



Campus moving on green initiatives

The University of Maine at Presque Isle is working hard on its commitment to the environment. In the past year, we've made Going Green a big priority for our institution and it's touched on everything from our daily routines to University Day, our annual day of student research. Along with the big projects you already know about – such as our work to install a wind turbine – there are many other efforts underway.

Most importantly, the University has established the Green Campus Action Committee to look at ways the campus can become more eco-friendly. Ideas have ranged from solar street lights to starch-based biodegradable garbage bags.

Right now, the committee is focused on just a few projects. According to Dr. Allen Salo, chairman of the Green Campus Action Committee, they include an examination of herbicide and pesticide spraying on campus; the placement of large, blue recycling receptacles in central, high traffic areas; and an investigation into whether

the flat roof of South Hall could be converted into a "green roof," where plants would be grown to absorb the sunlight that passes through the roof and heats up the building in the summertime.

The Green Campus Action Committee recently created a website – <http://pages.umpi.edu/~green-campus> – to report on its activities. All are encouraged to submit ideas or suggestions there.

While the committee's work is one of the bigger, more long-range efforts on which the University is focusing, it's important to note that many people on campus, not just those on the Green Committee, are constantly looking at ways we can be

"greener." Staffers are looking into geothermal energy, solar panels, and energy efficiency projects.

We're also lucky to have an environmentally conscious leader at our helm. President Don Zillman has been at the international forefront of energy and resource law and policy

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"Haze cam" installed to monitor air quality

A web cam has been placed atop Folsom-Pullen Hall to monitor air quality, thanks to a partnership between the University and the Micmac Environmental Health Department.

The "haze cam," which is pointed north toward Main Street, went live last week uploading images to the Aroostook Band of Micmacs' air quality monitoring website. The camera, MEHD's second, is the latest tool they have to monitor air quality in real time.

According to Fred Corey, environmental director for the health department, the new haze cam gives the department – and the public – a real time look at what's happening in the local atmosphere. In the local area,

ozone and particulate matter can create haze problems.

The MEHD monitors for all primary pollutants, such as nitrogen and sulfur oxides, as well as carbon dioxide. Corey said the department has the most comprehensive air monitoring site in the state. The MEHD is funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, though it is overseen by the Aroostook Band of Micmacs, and it works closely with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. Efforts to establish the monitoring project began in 2003, and the monitoring program has been in place now for about four years.

In that time, it has worked closely

with the University and its students, who have visited the site at Skyway Industrial Park to learn about air quality measurement. Students also have served as interns in the department's environmental laboratory. The new haze cam is the latest collaboration for the department and the University. UMPI officials donated their time and effort to help install the camera and have provided a network connection for the project at no charge.

"We were more than happy to help out with this project and give people a bird's eye view of the city so they can learn more about air quality issues," Rick Thibeault, the University's Manager of Technology Services, said.

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Campus marks Earth Day with screening, display

Along with this Go Green issue of the *image*, the University is celebrating Earth Day during the week of April 22 with the screening of an Academy Award-winning documentary on climate change and a display in the library.

ON EARTH DAY, Tuesday, April 22, the Green Campus Action Committee and Native Voices partnered to offer a screening of *An Inconvenient Truth* (2006). The film traces former Vice President Al Gore's journey to raise awareness about the urgency of the current global environmental crisis. While many have seen the documentary, organizers felt it was important to host another showing of the film, which offers many tips on how individuals can affect positive change in the environment.

THROUGHOUT THE MONTH OF APRIL, anyone can stop

by the Library to view the GARDENING WITH NATURE exhibit, which was produced by the Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners with help from Master Gardeners Dr. Alice Sheppard and Karen Colburn, and librarian Tammera Race. The display explores food, cover and nesting sites for wildlife as well as insects, microbes and the soil food web.

The annual Earth Day celebrations were first organized in 1970 by an international council of representatives for the purpose of promoting environmental citizenship and progressive action worldwide. Earth Day aims to raise awareness of environmental issues and to promote local, regional and international efforts to create a healthy and sustainable planet. See www.earthday.net for more information about this initiative. ★

So, what gets recycled on our campus?

- ✓ Office paper, cardboard, wood, newspaper, magazines, phonebooks, glass containers, laser cartridges, returnable bottles and cans, furniture, yard waste, batteries, and motor oil.
- ✓ Almost 50 percent of our solid waste is paper and paper products – which comes in at a grand total of 80,000 lbs. We recycle 97% of that waste.
- ✓ We recycle 100% of our returnable cans and bottles, glass, laser cartridges, metals, and motor oil, and 80% of our plastics.
- ✓ We also buy recycled products. Our stationary is made of 60% recycled materials; our envelopes and paper towels are made of 100% recycled materials.

Even our toilet paper is made with 40% recycled materials.

✓ The Campus Waste Management and Recycling Program, with cooperation from the City of Presque Isle, is overseen by the Physical Plant Office with the direct input of the campus administration.

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Information compiled by
Recycling Coordinator David St.
Peter

Green initiatives

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for more than two decades. He just had his book, *Beyond the Carbon Economy: Energy Law in Transition*, which he and three other scholars co-edited, published by Oxford University Press. And recently,



he's visited spots from Bowdoin College to Denmark to talk about green energy.

President Zillman recently signed the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment, which states that we, as a campus, will work toward carbon neutrality. It's a big step for a small, public university, but we will make it happen. And we won't stop there. As the past year has shown, we're going to do everything we can to create a positive change in the environment for the betterment of our community. ★

President to present in Copenhagen from Presque Isle

President Don Zillman will appear at an international conference in Copenhagen, Denmark in April in an environmentally friendly way.

Zillman will appear during a panel on Energy, Environment, Resources and Infrastructure

Campus tilting closer to wind power

One year ago, the University announced its biggest green energy project yet – plans to install a wind turbine – and after months of work, officials say they are ready to move forward with a deal as soon as the last piece of permitting is approved.

Officials intend to construct a 400 to 700 kW wind turbine at the field near Kelly Commons that will produce up to one million kilowatt-hours of electricity per year. Annually, the turbine will save an estimated 572 tons of carbon dioxide from being released into the atmosphere and save the University more than \$100,000 in electricity charges.

Officials have determined costs – ensuring that the project

Law at the Biennial Conference of the International Bar Associations, which takes place April 26-30 this year in Copenhagen. About 300 delegates are expected to attend. The conference gathers together lawyers, corporate and government officials, and academics with an interest in energy and resource law and policy.

While Zillman won't be

has been a member of the group for more than 20 years and was its first U.S. member – and they have spent the last two years taking a hard look at the unsustainability of the present carbon economy. Their efforts resulted in several findings and a book published this year by Oxford University Press titled *Beyond the Carbon Economy – Energy Law in Transition*. The book was co-edited by Zillman, Catherine

President Don Zillman completes a taping that will be shown during a panel on Energy, Environment, Resources and Infrastructure Law at the Biennial Conference of the International Bar Associations, April 26-30 in Copenhagen, Denmark.



attending the conference in person, a digital video of him discussing the benefits and problems in considering a return to the nuclear power option will be played during the presentation.

"We shot the video in Presque Isle, in front of one of the impressive piles of snow that has accumulated during this unusually precipitous winter, and it will show in Copenhagen without me having to fly over there," Zillman said.

He and the other panelists are members of the IBA's academic advisory group – Zillman

Redgwell, Yinka Omorogbe, and Lila Barrera-Hernandez.

"This book, drawing on participants from all over the world, addresses multiple aspects of the global energy situation from a legal perspective and suggests directions in which the post-carbon world should be moving," Zillman said.

Details from the book and the group's collected findings will be the topic of discussion during the 90-minute panel presentation in Copenhagen, which will take on a mock TV news show format. ★

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notes

April Faculty Noon Seminars

■ Mon., April 28, Dr. Richard Ayre and Dr. Barbara Chalou – “Agency, Alienation, and the Learning Process,” a report on alienation in relation to pedagogy, organizational structure, governance and administration.

■ Wed., April 30, Dr. Anja Whittington – “Inspiring Courage in Girls! An Examination of Participation in a Wilderness Program,” both during their experience and in their everyday lives. Bring lunch and join the discussion.

UMPI / Community Band

Spring Concert Mon., May 5, 7 p.m., Wieden Auditorium. Soloist SAD 1 Band Director Patrick Bragdon and two guest conductors, Andy Yaeger and Bob King, will be featured. Concert is free, and open to the public.

Northern Maine Chamber Orchestra concert

Sun., April 27, 2 p.m., Campus

Center. Waldo Caballero conducts. Musicians are from The County, Bangor, and Canada. Admission is free; a \$2 donation is accepted. Information: 768.9462 or carol.ayoob@umpi.edu.

Houlton Higher Education Center open house -

Highlighting educational programs and services in southern Aroostook County at the Houlton Higher Education Center Mon., April 28, 4 - 6 p.m., jointly sponsored by UMPI and Northern Maine Community College. Tour the facility, view displays showcasing the accomplishments of students and recent graduates. Campus and community are invited. Information: 768.9452 or 768.2809.

OAPI Acadia Climb

Outdoor Adventure Program International is heading to Acadia National Park for climbing/camping May 3 & 4. Register by Mon., April 28; mandatory participant meeting

is Tues., April 29, 7 p.m. Participants should have climbing experience and at least fundamental climbing/belaying skills. Information: Amanda Morin 768.9401 or amanda.morin@umpi.edu.

Social work students host advocacy workshop

UMPI social work students and area social work professionals host a workshop for campus and community, “Advocacy and the Legislative Process” Mon., April 28, 11:30 a.m., Campus Center. Presenter is Sara Gagne Holmes, Executive Director of Maine Equal Justice Partner. Information: Thea Day 498.6871.

Canadian children’s author, Sheree Fitch, visits campus

Mon. & Tues., April 28 & 29 to discuss her work and present workshops. ■ W.I.S.E. Words

Writing Workshop, Monday, April 28, 6 p.m. ■ A child-centered session for local schools - Tuesday, April 29 at 10 a.m. ■ “Serious Joy: Writing for Children,” designed for adults, Tuesday, April 29, 6 p.m. *All meet in the Campus Center.* ■ Reading and book signing – Turner Memorial Library, Presque Isle, Monday, April 28, 1:30 p.m. Information: 768.9521.

Melissa Crowe to read from newly published book

Assistant Professor of English Melissa Crowe will celebrate the publication of her recent book of poetry, “Cirque du Creve-Coeur” with a reading of selected works on Tuesday, May 6, 7 p.m. in the Faculty Lounge of Normal Hall. Information: michael.amey@umpi.edu or call 768.9408. ★

“Haze cam”

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Corey is similarly pleased with the project: “We see this as another piece of the relationship that we have between the Micmac tribe and the University. It’s been a great resource for us. We have a staff of four at the department, and we’re all UMPI alums from the environmental studies program. It’s a huge asset to the tribe both to have students who are trained locally and to keep building new partnerships with the University.” ★

To check out the view from the haze cam, visit www.micmacenvironmental.com/air/index.cfm.

Wind power

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stays within the \$2 million mark – and searched for the right fit, exploring everything from a small turbine company in California to much larger operations in Europe and India.

At this point, officials are awaiting word from the Federal Aviation Administration on the last permit needed, since the proposed site is close to the region’s airport. Once a determination is made, officials can move forward with ordering the turbine they want and getting a general contractor in place. The hope is to get the construction phase of the project launched this summer.

Through this project, the University hopes to serve its educational and community roles as a public university. Officials have promised to share all aspects of the University’s experience with the campus and people in Maine interested in exploring wind power options of their own. ★

image is a monthly publication of the University of Maine at Presque Isle’s Media Relations Office, and is distributed to members of the University community. **The deadline for material is ten days before the date of publication.** ☆

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