

Energy Task Force

Working with the UNH community to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, improve energy efficiency and conservation, and lower energy costs

TIMELINE

November 2005

President Hart creates Energy Task Force.



Nov/Dec 2005

Powerdown over Thanksgiving and winter breaks results in over \$20,000 saved in energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions prevented equivalent to removing 30 cars from the road for one year.

January 2006

UNH designated by EPA and DOT as a "Best Workplace for Commuters" for third year in a row.



Feb/March 2006

Six new compressed natural gas shuttle buses are added to UNH's Clean Fleet. The Clean Fleet Project includes a variety of transit improvements - from alternative fuels to cleaner technology – all implemented with the goal of making UNH's transit system one of the cleanest in New England.

April 2006

A roundtable discussion on how the Northeast is responding to climate change, including through the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, attracts students, faculty, and staff.

May 2006

UNH earns first EPA ENERGY STAR rating for residence halls in the nation for Congreve, Lord, and McLaughlin.



FUTURE PLANS

2006-2007

- WildCAP discounts on ENERGY STAR appliances and electronics for UNH students, parents, faculty, and staff, through Houghton's ACE Hardware.
- Educational material & training for pcard holders to help them purchase ENERGY STAR equipment.
- 2004-2005 update to UNH's Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventory, which has been tracking the Durham campus's greenhouse gas emissions since 1990.
- Expansion of UNH Clean Fleet program, including more CNG shuttles, an electric utility vehicle, \$2 million worth of biodiesel (B-20) buses, and improvements in efficiency standards for all purchased vehicles.
- 2006-2007 Discovery Program Dialogue (annual campus-wide discussions and events) theme of energy



"Energy conservation makes sense both economically and environmentally."

John Aber

VP of Research & Public Service and Chair of the UNH Energy Task Force

- More educational campaigns such as computer power management and powerdown
- Online operation of cogeneration (COGEN) facility, including

- incorporation of captured methane from Turnkey landfill, reducing the Durham campus's greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 40%.
- Conversion of dining area waste vegetable oil into biodiesel to fuel offroad farm equipment and to heat greenhouses and other farm buildings.
- Renovation of James Hall into a more sustainable building that will serve as a campus-wide model for other renovation and construction projects
- Continued lighting retrofits and upgrades in buildings on campus.
- More classes related to energy and climate - from "Energy and the Environment" (CE 401) to the new Discovery course "Science, Policy and Climate Change" to "Climate Change and Health" (part of the MPH program at UNH-Manchester) to "Sustainable Engineering"
- First annual UNH Student Energy Waste Watch Challenge in residence halls and on-campus apartments

UNH Energy Task Force (ETF) Basics

Membership

The Energy Task Force is comprised of a wide variety of faculty, staff, and students

CHAIR

John Aber, VP of Research & Public Service

FACULTY

- David Brown, Dept. of Geography and State Climatologist
- John Halstead, Dept. of Natural Resources
- Tom Kelly, Office of Sustainability

- Stacy VanDeveer, Dept. of Political Science
- Cameron Wake, Climate Change Research Center
- David Watt, Dept. of Mechanical Engineering

STAFF

- Sara Cleaves, Office of Sustainability
- Paul Chamberlin, Facilities
- Jim Dombrosk, Energy Office
- David Gillum, Environmental Health & Safety
- Mike Jones, Editorial
 & Creative Services
- Matt O'Keefe, Energy Office

- Steve Pesci, Campus Planning (transportation focus)
- Jahnay Pickett, Office of Sponsored Research

STUDENTS

- Shelby Flint, graduate student in Dept. of Natural Resources
- Chris Skolgund, graduate student in Dept. of Natural Resources
- Two undergraduate students who have graduated; we are recruiting new undergraduates

Subcommittees

Subcommittees are formed as needed to address issues deemed important by the ETF and to lead certain initiatives

- CIS/Power management
- Clean Fleet/Transportation
- Communications
- Curriculum & Research
- Policy (State and Regional)
- Powerdown
- Purchasing
- Student Energy Waste Watch Challenge
- Sustainable Building

We also integrate our work with that of other groups and initiatives on campus, such as the Transportation Policy Committee and the Climate Education Initiative.

More Information

www.unh.edu/etf

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