

Sustainability Bulletin



UAlbany
Goes
Green!



Live with Less:

Exhibit Opens at the University Art Museum

The University Art Museum is pleased to present *Jason Middlebrook: Live with Less* featuring recent sculptures, works on paper, and a large-scale sculptural installation by Middlebrook whose work explores the relationship between nature and human consumption.

Live with Less is an expression of Middlebrook's artistic and environmental goal to see beyond the discarded nature of these materials and to re-imagine them as something beautiful and useful. In this exhibit, he metaphorically brings the unbridled wastefulness of contemporary living to new heights in a massive 35-foot tower made from several tons of recycled cardboard which was collected on campus over a two-month period and will be stacked and layered from floor to ceiling creating visual stratifications analogous to the layers of a landfill.

Throughout the run of the exhibition, Middlebrook will be collecting plastic water bottles consumed on campus and recasting them into multicolored concrete sculptures that will form a sculptural mound on the museum's second floor. In all his efforts Middlebrook speaks to our need to live with less. At the same time he shows us that all is not lost. There are plenty of regenerative possibilities in, as he states, "creating something from nothing."

The exhibit will open on February 3rd. A gallery walk through with the artist will occur at 4:30 pm followed by a minimal waste reception between 5 and 7 pm. All events are free and open to the public.

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UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUM FAST FACTS:

Museum hours:

Tuesday through Friday
10 am to 5 pm

Saturday and Sunday
12 to 4 pm

Opening date:

February 3rd

For further information or visual materials on Jason Middlebrook, please call (518) 442-4035 or visit the website at:

www.albany.edu/museum

Intercession Energy Savings Initiative

Through the hard work and coordinated efforts of the entire campus community, the intercession energy savings initiative was implemented over break. The first phase of limited operations ran from December 20th to January 4th. The second phase of energy conservation ran from January 5th until January 15th. We asked John Giarrusso, Assistant Vice President for Physical Facilities, to provide some insight on the effort. He tells us "as you can imagine, planning, coordinating, and implementing the Intercession Energy Savings Initiative not only involved the successful cooperation of the University community, but required an "all hands on deck" level of commitment and focus from our facilities staff. With our aging mechanical and electrical systems, reducing lighting and temperatures in nearly 5 million square feet of space took a tremendous amount of time and effort. We had increased staff here, working 10 hour overnight shifts, throughout the intercession, even on Christmas Eve."



The Office of Environmental Sustainability wants to thank everyone for adjusting their schedules and dealing with any inconveniences caused by the initiative. It truly shows the UAlbany go green spirit!

We would like to especially recognize these individuals who put in extra time over the holidays to keep the buildings running smooth.

Charlie Blanchard	Mike Moore
Amy Campana	Steve Moore
Kerry Csontos	Robert Nolin
John Delsignore	Kevin Rose
Cleve Douglas	Jeff Ruskowski
Carl Fink	Robert Shultes
Rick Groff	Al Thomas
Paul J Guarnieri Jr	Dan Townsend
Gene Howe	Richard Townsend
Scott Larango	Bill Ure
Robin Lawyer	Mike Vadney
Cloissa Magry	

Did you know?

50% of electricity use is controlled by the end user. That means significant savings can be generated through good office energy practices such as using task lighting and turning off equipment at the end of the day.

You have the Power; Use it wisely!

Blackle: the debate begins

Last issue we advertised the existence of Blackle, a site that employs the Google search engine which claims to help save energy by using a black screen. The theory is that a dark screen uses less energy than a light screen.

We received some interesting comments from our readers. One astute IT advisor noted that the black screen may save energy if using an older, CRT monitor. Conversely, a black screen may actually use more energy on a newer flat screen LCD monitor. Check out the link:

<http://googleblog.blogspot.com/2007/08/is-black-new-green.html> to read more about this.

Bottom line: it appears that Blackle may have limited applicability in its ability to save energy.

Our office will continue take any comments about this site or ways we can reduce our energy consumption through computer power management and bring them to you in the coming issues. Email us at: mmallia@uamail.albany.edu

Spring Events

In addition to the opening of the art exhibit, the beginning of the spring semester is filled with many sustainable events.

Recyclemania

Feb 2nd –
March 28th

This year Recyclemania begins on February 2nd and runs through March 28th. Last year, UAlbany recycled over 230,000 pounds of recyclable material during the contest. That equated to 13 pounds per person! This year we hope to exceed those totals.

Indian Quad currently reigns as champion of the Recyclemania quad contest. Bragging rights and a special dinner highlighted by a chocolate fountain, awaits the winner of this year's contest. Not to mention the coveted Recyclemania trophy!

In addition to our on-campus competition, we have been challenged by Union and Skidmore to beat their per capita totals. Do your part and take the time and effort to recycle. It not only helps us in the contest but provides raw materials for water bottles, toys, notebook paper and paper towels.

Denis Hayes

founder of Earth Day

Feb 9th

Through the generous sponsorship of National Grid, Denis Hayes, the National Coordinator of the first Earth Day, will be speaking at UAlbany on February 9th at 4:30 pm in the D'Ambra Auditorium in the Life Sciences Building.

Hayes has been at the core of the modern environmental movement since its launch. As a foundation president, attorney, lobbyist, Stanford professor, grassroots organizer, and the youngest director of a national laboratory in the nation's history, he has spent much of his life fighting for a healthier world. Selected by *Time* magazine as one of its 100 "Heroes for the Planet," Denis Hayes offers a great perspective on environmental stewardship. Come join us for this unique opportunity.

National Teach In on Global Warming Solutions

Feb 4th

UAlbany will be participating in the National Teach In on Global Warming Solutions by hosting a national webcast followed by a panel discussion.

This event will take place February 4th beginning at 6:30 pm in LC1. The webcast entitled "Solutions for the First 100 Days" will be shown. This half hour program will focus on potential policy geared towards combating global warming. For more information on the webcast, go to www.nationalteachin.org

Following this viewing, a distinguished panel of faculty, staff, students and local environmental leaders will give their perspectives on policy solutions. The panel will moderated by Malinda White of NYPIRG. Participants include Professor Robert Keesee (Atmospheric and Environmental Science), Professor William Kidd (Earth Science), Professor Andrei Lapenas (Geography and Planning), Ryan Lennon, student representative, Mary Ellen Mallia, Director of Environmental Sustainability and Joe Stelling of NYPIRG.

Come join us for a timely and significant discussion on what our federal and state governments can do to help combat global warming and what we are doing at the University level.



Updates:

New sustainability coordinators

Several new sustainability coordinators were trained on January 26th. This list includes:

Erik Andersen

Mike Beaton

Jessica Ernye

Makenzie Frisino

Kelly Lamb

Elana Stein

The coordinators will be having a brainstorming session on February 10th in Assembly Hall at 12 pm.

If you are interested in becoming a coordinator, contact the office. The next training session will occur towards the end of the semester.

Upcoming events:

Dump and Run

Last year was the inaugural year of the Dump and Run when we expanded a previous collection program to all of the quads. This year we would like to further expand our efforts but we need help. If you are interested in helping to organize and implement this program, please contact the office. In addition, we will be having a kick off meeting towards the end of February. Check our website under "upcoming events" to see the exact place and time.

We especially need people who are available during move out/finals time to help move the items from the quads to our storage facility.

(Right) Picture from Indian quad, in last year's Dump and Run

Sustainability Council

Students can still join a sustainability council. Simply go to our website, www.albany.edu/gogreen and click on the link towards the bottom of the page to apply.

The councils have been conducting recycling bin audits of their dorms, organizing returnable can collections and working on a bike sharing program.

The council held a meeting on January 30th. Check the upcoming events for more meeting info.

Faculty No Paper Pledge

In November, we gave Faculty the opportunity to go to our website and record their pledge to go paperless. We would like to send out another call so we can list participants in our next bulletin. Go to www.albany.edu/gogreen and click on the Faculty No Paper Pledge icon.

Richard Schrader: Speaker on March 3rd

Richard is the New York Legislative Director for the National Resource Defense Council. His presentation will touch on pressing environmental issues such as an electronics recycling bill for New York State, natural gas drilling, renewable energy legislation, and New York State's Environmental Protection Fund.

Richard will be speaking at 7 pm on March 3rd at the Terrace Lounge in the Campus Center



"We will harness the sun and the winds and the soil to fuel our cars and run our factories."



~ President Barack Obama

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