

SFI weekly newsletter for the week of April 6, 2009
A weekly service of SFI

A web version of this newsletter will also be available at www.sfi.mtu.edu

SFI NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Reminder: Please Fill Out Commuting Survey for Green Campus Enterprise
2. IBM Smarter Planet University Jam, online April 21st to 23rd

SEMINARS

1. NASA Space Station Water Treatment System--Dr. David Hand (CEE) Dow 642, 3:00 Monday, April 13, 2009
2. Influence of Federal and State Policy on Woody Biomass Utilization Mon. April 13, 2009
3. Identification of Teleconnections and Improved Flood Risk Forecasts using Bulletin 17B
4. Ground Truthing Sustainable Development Colloquium IV: Encouraging policies and investments that value water
5. Dr. Craig Waddell (HU) to discuss violence at Global City 6:00, Tues, April 14 in Dillman 214.

FUNDING & AWARD OPPORTUNITIES

1. ERDC BAA - Environmental Risk Assessment (EL-5)
2. Innovative Technologies for Treating Hazardous Waste and Contaminated Surface & Ground Waters
3. Geospatial Environmental Database Development
4. Numerical Water Quality and Contaminant Modeling ERDC

JOBS & INTERSHIPS & Ph.D. OPPORTUNITIES

1. Climate Training Coordinator, AASHE
2. Assistant Director, Center for Sustainability, Furman U
3. Assist Prof, Geography & Env'l Studies, U Alaska Anchorage
4. Visiting Instructor, Environmental Studies, Naropa U
5. Summer Internships at National Council for Science and the Environment **due TODAY April 10, 2009**

NEW RESOURCES

1. AASHE Launches Campus Climate Action Planning Wiki
2. Campus Climate Neutrality: Yes We Can!
3. RFP: Excellence in Green Building Education Awards
4. Telkonet offers free installation Occupancy-Based Energy Management System
5. *Sustainability: The Journal of Record* seeks articles for consideration for publication in 2009

EVENTS & CONFERENCES

1. 2009 Lean and Green Summit June 8-9, 2009 ~ Savannah, GA
3. Webinar: 7 Steps to Developing a Campus Climate Action Plan April 16, 2009; 1-2:30pm ES
4. CFP: Greening of the Campus VIII: Embracing Change September 20 -23; 2009; Indianapolis
5. Greening Higher Education Conference May 4, 2009; Boston, MA
6. International Conference on Ecology and Professional Helping May 7-9, 2009; U Calgary;
7. Sustainable Energy Conference
8. Conf. on Great Lakes Res: Bridging Ecosystems & Environmental Health across Great Lakes.

Please send announcements of your publications, presentations, awards, and names of awarded proposals to Denise Heikinen at dmheikin@mtu.edu, or call (906)487-0044.

SFI NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Reminder: Please Fill Out Commuting Survey submitted by Kristine Bradof
President Glenn Mroz sent an email message to all Michigan Tech faculty, staff and students on Monday encouraging participation in a brief survey about commuting to and from campus. Thanks to those of you who have responded already. If you haven't, please do. The anonymous survey will take no more than five minutes to complete.

Members of the new Green Campus Enterprise need the survey data to finalize a greenhouse gas inventory for the University. This inventory began last year as part of the Carbon Neutral Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP) project as a means to better integrate Michigan Tech's goals of sustainability with our education and research efforts.

The survey is found at

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=PU4eEBOacndCfpkdGH9_2fGA_3d_3d .

It is also available at the SFI website www.sfi.mtu.edu/ under "headlines"

Your assistance to the University and the Green Campus Enterprise with this important project is greatly appreciated.

2. IBM Smarter Planet University Jam, online April 21st to 23rd

All faculty, staff, and students of Michigan Tech are invited to participate in a 72 hour "jam" being convened by IBM starting midnight, April 21. In the Jam, IBM will present topics in the following categories: Smarter Planet, Public Safety, Smarter Water, Smarter Cities, and Healthcare. The goal is to have a free and open exchange of ideas in a "public commons" environment. Participants in the *IBM Smarter Planet University Jam* to be held April 21-23 over a 72-hour period -- including Earth Day will:

- * Interact with other faculty and students from across the globe who are committed to this Smarter Planet challenge
- * Learn about new opportunities and best practices
- * Share ideas about the skills needed to best prepare the Smarter Planet technologists of tomorrow
- * Hear from select IBMers and other business and technology leaders, as well as peers and independent authorities

To participate, please register with your name and MTU email, and choose Michigan Technological University from the pull down menu at www.collaborationjam.com/minijam/smarterplanetuniv/registration/



Then, on April 21 beginning @ 12:00 Midnight US Eastern Time, click on the link provided after registration and start jamming. Join the 72 hour global online conversation with faculty, students, IBM business leaders and technologists, and industry partners from across the globe on how technology and business can help build a Smarter Planet in areas such as: Smart Cities, Smart Carbon & Water Management, Smart Grid, Smarter Healthcare, Skills & Education. Prompts will be provided.

SEMINARS

1. NASA Space Station Water Treatment System by Dr. David Hand, (CEE) Dow 642, 3:00 Monday, April 13, 2009

Water for drinking, food preparation, and hygiene accounts for over 90% by weight of the basic consumables (water, oxygen, and food) required for survival aboard the ISS. Support of a six person crew aboard the ISS would require transport of approximately 71,000 pounds of water per year. The technical and economic limitations of this water transport require onboard recovery and reuse of the ISS aqueous waste streams. In November, 2008 the new water processor was transported to the ISS. The use of the ISS water processor gives several Michigan Technological University Researchers a sense of mission accomplished, as they had worked with NASA Scientists and Engineers to evaluate the performance of the water processor. From 1994 through 2000, MTU has performed numerous laboratory experiments and developed mathematical models designed to predict the performance of the water processor. This presentation will discuss the difficulties in providing safe drinking water in space; provide an overview of the water processor design and operation, and the successes and failures in modeling the system performance.

2. "Influence of Federal and State Policy on Woody Biomass Utilization" Mon. April 13, 2009

MS Defense: Susan Balint, Environmental Policy
Kathy Halvorsen, Advisor Academic Offices 201 1:00 pm

3. "Identification of Teleconnections and Improved Flood Risk Forecasts using Bulletin 17B"

Tuesday, April 14, 2009
MS Defense: Ashwini Kashelkar, Environmental Engineering
Veronica Griffis, Advisor
DOW 875 3:00 pm

4. Ground Truthing Sustainable Development Colloquium IV: "Encouraging policies and investments that reflect the value of water in the developing world."

Monday, April 20, 2009
Josh Johnson and Ryan Biehl, MTU S-STEM Program
6th Floor Atrium DOW Bldg 3:00 pm

5. Dr. Craig Waddell (HU) to discuss violence at Global City 6:00, Tues, April 14 in Dillman 214.

At this meeting, Dr. Craig Waddell (Humanities) will discuss the history of violence, whether violence in media increases the likelihood of violent solutions to problems in life--including but not limited to war--and alternatives to both violent media and violent approaches to conflict resolution.
Refreshments provided thanks to the Graduate Student Council Support! Please help with Global City new green policy: "Bring your own mug!"

FUNDING & AWARD OPPORTUNITIES

To submit research proposals through the Sustainable Futures Institute, add "SFI" to the DEPT/CENTER/INSTITUTE(S) column for identifying the PI's and co-PI's. The transmittal sheet must then be signed by the SFI Director, John Sutherland, on page 3. (If John Sutherland is unavailable for signing transmittal sheets, Qiong (Jane) Zhang can also sign for SFI). Submitting proposals under SFI provides wider publicity and recognition for your research as well as a 10% return on your incentive account.

1. ERDC BAA - Environmental Risk Assessment (EL-5)

Deadline: continuous BAA

The Environmental Laboratory announces research opportunities involving environmental risk assessment. Current research on the fate and effects of environmental contaminants occurs under the general paradigm of environmental risk assessment. Specific studies fall into one or more of the following areas:

- Hazard
- Effects Assessment
- Exposure Assessment –
- Risk Characterization, Management, Communication, and Analysis
- Technology Transfer –

<http://fundingopps.cos.com/alerts/28449>

2. Innovative Technologies for Treating Hazardous Waste and Contaminated Surface and Ground Waters

Deadline: continuous

technologies for treating contaminated soils and sediments, and innovative technologies for treating contaminated surface and ground waters

<http://fundingopps.cos.com/alerts/28446>

3. Geospatial Environmental Database Development

Deadline: Continuous

techniques for developing holistic, geographically referenced environmental databases at a wide range of spatial and temporal resolutions. Holistic environmental databases integrate quantitative characterizations of the hydrosphere, biosphere, geosphere, and atmosphere.

<http://fundingopps.cos.com/alerts/28453>

4. Numerical Water Quality and Contaminant Modeling ERDC

Deadline: Continuous

development and application of water quality and contaminant fate/transport models for both surface water and the subsurface, or groundwater. <http://fundingopps.cos.com/alerts/28452>

JOBS & INTERSHIPS & Ph.D. OPPORTUNITIES

1. Climate Training Coordinator, AASHE

AASHE seeks a Climate Training Coordinator to support education and outreach activities for the American College & University Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC) and AASHE's Climate Program. This new position will be responsible for expanding training provided to institutions of higher education on all topics related to climate action planning, including greenhouse gas inventories, climate mitigation strategies, curriculum development, funding opportunities, policy developments, etc. A Bachelor's degree in an environmental or sustainability related discipline is desired, as is five years of professional experience promoting climate protection and the reduction of greenhouse gases. Review of applications will begin on April 3, 2009 and will continue until the position is filled. Anticipated starting date is May 1, 2009.

<http://www.aashe.org/highlights/jobs/aashe-seeks-applicants-climate-training-coordinator>

2. Assistant Director, Center for Sustainability, Furman U

Furman University (SC) seeks candidates for a full-time Assistant Director position in its new interdisciplinary Center for Sustainability. The individual will assist the Center for Sustainability (CFS) staff in launching, managing, and assessing programs and events. The primary responsibility of the successful candidate will be to organize CFS outreach efforts across the campus and in the community. The position will begin on July 1, 2009. A Bachelor's degree in communications, public administration, public policy or a related sustainability field is required. A Master's degree and 2-3 years of experience in a related field are preferred. Resumes will be accepted until the position is filled but priority will be given to applications received by May 4, 2009.

<http://www.furman.edu/personnel/avail.htm>

3. Assist Prof, Geography & Env'l Studies, U Alaska Anchorage

The Department of Geography and Environmental Studies at the University of Alaska Anchorage invites applications for a tenure-track Assistant Professor position in the resilience and adaptation of human-environment systems. Specific program focus areas include: 1) human use of ecosystem services on a community scale; 2) social networks and human mobility; 3) effectiveness of institutions for promoting regional resilience. Desired skills include methods of analyzing or modeling human-environment systems. The successful candidate will teach both introductory and upper division undergraduate courses in the Geography and Environmental Studies program. An awarded doctorate at the time of commencement of employment is required in a social science discipline or interdisciplinary program appropriate to the study of resilience and adaptation in human-environment systems. The position is open until filled.

<http://chronicle.com/jobs/id.php?id=0000596653-01&pg=s&cc=>

4. Visiting Instructor, Environmental Studies, Naropa U

Naropa University (CO) seeks candidates for a .66 FTE visiting faculty position for appointment to the Department of Environmental Studies. This is a one-year appointment. NU seeks scholar-teacher-practitioners with competencies in the areas of sustainability, applied leadership, new science, and geography, with a possible inclusion of other areas. The successful candidate will teach 12 credit hours during the 2009-2010 academic year. A Master's degree in Environmental Studies, Ecopsychology, Sustainability, or a related field is required. A Ph.D. is preferred. The review of applications begins immediately and continues until the position is filled.

<http://chronicle.com/jobs/id.php?id=0000596780-01&pg=s&cc=>



National Council for Science and the Environment
Improving the scientific basis for environmental decisionmaking

5. Summer Internships at National Council for Science and the Environment due TODAY April 10, 2009
The National Council for Science and the Environment has extended the application deadline for summer internships to **April 10th**. Please review the requirements here or send an email to internships@ncseonline.org. More information is available on our website. <http://ncseonline.org/01about/cms.cfm?id=1144>

NEW RESOURCES

1. AASHE Launches Campus Climate Action Planning Wiki



AASHE has launched the Campus Climate Action Planning Guide Wiki. The intent of this wiki is to serve as a comprehensive and "how-to" oriented guide to campus climate planning. The initial text was provided by Walter Simpson, CEM, LEED AP, a retired Energy Officer from the University at Buffalo (NY) and the former Director of UB Green. Anyone can contribute to the wiki by creating an account on the AASHE website.

See also: AASHE Blog Post

<http://www.aashe.org/blog/drum-roll-please-campus-climate-action-planning-wiki-launched>

2. **Campus Climate Neutrality: Yes We Can!**

Walter Simpson, the former energy officer at the University at Buffalo (NY), has released, "Campus Climate Neutrality: Yes We Can!" in APPA's March/April 2009 issue of *Facilities Magazine*. The 8 page guide gives an overview of how to create a plan to reach campus climate neutrality.

3. RFP: Excellence in Green Building Education Awards

The U.S. Green Building Council Excellence in Green Building Education Awards Program recognizes outstanding curriculum and teaching methods that incorporate the built environment to teach sustainability. Through recognition awards and incentive grants, the awards program aims to celebrate and disseminate replicable, innovative curricular activities in formal education settings. Model programs are recognized in three categories: pre-K to 12, community and technical colleges, and colleges and universities, for their efforts in advancing green building education. One \$10,000 incentive grant will be awarded to each education level category. Recognition awards honor existing educational programs and curricula for their innovative efforts to bring green building education to a broad spectrum of educational levels and content areas. Up to 15 recognition awards will be selected to receive a \$1,000 honorarium. Incentive Grant proposals and Recognition Award submissions are due June 25, 2009.

See also: USGBC Incentive Grant Details <https://www.usgbc.org/ShowFile.aspx?DocumentID=5580>

See also: USGBC Recognition Awards Details <https://www.usgbc.org/ShowFile.aspx?DocumentID=5581>

4. Member Discount: Occupancy-Based Energy Management System

Telkonet is offering AASHE members a free installation of its in-room energy management system in a room (classroom or dorm room) for 2 weeks, along with a free energy savings analysis quantifying the actual cost savings. Telkonet's system self-calibrates based on environmental and HVAC characteristics, maximizing energy savings at a specified comfort level. <http://www.aashe.org/membership/discounts.php>

5. Sustainability: The Journal of Record is actively seeking articles for consideration for publication in 2009, especially on the following topics:

- * higher education sustainability curricula
- * approaches to carbon neutrality
- * motivating behavior change
- * socially responsible investing
- * sustainability science programs
- * globalization issues as they relate to sustainability
- * articles that are likely to have broad applicability to and interest from our readers
- * overcoming institutional obstacles in creating a sustainable campus
- * energy efficiency
- * metrics systems
- * case studies of sustainability innovations, both in the United States and in other countries
- * decision support tools
- * how sustainability issues impact

Articles should be no longer than 3,000 words, including references. Manuscripts should be unpublished and not submitted for consideration elsewhere. Additional manuscript instructions are available at:

<http://www.liebertpub.com/Products/Manuscript.aspx?pid=252>

Submit papers for consideration for publication to Lori Tripoli, Managing Editor, Sustainability: the Journal of Record, at Ltripoli@liebertpub.com

To learn more about this journal, read a complimentary sample issue, www.liebertonline.com/SUS

EVENTS & CONFERENCES

1. 2009 Lean and Green Summit June 8-9, 2009 ~ Savannah, GA

This exclusive, executive-level event will address the very real issues faced by today's executive leadership. While the economy may be down, the pressure to be sustainable is up. Forward-thinking companies "get" the fact that sustainability isn't an expense, but rather it is a cost-savings. What would you do with decreased energy costs, material use, packaging, and water? Not only do you meet consumer demands, but your efforts hit the bottom line.

The Lean and Green Summit acknowledges that no company today is truly sustainable. If you are serious about addressing these issues while accounting for the bottom line, this event is for you. Summit attendance will be limited to maximize exposure to presenters, including Peter Senge of SOL, Rand Waddoups of Walmart, and Roger Saillant former Ford VP.

Learn more at the Lean and Green Summit website. Reserve your spot before the limited registration is closed.



2. Environmental Ethics Institute the University of Montana June 8, 2009

The Center for Ethics at the University of Montana invites participants to its 4th annual Environmental Ethics Institute. The three weeks of online study and six day workshop will focus on fire, restoration, and wilderness in an age of climate change and is open to students, faculty, and interested professionals. The workshop is particularly suitable for educators seeking a foundation in environmental ethics and its most pressing challenges today. The course begins online May 18, 2009 and the six day workshop begins June 8, 2009. Early registration ends April 15, 2009. Regular registration ends May 14, 2009.

<http://www.umt.edu/ethics/eei/2009/EEI%2009%20Early%20Registration%20Form.pdf>

3. Webinar: 7 Steps to Developing a Campus Climate Action Plan

April 16, 2009; 1-2:30pm EST

EH&E invites participants to a webinar entitled, "Seven Steps to Developing a Campus Climate Action Plan." The webinar will provide a seven-step approach for crafting an institution's path to achieving climate neutrality. The presentation will include an overview of the tools and techniques necessary to develop a climate neutrality program that can be tailored to an individual institution. The webinar will also review the Climate Action Plan requirements of the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment (ACUPCC). The event is intended for signatories of the ACUPCC, Chief Financial Officers and Chief Operating Officers, Directors of Facilities and Energy Management, Environmental Health & Safety Directors, and Sustainability Directors.

http://www.eheinc.com/news_workshops/CAP_041609.htm

4. CFP: Greening of the Campus VIII: Embracing Change



September 20 -23; 2009; Indianapolis, IN

Ball State University (IN), in partnership with AASHE, announces a Call for Papers for Greening of the Campus VIII: Embracing Change. Abstracts for conference papers, posters, workshops, panels, forums, special activities, and pre- or post-conference events are invited. Topics may range from the practical day-to-day management of the physical plant to green curriculum development and green utilization of campus resources. The deadline for submissions has been extended to April 24, 2009. <http://www.bsu.edu/greening/callforpapers/>

5. Greening Higher Education Conference

May 4, 2009; Boston, MA

The New England Board of Higher Education will host, "Greening Higher Education: Saving the Planet and Saving Money," a conference intended for thought leaders in sustainability in the areas of academia, business, and government located in the New England area. Attendees will discuss environmental challenges facing New England higher education and creative solutions to conserve and replenish resources. Speakers will include Anthony J. Cortese, President of Second Nature, Jennifer Andrews, the Campus Program Manager for Clean Air-Cool Planet; David Barclay, the Executive Director of Northeast Sustainability Energy Association; John Cusack, the Executive Director of the New Jersey Higher Education Partnership for Sustainability; Congressman Edward J. Markey; Presidents of the College of the Atlantic (ME), Southern New Hampshire University, Eastern Connecticut State University, and Cape Cod Community College (MA); Directors of the Office of Sustainability from Harvard University (MA) and the University of New Hampshire; and more.

<http://www.nebhe.org/content/view/314/135/>



6. International Conference on Ecology and Professional Helping

May 7-9, 2009; U Calgary; Alberta, CA

The University of Calgary will host the "International Conference on Ecology and Professional Helping," during which participants will have the chance to share research and effective practices and strategies; enable inspiring and creative dialogues, and foster new partnerships. Sessions topics will include "Helping Students Become Better Environmental Citizens," "Food Policy Councils as a Collaborative Model for Education, Communication, and Strategic Action for Sustainable Development," "Helping Educators Consider some of the Environmental Messages of School Learning Environments," "Sustaining Higher Education: On the Role that Contemplative Practice Pedagogy can play in Creating Sustainable Learning Environments," and "A New Paradigm for Sustainability and Social Justice." Keynote speakers will include David Orr, Joanna Macy, Nettie Wiebe, Karsten Heuer, and Dorothy Golding Rosenberg.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/oikos/ecoconference/>

7. Sustainable Energy Conference

July 27- Aug 1, 2009; Lafayette College; Easton, PA

The Sustainable Energy Fund (SEF) invites participants to its "Sustainable Energy Conference." SEF's mission is to promote the adoption and integration of renewable energy concepts and technologies into the curriculum of colleges and universities. The Sustainable Energy Conference is designed to bring students, educators, entrepreneurs, policy makers, and capital together to advance sustainable energy for today's green economy. The conference, for the first time, is open to participants from outside of Pennsylvania.

<http://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?eventid=710259>

8 Conference on Great Lakes Research: Bridging Ecosystems and Environmental Health across our Great Lakes.

May 18-22, 2009 University of Toledo, Toledo, OH

Early Registration reduced rates are available through April 11, 2009.

<http://www.iaglr.org/conference/>

The simplest way to cut your carbon footprint is to stop wasting energy on appliances that are only used for minutes a day. Small household appliances can be just as guilty as power-hungry electronics of pumping out the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide when not in use. Simply unplugging items such as an electric shaver or automatic coffee maker can save 135 pounds of carbon a year. But don't stop there. Go on a hunt around your home and office for energy-wasting appliances and unplug them.