

[Back to Index](#)

AASHE Bulletin

campus sustainability news, opportunities + events

Table of Contents for 2/16/09:

NEWS

Buildings

1. [Washington U in St. Louis University Center Receives LEED Gold](#)

Community Engagement

2. [U Nevada Las Vegas Unveils Energy Efficient Homes](#)
3. [U Illinois Chicago to Start Community Garden](#)

Curriculum

4. [Montclair State U Approves Env'l Management PhD](#)

Dining Services

5. [Northern Arizona U Begins Composting Program](#)
6. [Ohio U Implements Composting Program](#)
7. [U Washington Students Produce Video on Campus Composting](#)

Energy

8. [Ball State U to Replace Coal-Fired Boilers with Geothermal](#)
9. [Middlebury College Opens Biomass Gasification Plant](#)
10. [South Dakota Universities Use Wind Power](#)
11. [U Hawaii Manoa Installs Solar Panels](#)
12. [U Albany Saves 280K with Energy Initiative, Receives \\$5K Grant](#)
13. [Winter Shutdown at WKU Saves \\$128K in Energy Costs](#)
14. [U New Mexico Saves \\$75K by Reducing Building Temperatures](#)
15. [Towson U Holds Res Hall Energy Conservation Competition](#)
16. [U Arkansas Pine Bluff Receives Energy Grant](#)

Research

17. [CSU Chico College of Ag Receives \\$40K Organic Valley Award](#)

Sustainability Institutionalization

18. [McGill U Opens Office of Sustainability](#)
19. [Elon U Launches New Sustainability Website](#)

Sustainability Staffing

20. [Green Mountain College Hires Sustainability Coordinator](#)

Waste

21. [Wilkes U Caps Student Paper Usage with Printing Policy](#)
22. [Whitman College Implements Pay-Per-Page Printing System](#)

NEW RESOURCES

23. [Proposal to Create Campus-Based Energy Innovation Institutes](#)
24. [Calvin College Campus Sustainability Guide](#)
25. [Podcast: Water Conservation at the University of Georgia](#)

OPPORTUNITIES

26. [1st Annual Spring Campus Commuter Challenge](#)
27. [Chance to be Featured in Campus Sustainability Publication](#)
28. [Agents of Change Delegation](#)

Member Spotlight



University of Central Oklahoma (Edmond, OK) is our current spotlight campus! UCO was the first university in the state to begin purchasing wind power for 100% of its electricity. The University has undergone five phases of performance contracting, has a comprehensive recycling program, and produces its own biodiesel from used cooking oil. [Learn more](#)
[Spotlight your campus](#)

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Quick Links

[AASHE Home](#)
[Join AASHE](#)
[AASHE Bulletin archives](#)
[Submission Guidelines](#)
[Calendar](#)

JOBS & INTERNSHIPS

29. [Sustainability Director, Appalachian State U](#)
30. [Sustainability Manager, Kent State U](#)
31. [Coordinator, Sustainable Practices, Metropolitan CC](#)
32. [Professor, Technology and Sustainability, U Florida](#)
33. [Assist Prof, Sustainability and the Built Environment, U Florida](#)
34. [Associate Prof, Ctr for Sustainable Tourism, East Carolina U](#)
35. [Faculty, Planning & Environmental Science, U Waterloo](#)
36. [Manager, Landscaping and Grounds, Seattle U](#)
37. [Assistant Director, Center for Sustainable Energy, Columbia U](#)
38. [Director, Env'l Sciences Grant Program, Miami Dade College](#)
39. [Activity Coord, Env'l Sciences Grant Prgm, Miami Dade College](#)
40. [Instructional Mgr, Env'l Sciences Grant Prgm, Miami Dade College](#)
41. [Assist Prof, Environmental Science, U of Texas-Pan American](#)
42. [Graduate Assistantship, Sustainability, Ohio U](#)
43. [Membership Intern, AASHE](#)

EVENTS

44. [Webcast: Three Simple Steps to a Carbon Neutrality Plan](#)
45. [Webinar: Making the most of Your Greenhouse Gas Reductions & Sustainability Efforts](#)
46. [Smart and Sustainable Campuses Conference 2009](#)
47. [Lean and Green: The Sustainability Path in a Tough Economy](#)

News

Buildings

1. [Washington U in St. Louis University Center Receives LEED Gold](#)

The William H. and Elizabeth Gray Danforth University Center at Washington University in St. Louis (MO) has received LEED Gold certification. The structure features low-flow faucets and low flow toilets, a 50,000-gallon rainwater tank below the building that collects excess rainwater and groundwater, light sensors near every outdoor window, and showers for alternative transportation commuters.

See also: [List of Green Student Centers](#) (AASHE members only)

Community Engagement

2. [U Nevada Las Vegas Unveils Energy Efficient Homes](#)

The University of Nevada, Las Vegas, in partnership with Pulte Homes and NV Energy, has unveiled four energy efficient model homes in northwest Las Vegas. The homes were developed as part of a \$7 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy to develop a community of homes that combine energy efficient features and smart grid technology to cut residential energy usage by more than half.

3. [U Illinois Chicago to Start Community Garden](#)

The University of Illinois, Chicago has announced plans to dig a community garden on campus. The new garden, which will offer 5' by 6' and 5' by 12' plots, will be run communally and gardeners will be required to practice sustainable and organic techniques and refrain from using genetically-modified seeds. The UIC Office of Sustainability plans to offer educational workshops at the new site on topics such as gardening techniques, sustainable practices, and cooking and preserving.

See also: [UIC Community Garden homepage](#)

Curriculum

4. [Montclair State U Approves Env'l Management PhD](#)

The New Jersey Commission on Higher Education has approved Montclair State University's proposal to convert the current doctoral program in Environmental Management to a Ph.D. degree in the College of Sciences and Mathematics. The new program emphasizes the study of interconnections

between environmental systems and human systems. The aim of the program is to prepare environmental scholars who will recognize and analyze relationships among scientific, technological, societal and economic issues, and who will understand the uses of research in a data-driven decision and policy making process, firmly rooted in current scientific knowledge and methodology.

See also: [MSU Ph.D. in Environmental Management homepage](#)

Dining Services

5. [Northern Arizona U Begins Composting Program](#)

Northern Arizona University's Students for Sustainable Living and Urban Gardening, the Center for Sustainable Environments, and Sodexo's Environmental Action Program have partnered to introduce composting in NAU dining halls. The compost is collected and transferred to the garden located on campus.

6. [Ohio U Implements Composting Program](#)

Ohio University has implemented a new composting initiative on campus. OU purchased a 2 ton in-vessel composting system that can handle up to 28 tons of material to compost food from its Central Foods Facility. The University plans to expand its collection to all campus eateries soon. The resulting nutrient-rich soil will be used for grounds keeping once it is available.

7. [U Washington Students Produce Video on Campus Composting](#)

A group of University of Washington students have created a video that aims to educate students about the process of composting. The video, which is in the form of a musical, discusses the importance and availability of composting on campus.

Energy

8. [Ball State U to Replace Coal-Fired Boilers with Geothermal](#)

Ball State University (IN) has announced plans to eliminate its coal-fired boilers and install 3,750 geothermal wells. The system, which will take 5-12 years to complete depending on funding availability, will include bore holes or well fields in soccer fields, band practice fields, and residence hall yards. The \$66 million project has been approved by the University's board of trustees. The state Legislature appropriated more than \$40 million several years ago for the University to replace the boilers with a circulating fluidized bed boiler to burn coal cleaner and more efficiently. Since then, however, no bids were received, and BSU plans to ask the legislature to re-appropriate the \$40 million to the geothermal project. The University plans to start drilling the wells in early May.

See also: [Star Press article](#)

9. [Middlebury College Opens Biomass Gasification Plant](#)

Middlebury College (VT) has officially opened its biomass gasification plant. The \$12 million plant is expected to cut the College's use of heating oil in half – from 2 million gallons to one million gallons annually – and to reduce the College's carbon dioxide emissions by 40 percent, or 12,500 metric tons. The gasification system converts regionally grown wood chips into gas that burns to provide steam for heating, cooling, hot water, and cooking throughout the campus. The plant is also expected to supply about 20 percent of the campus' electricity consumption.

10. [South Dakota Universities Use Wind Power](#)

The University of South Dakota and South Dakota State University have begun receiving a portion of their electrical energy use from a nearby wind farm. This is the result of an agreement between the Heartland Consumers Power District, which is purchasing the power from the wind project, and the State of South Dakota stating that wind power would be used for additional power needs at the state's two largest universities.

11. [U Hawaii Manoa Installs Solar Panels](#)

The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Shidler College of Business has installed a 4.5-kilowatt solar photovoltaic panel system on one of its towers. The solar panel system is expected to generate approximately 24 kilowatt hours of power each day. The new system includes a web-based monitoring system that will allow students, faculty, staff, and the general public to monitor solar

power, reduced emissions, and environmental statistics on a daily basis.
See also: [List of Campus Solar Installations](#)

12. [U Albany Saves 280K with Energy Initiative, Receives \\$5K Grant](#)

The State University of New York at Albany has announced that it reduced energy costs by \$280,000 as a result of its winter Intersession and Fall Energy Savings initiatives. In addition, the University has received \$5,000 from the National Grid for its Change-A-Light campaign, which has distributed more than 1,300 compact fluorescent light bulbs in residence halls.

13. [Winter Shutdown at WKU Saves \\$128K in Energy Costs](#)

Western Kentucky University has saved 1,112 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions and \$128,340 as a result of its energy savings experiment over winter break. The University decided to execute a "hard" shutdown of the campus during the holiday break, closing the campus for an additional week, to capture savings in its energy budget. During the three week break, WKU's Department of Facilities Management Energy Management Team set back thermostats in buildings, turned off all lighting except for safety lights, unplugged vending machines and water fountains, and turned off water heaters and all other unnecessary energy draws. Faculty and staff were asked to turn off computers, unplug electronics and appliances, and turn off office lights before leaving for the break, a protocol students in university housing have been following for years. WKU had planned to initiate a similar shutdown over summer break, but has decided not to due to the number of campus activities the initiative would affect.

14. [U New Mexico Saves \\$75K by Reducing Building Temperatures](#)

The University of New Mexico has saved close to \$75,000 in energy costs through the Winter Setback Program. The initiative aimed to save money by reducing temperatures in unoccupied buildings over the University's four-week winter break.

15. [Towson U Holds Res Hall Energy Conservation Competition](#)

Towson University (MD) is holding a residence hall energy conservation competition. The University Residence Government is sponsoring the competition, which aims to educate students on what they can do to conserve energy. Through the competition, students are encouraged to turn off computers and printers when not in use, use natural light whenever possible, and unplug outlets when they are not being used. The amount of energy saved by each building will be recorded. The winning building will receive 50 free Chipotle dinners, which will be raffled off to student residents.

16. [U Arkansas Pine Bluff Receives Energy Grant](#)

The University of Arkansas, Pine Bluff has received a \$92,966 grant from Arkansas Entergy Inc. to convert all lighting on campus to energy-saving bulbs. The campus currently uses room and ceiling motion sensors to reduce energy use.

Research

17. [CSU Chico College of Ag Receives \\$40K Organic Valley Award](#)

The Research Foundation at California State University, Chico has received a \$40,000 grant from Organic Valley. The money will be used by CSU, Chico's College of Agriculture to help fund a two-year study focused on improving net profit by improving pasture management. In addition to assessing and promoting more sustainable feeding systems, the project will host "grazing schools" for beginning and advanced dairy farmers to encourage and support efficient pasture use. The research will also assess organically approved soil amendments to establish profitability resulting from changes in forage quality and quantity.

Sustainability Institutionalization

18. [McGill U Opens Office of Sustainability](#)

McGill University (QC) has opened a new Office of Sustainability. The mission of the Office of Sustainability is to develop sustainability as a cultural norm at the University. The Office will encourage the efforts of students, faculty, staff, and administrators to incorporate principles of sustainability in the University's operations, campus living and learning, and in its relations with the broader community.

The Office will explore ways in which McGill can integrate social, environmental, and economic considerations in University decisions and develop partnerships that encourage and facilitate the cooperation of all members of the McGill University community to become more sustainable.

19. [Elon U Launches New Sustainability Website](#)

Elon University (NC) has launched a new sustainability website that provides information on what the university is doing to become more sustainable. The site features a list of course offerings related to sustainability and green design and of student-run organizations focused on the environment.

See also: [Elon Sustainability Website](#)

See also: [List of Campus Sustainability Websites](#) (AASHE members only)

Sustainability Staffing

20. [Green Mountain College Hires Sustainability Coordinator](#)

Green Mountain College (VT) has hired Amber Garrard as its new Sustainability Coordinator. Garrard holds an M.A. in Sustainable Development from SIT Graduate Institute, has started and managed a community garden, and was a research fellow for the Sustainable Endowments Institute.

See also: [Director of Campus Sustainability/Environmental Officers](#) (AASHE members only)

Waste

21. [Wilkes U Caps Student Paper Usage with Printing Policy](#)

Wilkes University (PA) has capped the amount of paper students use each semester through its new GreenPrint Policy. Each semester, students are allotted a print quota of 550 pages. Overages result in a \$0.10 per page charge which is placed on the student's account. Since the initiatives beginning, the University reports that students have reduced their paper usage by half.

See also: [Wilkes GreenPrint Policy](#)

22. [Whitman College Implements Pay-Per-Page Printing System](#)

Whitman College (WA) has implemented a new printing system that automatically deducts a set amount per printed page from a printing account. As part of the program, \$60 in printing credits is granted to each student each semester. Single-sided black-and-white printing costs five cents per page, and printing double-sided costs nine cents front and back. The College experienced a 30 percent drop in printing during the first 10 days of the program.

New Resources

23. [Proposal to Create Campus-Based Energy Innovation Institutes](#)

The Brookings Institution has released a "Blueprint for American Prosperity" proposal entitled, "Energy Discovery-Innovation Institutes: A Step Toward America's Energy Sustainability." If the proposal is adopted, more money would become available for sustainability-related research at higher education institutions.

See also: [Brookings Institution article](#)

24. [Calvin College Campus Sustainability Guide](#)

Calvin College (MI) has posted its new Campus Sustainability Guide online. The Guide contains information on how to get involved with campus sustainability issues at Calvin, what the institution has accomplished, and how members of the Calvin community can help the campus reduce its waste, energy usage, and water consumption.

25. [Podcast: Water Conservation at the University of Georgia](#)

Facilities Net has posted a podcast interview with Mark Duclos, Director of Operations and Maintenance at the University of Georgia. In the interview, Duclos discusses how UGA has dealt with historic drought conditions, has implemented water-saving programs, and has planned for future droughts. The podcast's transcript is also posted on the site.

Opportunities

26. [1st Annual Spring Campus Commuter Challenge](#)

The AlterNetWays Company is proud to announce that it will hold the 1st Annual Nationwide Spring Campus Challenge during the month of April 2009. The competition among higher education institutions aims to promote and encourage the use of alternative modes of transportation. Each person who participates will be able to track their daily trips to their school and automatically calculate their CO2 savings. Schools are automatically ranked based on level of participation. Institutions that sign up will receive a marketing kit to help promote their participation.

27. [Chance to be Featured in Campus Sustainability Publication](#)

Campus InPower invites campus sustainability organizers to share their stories of successful initiatives for a chance to be featured in a new publication entitled, "Get it Done: Success Stories from the Front Lines of Campus Sustainability." Suggested categories include policies and administration, education, energy, water, built environment, food systems, waste, purchasing, land use impacts, and transportation. The publication will be part of a new Campus InPower toolkit.

28. [Agents of Change Delegation](#)

Agents of Change is now accepting applications to join the SustainUS youth delegation to the seventeenth session of the United Nations Commission on Sustainability Development-17 (CSD-17). Selected delegates will have the opportunity to work with government officials, scientists, civil society representatives, and youth from around the world to review progress on issues related to sustainable development. As a policy year, the focus of CSD-17 will be on the understanding and lobbying for policy related to the topics areas of agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification, and Africa. Applicants are required to be between the ages of 18 and 26 as of April 2009 and to either be a US citizen or have studied or worked in the US for more than six months. Delegates must commit to attending at least one full week of the conference. Applications are due March 6, 2009.

[Jobs & Internships](#)

29. [Sustainability Director, Appalachian State U](#)

Appalachian State University (NC) seeks a Sustainability Director to support the Sustainability Council's strategic vision by creating a campus sustainability plan, implementing new programs, and communicating sustainable practices with students, faculty, and staff. Responsibilities will include coordinating the implementation of sustainability goals on campus, assisting with the preparation of budgets and grant applications associated with the Sustainability Implementation Plan, and developing, planning, and implementing education and outreach activities related to sustainability. A graduate degree related to sustainability is required. Review of applications will begin on February 20, 2009 and will continue until the position is filled.

30. [Sustainability Manager, Kent State U](#)

Kent State University (OH) seeks a Sustainability Manager to manage, plan, and coordinate the overall, university-wide sustainability efforts; facilitate sustainability cost savings, fundraising, and grant awards; and coordinate all aspects of sustainability for the Kent and Regional Campus System. A Bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies or a related degree is required. The position is open until filled.

31. [Coordinator, Sustainable Practices, Metropolitan CC](#)

The Metropolitan Community College (NE) seeks a Coordinator of Sustainable Practices to provide leadership and direction to all College administrative and academic departments in the areas of sustainable practices, ecology, and energy use. The successful candidate will work with all areas and departments to identify best practices in sustainability and will lead the implementation of these practices. A Bachelor's degree is required and a Master's degree is preferred. Applications are due March 6, 2009.

32. [Professor, Technology and Sustainability, U Florida](#)

The University of Florida seeks an Assistant, Associate, or Full Professor in Technology and Sustainability. Applicants for this position must be capable of teaching environmental technology with a focus on the integration of sustainable design strategies through building environmental systems, site

ecology, and emergent technologies. The successful candidate is expected to advance the UF curriculum in the area of sustainable design; develop graduate seminars; direct Master's and PhD research; and have the experience or ability to teach design studio. Review of completed applications will begin February 1, 2008 and will continue until the position has been filled.

[33. Assist Prof, Sustainability and the Built Environment, U Florida](#)

The College of Design, Construction and Planning at the University of Florida invites applications for a new tenure-track Assistant Professor position in Sustainability with emphasis on conserving, protecting, restoring, and enhancing environmental quality for this and future generations. An established research or design focus is expected that might include (but is not limited to): green technologies or infrastructure, open space in urban and suburban contexts, sustainable land use practices, sustainable construction, social and cultural dimensions of sustainability, environmental justice and equity, integrated water resource management, and/or sustainable materials. A terminal degree in the individual's discipline is required. Preferred qualifications include: a doctoral degree, a demonstrated capacity for teaching, scholarly research, and the ability to attract external funding. Review of applications will begin February 3, 2009. The search will continue until an applicant pool is established, with a target start date of August 2009.

[34. Associate Prof, Ctr for Sustainable Tourism, East Carolina U](#)

The newly established Center for Sustainable Tourism (CST) at East Carolina University (NC) is seeking candidates for a full-time, Associate Professor appointment beginning August 17, 2009. The research and teaching position will be a joint appointment between the CST and an appropriate academic department. The position is broadly defined to consider all candidates with strong evidence of sustainability-related research and teaching pertaining to aspects of tourism. Relevant fields or areas of expertise include economics, sociology, recreation and leisure, geography, political science/public administration, business, anthropology, ecology, conservation, biology, geology, hospitality management or other fields related to sustainability and tourism. Minimum requirements for the position include a doctoral degree from an appropriately accredited institution, an established publication and external funding record, and evidence of a strong teaching record. The position is open until filled.

[35. Faculty, Planning & Environmental Science, U Waterloo](#)

The School of Planning at the University of Waterloo (ON) invites applications for a tenure-track specialist with a focus on the interface between applied ecology and sustainable community planning. The ideal candidate will apply knowledge of relevant biophysical/ecological processes in any of the following: planning of green cities, urbanizing regions, healthy communities, or related specializations. The position requires an excellent knowledge of both urban and natural ecologies, and the candidate should possess a strong theoretical and practical understanding of environmental planning. The successful candidate will teach and advise in both undergraduate and graduate programs, supervise doctoral research, and carry out an active research program in environmental planning. Candidates should have proven records of research or be able to demonstrate the potential for high quality research to advance towards tenure in the School. Applications are due April 30, 2009.

[36. Manager, Landscaping and Grounds, Seattle U](#)

Seattle University (WA) is seeking a Landscaping and Grounds Manager. The successful candidate will identify and evaluate new practices and synthesize diverse methods, such as Integrated Pest Management (IPM); manage and improve campus wildlife habitat by identifying areas to develop as habitats; manage and improve sustainability of campus grounds by increasing biodiversity, storm water use in the landscape, canopy cover, and native vegetation; and oversee the IPM program that supports the University's environmental goals. Qualifications include a Bachelor's degree with studies in horticultural science, park administration, environmental studies, landscape architecture, business management, or public administration.

[37. Assistant Director, Center for Sustainable Energy, Columbia U](#)

The Directors of Lenfest Center for Sustainable Energy and the Columbia Water Center at Columbia University (NY) are looking for a professional to take the lead role in formulating and executing a business strategy for addressing issues of sustainability in energy and water usage in the industrial and commercial sector. The Assistant Director will establish partnerships and mutually beneficial research arrangements with the private sector, foundations, and leading U.S. and international

agencies that share these joint interests. A Bachelor's degree is required and an advanced degree is preferred in engineering and management sciences.

38. [Director, Env'l Sciences Grant Program, Miami Dade College](#)

Miami Dade College (FL) seeks a Director of the Environmental Sciences Grant Program. The successful applicant will be responsible for the organization, management, planning, implementation, continuous review, and analysis of the North Campus' Environmental Sciences program. A Master's degree in a scientific or related discipline and four years of experience in higher education administration and program development are required.

39. [Activity Coord, Env'l Sciences Grant Prgm, Miami Dade College](#)

Miami Dade College (FL) seeks an Activity Coordinator for its Environmental Science Grant Program. The successful applicant will develop and implement plans for student recruitment and retention in the environmental sciences, oversee the faculty exchange program in the environmental sciences with the University of Puerto Rico, and create new and revise existing environmental curricula in conjunction with the Instructional Manager. A Master's degree in Environmental Science or a closely related field is required.

40. [Instructional Mgr, Env'l Sciences Grant Prgm, Miami Dade College](#)

Miami Dade College (FL) seeks an Instructional Manager for its Environmental Sciences Grant Program to coordinate activities with the Grant Activity Coordinator and staff. The successful applicant will be responsible for student recruitment, retention, internship development, and student and faculty research development. This individual will also be responsible for teaching a mixed selection of freshman and sophomore level environmental science courses for the Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, and Vocational Programs. A Master's degree in Environmental Science and two years of work experience in an academic or industrial laboratory setting are required. Preference will be given to candidates with college-level teaching experience.

41. [Assist Prof, Environmental Science, U of Texas-Pan American](#)

The University of Texas-Pan American Department of Biology seeks to fill a tenure track, Assistant Professor position for fall 2009 in Environmental Science. Candidates should have a Ph.D. in Environmental Science or a closely related area such as Biology, Chemistry, Geology, or Physics. Candidates will be required to teach a course in Environmental Science and Public Policy and in Environmental Regulations and Environmental Impact Analysis. Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled.

42. [Graduate Assistantship, Sustainability, Ohio U](#)

Ohio University invites applications for a 1-year full-time Graduate Assistantship in Sustainability in the 2009-10 academic year. This assistantship includes a stipend of \$11,000 and full remission of tuition fees. The Graduate Assistant will report to the Office of Sustainability and will assist the Sustainability Coordinator with communication, education, and outreach programs targeting the campus community. The closing date for applications is February 20, 2009.

43. [Membership Intern, AASHE](#)

AASHE is looking for an intern who will help with membership management and general administrative work. Candidates should be extremely detail-oriented and capable of meeting deadlines and deliverables without a great deal of supervision. The intern will work on such tasks as: communicating with campuses and businesses about membership issues, processing and tracking membership and sending renewal notices, compiling and analyzing membership data, and providing support for AASHE programs. Candidates should have experience with Access and Excel, have good organizational skills, and be detail oriented. It is not necessary that the intern be a student. The position can start immediately and will extend through the end of summer. Review of applications begins February 25, 2009 and will continue until the position is filled.

Events

44. [Webcast: Three Simple Steps to a Carbon Neutrality Plan](#)

February 26, 2009; 1:00 – 2:30 pm Eastern; Online

Academic Impressions will host "Three Simple Steps to a Carbon Neutrality Plan." During the webcast, Dave Newport, Director of the Environmental Center at University of Colorado, will discuss specific tools and concepts that will help you determine a carbon neutrality action plan for individual campuses. Attendees will learn how to create an accurate carbon inventory; evaluate carbon mitigation options; quickly project future emissions; and determine a carbon neutral action plan and date quantitatively.

45. [Webinar: Making the most of Your Greenhouse Gas Reductions & Sustainability Efforts](#)

March 3, 2009; 2 – 3:30pm; Online

Clean Air-Cool Planet will host, "Telling Your Story: Making the Most of Your Greenhouse Gas Reductions and Sustainability Efforts," a free webinar that will discuss outreach strategies and how to best include green job training and curriculum development in campus communication efforts. Panelists will include Sara Cleaves, Associate Director of the University of New Hampshire Office of Sustainability; Kevin Doyle, Principle of Green Economy and Co-Chair of the New England Clean Energy Council Workforce Development Group; Michael Gross, the Director of College Communications at Cape Cod Community College (MA), and Anne Stephenson, the Campus Outreach Coordinator for Clean Air-Cool Planet.

46. [Smart and Sustainable Campuses Conference 2009](#)

April 5 – 7, 2009; University of Maryland, College Park

The National Association of College and University Business Officers invites attendees to its 4th annual Smart and Sustainable Campuses Conference. Aspects of sustainability to be addressed include operational solutions, smart growth policies, and strategies for achieving climate neutrality. Participants will learn strategies for implementing the President's Climate Commitment; gain an understanding of the elements of developing a business case for sustainable design; and develop insight into issues surrounding green building, transportation, and energy. Featured sessions include "Sustainability in a World of Diminishing Revenue," "Food, Sustainability, and the New Bio-economy," "The New Green Economy and Opportunities for Higher Education," and "Journalism and New Media in the World of Sustainability." Registration is now open.

47. [Lean and Green: The Sustainability Path in a Tough Economy](#)

May 27 -29, 2009; Boston, MA

Academic Impressions will host "Lean and Green: The Sustainability Path in a Tough Economy," a conference that will offer sustainability coordinators and those charged with organizing sustainability efforts across campus the skills to create a roadmap for promoting a culture of sustainability on campus. The conference will teach participants how to develop and increase sustainability efforts, think and plan strategically for carbon neutrality, develop creative financing strategies for sustainability initiatives, implement innovative strategies for engaging students, faculty, and staff, and track the progress of sustainability efforts on campus.

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