



# NJHEPS

# November 2007

*From the Executive Director:*

Hard to believe it is almost the end of November and that means 2007 is almost over. A lot has happened in the field of Sustainability over the past 11 months, but let me concentrate on just the past few weeks.

First, recent NJHEPS workshops have been very successful, including our Sustainable Education workshop in Princeton on 2 November, the Climate Change workshop on 17 October at NJIT, and the Green Design workshop on 24 October at Georgian Court. We also held our annual NJHEPS Steering Committee meeting on 2 November after the Sustainable Education Workshop. Many thanks to the people that made these events happen, and especially to the Princeton Environmental Institute, which co-sponsored the Sustainable Education meeting, and our host schools at Princeton, NJIT and Georgian Court for letting us use their facilities.

The Sustainable Education workshop entitled "Teaching Resources and Campus Action for Climate Change" featured great presentations by the world-class experts Dr. Stephen Pacala, Co-Director of the Carbon Mitigation Initiative at Princeton, and Dr. Roberta Hotinski, of the Princeton Environmental Institute on climate change solutions. We also had an update from the NJHEPS/NSF Webquest Sustainability Seminar team, led by Dr. Angela Cristini of Ramapo and Dr. Reggie Luke of Middlesex, including the newest seminar they have developed. We also heard from about student climate change action programs, the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment, and the NJ Global Warming Response Act as examples of programs that colleges are starting to respond to in a positive way (we now have 8 ACUPCC signatories in New Jersey (Rowan, Rider, TCNJ, William Paterson, Richard Stockton, County College of Morris, Georgian Court and St. Peter's). During a working lunch, we had three concurrent programs on subjects such as Environmental Justice, Urban Ecology, and Student Actions, followed by a great panel where Shana Weber of Princeton, Don Lauria of UMDNJ and John Imperatore of Rowan gave the audience insights on how they have been leading sustainability efforts on their campuses.

The NJHEPS Steering Committee meeting held afterwards was also a success, with twice as many attendees as the

last Steering Committee meeting, and many good comments and suggestions. This meeting also served as the launch of the first NJHEPS Annual Progress Report (copies available from NJHEPS in paper or electronic form). We also passed a by-laws change that allows the chairs of the current standing NJHEPS committees (Sustainable Education, Green Design, Energy, Climate Change, Sustainable Purchasing) to serve as members of the NJHEPS Executive Committee.

Similarly, the NJHEPS Climate Change meeting at NJIT attracted a good crowd, and we heard from a number of companies that are integrating sustainability and climate change issues into the products they sell to colleges and universities, highlighting the point that climate change will not be solved just by renewable energy or green buildings, but we also have a need for schools to purchase low carbon footprint products and services. We had an update on the progress of the State Energy Plan from Joe Sullivan of BPU, and heard Nick Fabroni, the new head of UMDNJ's sustainability committee, comment about the importance of both green buildings and the green equipment we should be putting inside of those buildings, and UMDNJ's progress on both fronts.

At the Green Design Workshop, the first workshop NJHEPS has held on Georgian Court's beautiful campus, we learned from Andrew Christ, AVP of Facilities, that Georgian Court's President Jeffries had just signed onto the ACUPCC a few days earlier, and Andrew then gave an excellent presentation on how Georgian Court was integrating green design into their campus master plan, including their new athletic and wellness center. We also had sessions on campus stormwater management by Mary Paist of Princeton Hydro, and on sustainable campus master planning by Jason Kliwinski of the Spiegle Group.

Besides NJHEPS' extensive activities within the state, I also had the opportunity to represent NJHEPS at the NorthEast Campus Sustainability Consortium (NECSC) annual meeting held at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine, and at the Clean Air-Cool Planet bi-annual climate change conference in Manchester, New Hampshire. The NECSC meeting was especially interesting, since next year's annual meeting will be hosted by Princeton University, with co-sponsorship from NJHEPS. Terra

and I have already had our first planning meeting with Shana Weber and her sustainability team at Princeton, and expect we will have many more. At the Manchester event, Clean Air-Cool Planet reiterated their commitment to help NJ schools with their greenhouse gas inventories, using their simple campus GHG emissions calculator, available on their website, and I also got to hear several presidential candidates (from both parties) state their commitment to doing something about climate change, which is good news for America.

Another recent development that you should be aware of is the growth of sustainability rating systems for higher education. The second edition of the "College Sustainability Scorecard" was issued in late October by the Sustainable Endowments Institute. It now covers the 200 colleges that have the largest endowments (representing about \$343b in assets, or 80+% of all college endowment assets!). They rate schools based upon 39 sustainability factors in 8 areas, and give grades from A to F for each category and then averaged the grades over the 8 categories. Only 6 schools were rated "A" overall. Worth taking a look at, as some day they may rate your school! The second new rating system is the STARS (Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System) being developed by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). This system looks at 113 indicators grouped in 5 sectors, and gives some factors more weight than others. This system can be used for self-assessment (good news) and/or for comparison with other schools (good news if you are doing it, maybe bad news if someone else is doing it). It is still in development, so you might want to download the latest draft (v0.4) from the [www.aashe.org](http://www.aashe.org) website and make comments and suggestions for improvements. I am on the AASHE Metrics committee trying to provide oversight to this process, so if you send your thoughts to AASHE, please copy me.

So we hoped you enjoyed your Thanksgiving meal, and traveled safely and sustainably over the holiday weekend.

## *New Jersey SWEP Scholarship Program*

The New Jersey Chapter of SWEP is planning to continue the scholarship program this year. The purpose of the scholarship program is to encourage women to pursue careers in the environmental industry; to mentor students with environmentally related majors; and provide students connections to SWEP's membership for future internships/careers in the environmental industry.

This year we hope to grant scholarship money to two women, one undergraduate student and one graduate student, who are pursuing studies related to the environment with an intended commitment to pursue a career in the environmental field. The SWEP New Jersey Chapter will determine the amount of the scholarship based on fundraising activities but our goal is two \$1,000.00 scholarships. The scholarships will be given directly to the students in one lump sum. Also included with the award will be a free membership to the SWEP New Jersey Chapter.

Both applicants must be female; a United States citizen or hold permanent resident status. The undergraduate student must be entering her junior year in the Fall of 2008 or have completed 60 credit hours as of August 2008. The graduate student must either start or continue graduate or law study in the Fall of 2008. A minimum GPA of 3.3 (scale of 4.0) or its equivalent and a declared major in a field related to the environment are also required.

Applications must be received by May 16, 2008. The NJ SWEP Scholarship Committee plans to award the scholarships by June 30, 2008. Immediate family member of SWEP Board of Directors, SWEP Scholarship Selection Committee members or New Jersey Chapter members are not eligible to apply. SWEP New Jersey Chapter members with student status may apply.

Applications are available at [www.swep.com](http://www.swep.com). For questions or additional information contact Elizabeth Conroy at [Econroy@NJSDA.gov](mailto:Econroy@NJSDA.gov) or 609-777-1854 (please include "NJSWEP Scholarship" in the subject line of email to receive a reply).

## *Chill Out: Campus Solutions to Global Warming*

Are you looking for the best campus-based projects aimed at curbing carbon emissions. Send us your 500-word essay or three-minute video describing your project and you'll have a chance to win grant money, prizes, a feature in our national Chill Out broadcast and national publicity (not to mention a lot of good karma).

To enter the contest and find official rules, visit <http://www.campuschillout.org/> Deadline November 30

## *NWF's Campus Ecology Program: Now Accepting Fellowship Proposals*

NWF is currently accepting proposals for the 2008 class of Campus Ecology Fellows. We are looking for undergraduate and graduate students committed to reducing emissions on their campus. Projects can range from energy conservation competitions to greenhouse gas inventories - be creative! Fellowship grants will be awarded up to \$2,000. For more information visit: [Fellowships](http://www.nwf.org) or email [campus@nwf.org](mailto:campus@nwf.org).

# Events

## *Where Green Meets Green*



Three InterConnected Events all Hosted at Ramapo College of New Jersey

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1. The Conference: A Climate for Change  
November 30, 2007, 8:45 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Because We Can No Longer Afford NOT to be GREEN

Morning Keynote Events:

- \* Governor Jon Corzine (invited) on climate leadership
- \* Edward Mazria of Architecture 2030 on reshaping the Built Environment

Afternoon Keynote Event:

- \* President Jeanne Fox of the NJ Board of Public Utilities (invited) on Unpacking and Implementing New Jersey's Far Reaching Climate and Energy Policies with a distinguished response panel

Afternoon Participatory Event:

- \* Making the Green Transformation Work

Evening Keynote Event:

- \* Bill McKibben, award-winning author and Step-It-Up activist on reshaping society
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2. The Green Expo and Green Holiday Boutique  
Nov. 30, 4:30 - 7:30 p.m., Sat. Dec. 1, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Free to public: The Green Expo will be a public expo of green services and products combined with short presentations and demonstrations on a variety of topics aimed to inform the public as green consumers. Leading renewable energy, green building and green service vendors will showcase their services and goods. The Green Holiday Boutique will feature sustainable gifts.

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3. LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Training Workshops  
November 30- December 1, 2007

There are many ways to participate:

- \* Be an Exhibitor, \* Advertise in our Program Guide, \* Sell at the Green Holiday Boutique, \* Provide Sustainable Food, \* Network for Grass Roots Initiatives, \* Be a Sponsor, \* Be a Donor

For more information log on to their Web site [www.ramapo.edu/news/specialevents/green/](http://www.ramapo.edu/news/specialevents/green/)

## *LEED for Homes Technical Review*

November 30, 2007 Mahwah, NJ

This full-day training session for builders, designers, providers, raters, and consultants will provide key concepts needed for successful participation in the LEED for Homes initiative. This workshop includes information on green design and construction practices, certification and verification procedures, benefits and costs of LEED Homes, and lessons learned in completed projects. Who should attend? Industry professionals seeking to increase their understanding of the LEED for Homes Rating System and green building strategies, benefits and resources such as Builders, Designers, Consultants. To register visit: [www.usgbc.org/workshops/registerd](http://www.usgbc.org/workshops/registerd)

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 ACKNOWLEDGES THE SUPPORT OF:

NJHEPS Corporate Sponsors; Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation; New Jersey Board of Public Utilities; New Jersey Clean Energy Program; ATT Foundation; and NJHEPS 40+ Member Institutions

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**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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Daniel Watts, Immediate Past President  
Clint Andrews, Vice-President and Treasurer  
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# Happenings

## NJHEPS Fall Energy Workshop

November 28th; 9 am - 2 pm Campbell Library, Rowan University

- 9:00 – 9:15 Welcome from Rowan University and NJHEPS Executive Director, John Cusack
- 9:15 – 9:30 Update from The NJHEPS Energy Technical Team from the Chairman, Paul Meierdierck
- 9:30 – 10:00 Water Treatment from a Consultant Standpoint, Jim Walker
- 10:00 – 10:30 Chemical Free Water Treatment Technology: Charlie Startz, Stillwell-Hansen
- 10:30 – 11:00 Chem – Aqua: Rick Ciullo, Account Executive
- 11:00 – 11:30 Green Power Purchasing Considerations: Constellation New-Energy, Sean Metivier
- 11:30 – 12:00 Geothermal Heat Pumps & Energy Efficiency: Mike Fischetti, Corporate Principal, Concord Engineering
- 12:00 – 12:30 Lunch and Networking
- 12:30 – 1:00 New Age Solar Technology: Jerry Sorgento
- 1:00 – 1:45 Energy Management from the Computer Industry at Rowan University & Rowan's Energy Masterplan
- 1:45 – 2:00 Tour of Rowan's Cogeneration Plant

Register now <http://acteva.com/booking.cfm?binid=1&bevaID=145644>

## *Green Day @ NJIT @ "An Inconvenient Truth"*

Wednesday, November 28th, 10am - 6pm, Campus Center, NJIT

In addition to the Green Fair and Green Activities listed below, there will also be a showing of "An Inconvenient Truth: A Global Warming" at 2:30pm in Ballroom A and "An Update with Former Vice President Al Gore" at 4:00pm.

Learn Your Carbon Footprint - Calculate your CO2 emissions and learn how to reduce them!, E-Write Your State Representative — Ask for Climate Change Legislation., NJ Clean Power Choice Program - Sign-up for Clean Energy today!, Change a Light Campaign - Free CFL bulb to the first 200 people who pledge to buy 4 more!, SAE Formula Hybrid Vehicle Display, Little Green Monster Contest Voting & Free Raffle, Recycling Electronics, Bottles & Printer Cartridges, Green Fair, Organic Universe - Products and info about Organic, Composting and Recycling, Morton's Marketing - Biodegradable and Recycled products, Greater Newark Conservancy - Poinsettia & Wreath sales benefit a Greener Newark!, AERC Recycling Solutions, NJ Transit

For more info, contact Donna Minnich Spuhler at [minnich@njit.edu](mailto:minnich@njit.edu)