

SFI weekly newsletter for the week of May 18, 2009
A weekly service of SFI



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EVENTS & CONFERENCES

1. Climate Policy Webinar: The State of Play in the U.S. Congress--Wednesday, May 27 from 12:30 - 1:30 pm.
2. Lean and Green Summit in Savannah, GA June 8-9th
3. U.S. Green Building Council's Webinar Series: LEED for Neighborhood Dev.: Sustainability Beyond Buildings
4. Local Carbon Offsets 101 Webcast June 30, 2009; 1 -2:30pm Eastern; Online
5. Webcast: Measuring the Real Cost of Parking & Alternative Transportation Options July 28, 2009; 1-3pm
6. 2009 Upper Midwest Campus Sustainability Conference May 31-June 2, 2009; University of Minnesota; Morris

In an effort to increase recognition and enhance SFI's image, we want to include more publicity about SFI member achievements. Please send announcements of your publications, presentations, awards, and names of awarded proposals to Denise Heikinen at dmheikin@mtu.edu.

SFI NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. SFI's new website is now up at <http://www.sfi.mtu.edu/>

The new website continues to need fine tuning, but it is ready for review. We anticipate many visitors to our website in the near future, especially after our new brochure goes out to potential government, industry, and university partners and sponsors.

Please check the website, especially those places that represent you or your work. Double-check spelling, rank, and department listing for accuracy. Make sure links to your publications work, are correct, and legal (i.e. some publishers allow the full article to be posted on university websites, but some allow only abstracts). Please send suggestions (and compliments!) to Melissa Davis at melissad@mtu.edu. She is working feverishly to make corrections, improvements, and final details. Melissa is always looking for pictures for the website so please send them as well. Perhaps you can contribute a quote or two, or a news item for the "headlines" section?

Please also review your home and department faculty websites to make them up to date and polished (personal, Center, program, etc.). Lastly, every effort is being made to list all official members of SFI on the People page. (See "About" tab.) If your name not listed, please contact Denise Heikinen at dmheikin@mtu.edu.

SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

1. Pasty.net turns 10 serving the UP with wireless high speed



May 19 marks an important birthday on the Internet in the Copper Country. It's the 10th anniversary of the incorporation of Pasty.net Inc., the Internet service provider serving some of the most remote parts of the western Upper Peninsula. Pasty.net provides much of its service wirelessly, with repeater stations atop some of the Keweenaw's most imposing hills, including a solar and wind powered station on the Skytop Inn atop Brockway Mountain Drive, 700 feet above Lake Superior (pictured). The service was made possible by a

mini-grant from Upper Great Lakes Educational Technologies Inc. that enabled the county to purchase wireless relay stations, which Pasty.net installed. The service makes it possible to get high-speed access in places you can't even get electricity. In fact, that's the case on top of Brockway Mountain, where there is no grid power. A solar and wind generator provides the electricity to complete the link. Besides Copper Harbor, communities served include Eagle River, Eagle Harbor, Gay and Lac La Belle. Under a \$1 million federal grant, Pasty.net is also now expanding into remote areas of Marquette and adjacent counties. © MMIX WWJ Radio, All Rights Reserved.

<http://www.wwj.com/Pasty-Net-Turns-10/4418733>

2. Wayne State U Works to Revitalize Surrounding Neighborhoods

Wayne State University (MI) has begun refurbishing run-down buildings in surrounding neighborhoods for campus use. WSU has opened a new police department, academic buildings, apartments, and a welcome center in renovated buildings in an effort to help the downtown Detroit economy.

<http://chronicle.com/weekly/v55/i35/35a01301.htm>

3. Ford Builds Eco-Friendly Business As More Consumers Live Sustainably

Ford Motor Co. said Thursday that it's moving into greener powertrains and manufacturing processes amid statistics that show one in four American adults are living more sustainable lifestyles and seek business with companies that are more socially responsible.

Along with advancing greener powertrain alternatives such as EcoBoost, hybrid and battery electric vehicle technologies, Ford is taking a more sustainable approach to vehicle interiors. The newest applications include suede-like material created from recycled plastic pop bottles and seat fabrics made with 100 percent post-consumer yarns, featured on the 2010 Ford Taurus SHO and Lincoln MKZ.

<http://www.wwj.com/Ford-Builds-Eco-Friendly-Business-As-More-Consumer/4446722>

4. Delta College Switches to 4 Day Summer Schedule to cut emissions

Delta College (MI) has begun Green Fridays, a new schedule in which the campuses closes on Fridays until July 31. The campus extended its hours Monday through Thursday for students, faculty, and staff to perform their usual activities. The initiative seeks to reduce campus emissions without decreasing the level of education and services provided.

<http://app.delta.edu/NewsCenter/post/2009/05/Green-Fridays.aspx>

5. U Michigan, GM Announced Automotive Research Institute

The University of Michigan and General Motors have announced the formation of the GM/U-M Institute of Automotive Research and Education. The institute will be dedicated to clean and efficient vehicle technologies that address challenges such as energy diversity, sustainable mobility, and technology innovation. It will link U-M faculty and GM in projects and research questions, as well as enable an efficient exchange of technical personnel and knowledge. The projects will supplement ongoing work within GM and will provide U-M faculty and students with research focused on real-world challenges.

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. SFI Director, John Sutherland, will sign the transmittal sheet 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. NSF To Help Improve Academic Research Facilities

Letters of intent due on July 1, 2009. Full proposals due August 24, 2009

On May 11, 2009, NSF announced a new solicitation in a program to fund repairs and renovations at the nation's academic research facilities. The \$200 million grant program is part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The current goal is to rapidly strengthen the research facilities used by tens of thousands of scientists, engineers, and students across the nation. NSF is one of the federal agencies designated to apply ARRA funds to ensure that America remains a leader in science and engineering research and education. In the announcement, NSF emphasized its goal is to ensure that existing research facilities are state-of-the-art, providing next-generation scientific infrastructure and better integrating researchers with shared resources, such as remote instruments, remote research platforms, data repositories, and national computing facilities. The solicitation invites proposals for projects of up to \$10 million each for the repair or renovation of existing academic research facilities. Proposals are invited from all institutions of higher education, including community colleges, together with non-profit research museums, research institutions and research consortia. NSF encourages proposals for improving shared space where research activities take place. Such research space may be traditional "brick-and-mortar" buildings, mobile research spaces or virtual facilities that exploit modern broadband-based technologies to bring together diverse teams of researchers tackling challenging research questions. Improvements in infrastructure used for research training that will promote the development of a diverse workforce, better prepared to meet the needs of the 21st Century economy, are also encouraged. Proposed projects, which may be for the improvement of research facilities used in any of the subject areas in NSF's investment portfolio, will undergo NSF's merit review process. Additional information about the ARI solicitation and webcast is available on the OIA ARI website at <http://www.nsf.gov/od/oia/programs/ari/>
http://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=114656&qovDel=USNSF_51

2. NSF Announces \$200 Million Funding for Research Instrumentation

The NSF announced a special opportunity for funding projects that strengthen the research infrastructure in the nation's science and engineering research and education institutions. Funding of \$300 million was provided for the Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) program through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), signed into law by President Barack Obama in February 2009.

More at http://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=114641&qovDel=USNSF_51

JOBS & POST DOCS & INTERNSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, SCOLARSHIPS and CFPs

1. CFP: theme-- No Child Left Inside: School-based Responses to Nature Deficit Disorder

Submission Deadline is August 1, 2009

The *Thresholds in Education* journal invites manuscripts related to topics addressing school-based programs that get students outside and engaged in educational or recreational activities as part of the planned curriculum. Manuscripts will be considered for Vol. 35, No. 4, Winter 2009 edition of the Journal. Issue Editor: Dr. Clifford E. Knapp, Professor Emeritus, Department of Teaching and Learning, Northern Illinois University.



Contact Jan Woodhouse woodhoj@essex1.com
<http://www.cedu.niu.edu/lep/foundations/thresholds/index.html>

2. Undergraduate and graduate students CFP --AASHE Student Research on Campus Sustainability Award Papers are due July 1, 2009.

AASHE invites undergraduate and graduate students currently enrolled at U.S. or Canadian institutions of higher education to submit research papers of any length on campus sustainability that have not been previously published, are written in English, and were completed after July 1, 2008. The winning paper will receive priority review for possible publication in *Sustainability: The Journal of Record*. Longer papers will be edited to meet the Journal's length standards. http://www.aashe.org/programs/student_research_award.php

3. Campus Sustainability Coordinator, Denison U

Denison University (OH) seeks a Campus Sustainability Coordinator to identify and steward sustainability initiatives on behalf of the University and act as a resource for other university departments in the pursuit of sustainability initiatives. The successful candidate will also be charged with implementing the University's sustainability mission and mitigating the University's environmental impact by managing both resource consumption and the production of waste. A Bachelor's degree and three years of experience with successful management of sustainability programs are required. A Master's degree is preferred. Applications are due June 30, 2009.

<http://www.higheredjobs.com/search/details.cfm?JobCode=175373092>

4. Asst Prof, Environmental Science, West Texas A&M U

The Department of Life, Earth, and Environmental Science at West Texas A&M University invites applications for a tenure-track faculty position in Environmental Science, at the assistant professor level to begin in August 2009. Primary responsibilities will include teaching and oversight of undergraduate and graduate courses; developing a dynamic research program that will attract grants and undergraduate and graduate research opportunities; and assisting in the advising of graduate students with the goal of increasing graduate program enrollment. A Ph.D. in one of the physical or natural sciences is required. The position is open until filled.

<http://www.higheredjobs.com/search/details.cfm?JobCode=175372953>

5. Adjunct Faculty, Env'l Science, Scottsdale Culinary Institute

Scottsdale Culinary Institute (AZ) is seeking an Adjunct Faculty to teach Environmental Science courses as assigned by the Program Director. The successful candidate will provide fully prepared current instruction that meets desired learning outcomes; give academic advising and career related counseling to students; actively engage in retention activities; identify and assist at-risk students; and provide support for program and institutional initiatives. A Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science and 2-4 years of work experience are required. The position is open until filled. <http://www.higheredjobs.com/search/details.cfm?JobCode=175372872>

6. Opportunity to Contribute Ideas for Campus Sustainability Day Webcast

The Society for College and University Planning (SCUP) invites members of the campus sustainability community to submit ideas for the next Campus Sustainability Day webcast, which will be broadcast in October 2009. Suggestions are sought for topic(s), speaker(s), and format. <http://survey.scup.org/dws/?sid=Rf3SnMDj58>

EVENTS & CONFERENCES

1. Climate Policy Webinar: The State of Play in the U.S. Congress--Wednesday, May 27 from 12:30 - 1:30 pm.

During the upcoming webinar, "Climate Policy: The State of Play in the U.S. Congress," Lexi Shultz, deputy director of The Union of Concerned Scientists's (UCS) climate program, will talk about the status of House and Senate legislation, UCS policy priorities (including science review provisions and emissions reduction goals), and why scientists and economists have such an important contribution to make. We will also review the resources available to you from UCS. Please join us for a 30-minute presentation, followed by questions and answers. Registration for the webinar is limited to 200 participants, so sign up today! After you register, instructions for how to join the webinar will be emailed to you.

<http://www.ucsusa.org/ssi/climate-change/ssi-webinar-series-climate-rsvp.html?autologin=true>

Past webinars in the series:

To access the audio and Power Point presentations from these webinars, as well as related UCS resources, visit the SSI webinar series page <http://www.ucusa.org/search/search.jsp?query=webinar+series>

2. Lean and Green Summit in Savannah, GA June 8-9th

Join us at the Lean and Green Summit in Savannah, GA June 8-9th and walk away with actionable items that will move your company forward during these tough times. Cost reduction will be the hot topic at the Summit. The Lean and Green Summit is the epicenter of the emerging lean and green movement. If you are serious about applying lean principles to issues of sustainability, 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 www.leanandgreensummit.com. Reserve your spot before the limited registration is closed. Register using "news" as your promo code and receive \$400 off the registration fee.

3. U.S. Green Building Council's Webinar Series: LEED for Neighborhood Development: Sustainability Beyond Buildings

1. Green Communities: Bringing Smart Growth and New Urbanism into LEED

Date: Thursday, June 18, 2009 Time: 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM ET Fee: \$60 Member, \$80 Non-Member

2. LEED for Neighborhood Development: Strategies for Urban Infill & Brownfield Redevelopment

Date: Thursday, July 16, 2009 Time: 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM ET Fee: \$60 Member, \$80 Non-Member

3. LEED for Neighborhood Development: A Tool to Retrofit the Suburbs

Date: Thursday, August 06, 2009 Time: 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM ET Fee: \$60 Member, \$80 Non-Member

See <https://www.globallearningsystems.com/usgbc/webinars/register.php?id=8>

4. Local Carbon Offsets 101 Webcast

June 30, 2009; 1 -2:30pm Eastern; Online

Academic Impressions will host "Local Carbon Offsets 101," a webcast that will teach participants how to evaluate the quality of local offsets, find and use local offsets, expand the benefits of local offsets for maximum added value, and integrate local offsets into a broader campus sustainability initiative. The instructor, Dave Newport, is the Director of the Environmental Center at the University of Colorado at Boulder. Early bird registration ends June 12, 2009. http://www.academicimpressions.com/web_conferences/0609-offsets.php?q=3028v274891yT

5. Webcast: Measuring the Real Cost of Parking & Alternative Transportation Options July 28, 2009; 1-3pm Eastern; Online

Academic Impressions will host "Measuring the Real Cost of Parking and Alternative Transportation Options." The webcast will include lessons on assessing current parking demand and transportation behaviors; measuring the impact of transportation demand management; determining future parking demand and costs of new parking; assessing the most cost-effective mix of investments in parking, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities; gathering ideas for how to accommodate future growth on campus; and gathering ideas for multiple sources of revenue to finance transportation program. The webcast is designed for professionals from parking and transportation, campus security/public safety, campus planning, sustainability coordinators and advocates, and facilities management. http://www.academicimpressions.com/web_conferences/0709-transportation-investments.php?q=3246v274891yT

6. 2009 Upper Midwest Campus Sustainability Conference May 31-June 2, 2009; University of Minnesota; Morris

The Upper Midwest Association for Campus Sustainability (www.umacs.org/) invites participants to its 2009 Higher Education Conference. Attendees will share sustainability practices; view new models for low carbon energy production; and network. Speakers will include Deborah Swackhammer, Co-Director of the Water Resources center at the University of Minnesota and Julia Nerbonne, the Environmental Sustainability Program Director for the Higher Education Consortium for Urban Affairs.

www.morris.umn.edu/services/cst/symposium/2009/agenda_ed.php

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