Structure tone: Green Design Aspects of GHG Reduction
- 11:00 to 11:30 Fred Link, PSEG: PSEG's Solar Loan Program  
11:30 to 12:30 Lunch
- 12:30 to 1:00 – Ned Reynolds, Dawn Solar: Using Solar Thermal Energy to Reduce GHG Emissions
- 1:00 to 1:30 – Erin Cooper, Amenta / Emma Architects: Performing a Campus Sustainability Audit
- 1:30 to 2:00 Cheryl Miller, Vice President, Sightlines: The Sightlines Higher Education Environmental Stewardship Pilot Database Project

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!

Please register via Acteva:

<http://www.acteva.com/booking.cfm?bevaaid=159472>

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NJCAT welcomes the involvement of all the States higher education organizations committed to generating sound scientific basis towards the creation of innovative technologies. As a partner to the GEEA NJCAT believes this awards program not only honors excellence but promotes the proliferation of great environmental practices.

We look forward to the 2008 Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards Program. Applications are now available on the web site listed above. For additional information about the program please feel free to contact:

Marybeth Brenner, NJDEP  
(609) 292-2885

Rhea Brekke, NJCAT  
(609) 499-3600

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

NJHEPS GRATEFULLY  
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