



NETWORK NEWS

Biweekly Edition No. 10
January 15, 2011

Network News will be emailed and made available on www.igence.org each quarter with shorter, biweekly updates on the 1st and 15th of each month. If you have topics, items or events you'd like to see included in the Network News, please send an email to Alessandra at allessandra.cairo@igence.org.

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What's Happening With IGEN

Organization Building

1. Announcing IGEN's Network Retreat

The next IGEN Network Retreat will be held **March 15-16, 2011 at Heartland Community College in Normal!** This retreat will be appropriate for sustainability professionals, and those directly involved with sustainability initiatives and activities on your campus. In addition, segments of the Network retreat may be appropriate for faculty, students and staff in the following departments; facilities, finance, academics, continuing education and workforce development. While a formal agenda is not yet available, all discussions and agenda items will be addressed through one of IGEN's four program areas:

- ▶ **Green Campuses**
- ▶ **Green Curriculum**
- ▶ **Green Communities**
- ▶ **Green Workforce Development**

The future of IGEN, next steps and fiscal year 2012 will also be discussed.

[REGISTER FOR THE IGEN NETWORK RETREAT!](#)

For more information, visit www.igencec.org or contact [Alessandra Cairo](#).

2. Call For Proposals

IGEN is looking for college representatives to present on the sustainability initiatives taking place on campuses across Illinois. Presentations should address one of the four IGEN program areas. If you, or someone from your college is interested in presenting at the Network Retreat, please submit a one-page abstract to [Alessandra Cairo](#) by February 4, 2011.

Visit www.igencec.org for more information or download "[How To Submit a Proposal](#)."

3. IGEN Members' Task Force Committees

If you are interested in participating in one the IGEN task forces, please contact [Julie Elzanati](#), or the task force facilitator at your earliest convenience. Space is limited, and selection of members will be on a first come, first serve basis.

Sustainability and Master Planning Task Force (this group is full)

Co-facilitators:

- ▶ [Leith Sharp](#)
- ▶ [Julie Elzanati](#)

First Meeting:

- ▶ Friday, January 21, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Transportation Task Force

Co-facilitators:

- ▶ [Marcia Lochmann](#)
- ▶ [Stephenie Presseller](#)

First Meeting:

- ▶ Tuesday, January 25, Time TB



Local Foods Task Force

Co-facilitators:

- ▶ [Lavon Nelson](#)
- ▶ [Julie Bates](#)

First Meeting:

- ▶ Tuesday, January 18, 9:00-10:00 a.m.

Weatherization Task Force

Co-facilitators:

- ▶ Tim Gibson

First Meeting:

- ▶ Tuesday, January 18, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Greening Your Curriculum

4. Pilot GYC Evaluation Update

At the conclusion of each pilot GYC program, each college was asked to have their participants take a brief GYC evaluation. The intent of this evaluation was to provide information to each college about the pilot program they offered and to provide information to IGEN on the available resources, course models and ideas for improvement. This faculty feedback will inform IGEN on how the existing GYC program can be modified and improved.

A summary of this evaluation and results will be distributed to the Network once all data has been analyzed. These results can be expected around late-March to early-April.

5. Uncovering Sustainability in the Curriculum

This article, written by Daniel J. Sherman of the University of Puget Sound, discusses the need for change in pedagogical thinking to fully integrate sustainability into higher education curriculum. Considering sustainability as a catalyst versus a topic, discussion of “uncoverage,” and an explanation of a rating system for identifying sustainability related versus sustainability focused courses, this short article provides you with a new method of addressing the integration of sustainability at your institution.

[Read the full article.](#)

Pilot Pathways

6. IGEN Webinar Series: Strategic Planning for Sustainability

Are you interesting in incorporating concepts of sustainability into your college's strategic plan? Looking for what to include, what impacts this can have, or how such a plan can be leveraged once it is in place?

Join this webinar to learn from colleges who have successfully navigated this process. The webinar will include presentations from schools that have completed or are in the process of developing sustainability strategic plans, as well as a discussion of best practices and potential stumbling blocks.

Thursday, January 27, 2011

10:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m.

To register for this webinar, please visit <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/IGENwebinar>.



Communications

7. IGEN's Website Under Development

The new Illinois Green Economy Network website is under development. The new site will include new features such as a "Members' Only" section for open collaboration among sustainability professionals, faculty, staff such as facility managers and students; an events calendar; college-specific information; accessible information for faculty, students and the general public; and more!

The new site will be unveiled at the Spring Network Retreat, March 15-16, 2011.

If you have ideas or items you'd like to see included on the new IGEN website, or if you wish to participate in a user-test group, please contact [Alessandra Cairo](#).

What's Happening Around Illinois

Community College Highlights

8. Congratulations to Kankakee Community College

IGEN would like to congratulate Kankakee Community College for submitting their AASHE STARS report and receiving a bronze rating! Good luck to the rest of you submitting reports!

9. Oakton Community College Receives 2010 Conservation and Native Landscaping Award

Oakton Community College is the recipient of a 2010 Conservation and Native Landscaping award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Chicago Wilderness. The award recognizes the college's restoration of 50 acres of remnant woodlands and wetlands, providing habitat for over 300 native plants, as well as a seven acre reconstructed prairie that contains 100 additional native plants.

The award will be presented on January 28 at the EPA's Chicago office.

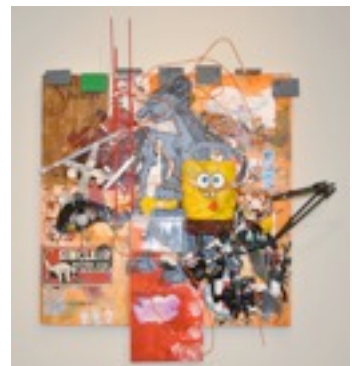
10. Lincoln Land Receives School Garden Service-Learning Grant

The Green Center at Lincoln Land Community College (LLCC) was recently awarded a STEM service-learning grant from the Midwest Campus Compact. Through the grant funding, students from LLCC and the University of Illinois at Springfield will work together with classes from three Springfield District 186 elementary schools. The college students will help the elementary students learn about environmental responsibility and sustainable gardening techniques and will help classes start growing plants from seed in the classroom this spring. Once the weather is warm enough, they will begin working together to create and cultivate a garden at each school. In the garden, both the college and elementary students will learn about composting, natural pest prevention techniques, harvesting, and more.

11. A Sustainability Policy, Recycling Art Exhibit, Student Ornament Contest and a Sustain Your Appetite Luncheon: See What's Going on at Southwestern Illinois College

With a busy year, and even busier December, SWIC had a green end to 2010! Here are some highlights.

- ▶ The Southwestern Illinois College Board of Trustees adopted the institution's first ever policy on sustainability. The policy states the college's commitment to principles of environmental leadership including performance, responsible management and growth, outreach, academics, conservation, and teamwork.
- ▶ Although the interest in recycling is international, not everyone turns "trash" into art. Or do they? Malaysian artist and architect Suhaimi Fadzir's unique paintings incorporating found toys and other objects, and his Malaysian paintings were on exhibit at SWIC's Schmidt Art Center during the fall semester.



- ▶ As part of SWIC's efforts to promote a GREEN campus, the College Activities office conducted a Holiday Ornament decorating contest for student organizations. Each student organization was asked to make three ornaments all using recycled, repurposed and reusable items that were placed in a kit for them. One ornament had to identify the student organization, another was to be made purely out of recycled, repurposed and reusable items and the third was to display their SWIC pride. All ornaments were judged on their creativity, if they used all the items in the kit and how closely they followed the instructions for a cash prizes to be placed in their student organizations account. The first place winner, the Ecology club, received \$100.

Pictured: Dr. Costello, SWIC President and Olivia Darugna, President of SWIC's Ecology Club.



- ▶ Forty people participated in the Sustain Your Appetite luncheon at the Sam Wolf Granite City Campus of Southwestern Illinois College on December 8. The meal was prepared by Chef Ollie Summer's culinary students. The menu included locally grown squash, horseradish, and other products that can be found in southwestern Illinois. Jim Braun with the Illinois Local Food Farms and Jobs Council addressed the group and discussed the importance of buying locally.

12. The College of Lake County Hires a Director of Green Economy Center

The College of Lake County welcomes Stephen Bell as their new Director of the Green Economy Center. Stephen will split his time between activities directly related to the Network, in particular energy-based funding initiatives and towards projects that support sustainability-related initiatives for Lake County communities and its residents. Stephen will also work closely with CLC's Sustainability Coordinator to develop the Sustainability Center's role in supporting local businesses by providing them access, tools and resources for sustainability.

13. Wilbur Wright Collecting Holiday Lights and Extension Cords

Wilbur Wright College is partnering with the Chicago Department of Environment to offer its student, staff and community residents a recycling option for their spent holiday string lights and extension cords. The plastics, wiring, and other components will be separated and recycled after pick-up by a local contractor. Collection will occur through January 18, 2011.

14. Community Partners for Sustainability Peer Forums

The College of Lake County's Sustainability Center hosted five Peer Idea Exchange Forums in December 2010 and January 2011. The forums targeted five sector-specific peer groups; Facilities Managers, Small Businesses, P-20 Educational Institutions, Community Members, and Municipal Offices. Forums included a guest speaker to share a success story within each sector. Speakers included Christy Brim, Facility Manager at HSBC North American Headquarters and Mayor Michael Belsky of the City of



Highland Park. Sixty community members in all represented these peer groups and attended at least one forum to network, learn best practices, and explore new ways to collaborate around common sustainability challenges and opportunities.

The Peer Forum series was part of the larger Community Partners for Sustainability in Lake County initiative. This initiative is convened by the CLC Sustainability Center to foster multi-stakeholder efforts to accelerate sustainability across Lake County.

15. SWIC Sustainability Director, Karen Stallman on the Green Economy

Karen Stallman, Southwestern Illinois College, recently participated in an interview at St. Louis Channel 9, the local PBS station, to discuss green economy topics and to promote the St. Louis Green Confluence to be held at St. Louis University January 26 and 27.

Karen Stallman and Marcia Lochmann, Lewis and Clark, are co-chairs of the St. Louis Higher Education Sustainability Consortium Education committee and will be participating in the confluence.

16. Renewable Energy 101 Workshop at Lincoln Land

Lincoln Land Community College offers a two-day Renewable Energy course for contractors, building professionals and individuals designed to provide a broad understanding of available green energy technologies. During the course, instructor Robert Croteau will touch on topics including energy efficiency; wind, solar, photovoltaic, hydroelectric, geothermal, and biomass energy; site assessment; and installation considerations. A tour of local renewable energy applications and demonstrations of working models will be included.

The classes will be held **January 29** and **February 12, 2011**, from **8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**, at the **Trutter Center** on the LLCC campus. The \$250 cost covers both sessions, lunch, and course materials. Some students might be eligible for a rebate of up to 50% upon successful completion of the course. **The registration deadline is January 21.**

For more information or to register, contact LLCC's Green Center Manager, [Julie Bates](#), at (217) 786-2434.

17. Weatherization Courses at Wilbur Wright

Wright has now completed five Weatherization Contractor week-long training courses. To date, 45 persons, under contract to the local Weatherization Assistance Provider (CEDA) have been trained and tested.

Of Interest

18. Delta Institute's Free Green Job Training

Delta Institute is offering 12 days of free classroom and on-site training for qualified, unemployed or underemployed construction workers. This training will prepare participants for careers in weatherization, hazardous waste operations, and lead-safe work practice; provide the certification needed to qualify for employment; and will provide additional assistance in finding a job.

For more information and details, visit [Delta Institute](#).

19. The Educational Facilities Professional's Practical Guide to Reducing the Campus Carbon Footprint

This guide expands upon and summarizes the five key action steps critical in reducing your campus' carbon footprint. The five steps include forming a stakeholder group, completing a GHG inventory,



developing a strategic climate action plan, identifying resource investments and implementing a tactical plan. This practical guide will provide you and your institution's key stakeholders with the guidance and basic knowledge needed to begin to address the challenge of climate change and to reduce your campus' carbon footprint.

[Download this guide.](#)

20. APPA Thought Leaders 2010 Report: Assessing and Forecasting Facilities in Higher Education

The APPA has published the [2010 Thought Leaders Report](#) which focuses on Facilities in Higher Education. This report reviews the Thought Leaders Series, as it turns five years old and the trials and tribulations of colleges and universities over the past five years. The report addresses the critical issues for facilities and how to develop the role of your senior facilities officers.

21. The Illinois Energy Now Lighting Sale

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) State Energy Office announces a special lighting sale through its Illinois Energy Now program. The Illinois Energy Now program offers a portfolio of electric efficiency programs to achieve targeted annual energy savings goals.

These special sale incentives are available to local governments, public schools, community colleges, public universities and State and Federal government facilities in the Ameren Illinois and ComEd's electric service areas.

The Illinois Energy Now special sale incentive will be available now to March 31, 2011.

For more information, visit [DCEO's Bureau of Energy and Recycling](#).

22. DEADLINE EXTENDED: NWF Campus Ecology - 2011 Campus Climate Fellowships

NWF is continuing to award fellowship grants to undergraduate and graduate students with faculty and staff support on campus. *Your college may qualify for an award up to \$1,000.* Sustainability projects can include greenhouse gas inventories, climate action plans, energy conservation and efficiency, buildings, renewable energy, transportation and habitat.

For more details, or to apply, visit www.nwf.org/fellows.

The deadline to submit your application has been extended to January 31, 2011.

Events

23. USDA Biomass Crop Assistance Program Informational Webinar

The webinar, organized by the Illinois Biomass Working Group (IBWG), IIRA, and the University of Illinois Extension, will feature Don King, chief program specialist for the USDA Farm Service Agency in Illinois, and Tim Slating from the University of Illinois' Energy Biosciences Institute. Iutzi noted that King and Slating will discuss the program and the application process. An overall strategy for organizing applications to target the critical project areas of BCAP will also be discussed.

Interested parties can participate at one of seven locations, or choose to view the webinar later. To register, visit <http://go.illinois.edu/biomass>.

Thursday, January 20, 2011, 1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.



24. Sustainable Energy Planning Workshop

This workshop is designed to empower organizations to craft a Sustainable Energy Plan, and achieve immediate and sustained energy cost reductions. After the workshop, energy experts will provide free consulting/coaching support to complete the SEP, conduct energy surveys, or target other actions identified in the sustainable energy planning process. Finally, all participants will be invited to return for a "Lessons Learned & Best Practices" session to be held in May 2011.

The total program fee of \$5,500 covers the Sustainable Energy Planning (SEP) Workshop, implementation and consulting/coaching support, and a follow-up networking session.

Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) and Ameren Illinois Utilities will underwrite \$5,000; your organization pays only \$300. Up to three people from each organization can attend for this single fee of \$300.

There is very limited space for each workshop. Register today by calling 312-558-1683.

Should you have questions or comments, you are welcome to call SEDAC at 1-800-214-7954.

Tuesday, January 18, 2011
Peoria Area Chamber of Commerce
Peoria, IL

Thursday, January 27, 2011
River Bend Growth Association
Alton, IL

25. McHenry County College: Food Council Round-Table Discussion

The Agriculture Conservation Easement & Farmland Protection (ACE) Commission invites you to attend a Round Table Discussion for A McHenry County Food Council. The intent of this meeting is to hold an open discussion to promote the potential establishment of a food council within McHenry County by bringing together agricultural educators and growers, and restaurant and business owners. A food council would allow for the promotion of education, production, sales and consumption of locally produced foods in McHenry County.

Wednesday, January 19, 2011, 7:00 p.m.
McHenry County Government Center
Administration Building
667 Ware Road
Woodstock, IL 60098

To register, please contact [Kim Kolner](#) by January 10, 2011 at 815.334.4560.

26. Introduction to Green IT*

This two-session course provides the foundation for businesses to get the most from greening their IT. An in-depth look at the sustainability movement and the implications for IT departments. Understand both the challenges and opportunities IT presents to organizations working to reduce their environmental impact. Learn how to conduct a Green IT assessment. Understand the framework, tactics and tools used in assessing IT performance. Create a Green IT assessment based on a typical organization.

Registration cost is \$200.00.



To register, visit [Heartland Community College's Community Education](#)

Tuesday and Wednesday, January 25-26, 2011, 8:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
Heartland Community College
Normal, IL

27. Waste Cap's Construction and Demolition Waste Recycling Training*

This training will give you the skills to develop, manage, monitor, document and promote a successful recycling program for construction and demolition debris. It also provides training to obtain LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) points for MR 2.1 and 2.2. Participants receive a three year Accreditation in Construction Waste Recycling, and the course is approved for 7.5 CEUs for LEED APs.

Visit, [WasteCap Resource Solutions](#) to register. Or, for more information, visit <http://www.wastecap.org/services/training/>.

Thursday, January 27, 2011
Heartland Community College
Normal, IL

28. NSF ATE: A Renewable Energy Curriculum

KCC Professor Timothy J. Wilhelm will present a detailed overview of the four Renewable Energy courses in KCC's Electrical Technology Associate in Applied Science degree program:

- ▶ Survey of Renewable Energy
- ▶ Introduction to Solar-Photovoltaic Technology
- ▶ Introduction to Solar-Thermal Technology
- ▶ Introduction to Small-Wind Energy Technology

Come learn about the curricula and syllabi for each course, and review handouts, PowerPoints and tests. The building of lab training stations will also be discussed. Each participant will be provided with all course materials.

Tuesday, February 1, 2011, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
The Iroquois Room
Kankakee Community College
Kankakee, IL

For more information, download "[A Renewable Energy Curriculum](#)."

29. Houses That Work*

Heartland Community College is sponsoring one of 25 national education workshops, Houses That Work. This full day session qualifies for 8 AIA, 8 AIBD, 3.25 BPI, 5 RESNET, 7 NAHB CEU credits and is approved by the USGBC for 8 GBCI CE Hours towards LEED credentialing maintenance. During this session you will hear and learn about building science principles, wall and roof structures, window and door systems, protecting building systems, foundations, mechanical systems (conditioning the indoors), indoor air quality, the case for green building, changing the building process and marketing for performance.



Cost for registration prior to January 25 is \$125.00 or \$140.00 after January 25. To register, visit [The Energy & Environmental Building Alliance](#). Deadline for registration is January 31, 2011.

Tuesday, February 1, 2011, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Heartland Community College
Astroth Community Education Center
Normal, IL

30. 2011 Composting Symposium at Lincoln Land

The Green Center at Lincoln Land Community College is hosting the 8th annual Central Illinois Composting Symposium.

The symposium is a forum for sharing composting information, stimulating the composting market, and bringing composters, educators, and businesses together so that everyone can benefit from learning about this excellent organic soil amendment. At the symposium, participants can learn about composting organic materials from experts in the field. Topics touch on backyard, community, food waste, farm, and school composting.

Keynote speaker, Dr. Paul Walker of Illinois State University, will discuss his experiences with composting and the future of composting in the state and region.

Following the symposium program, participants are invited to attend the Build Your Own Bin (BYOB) workshop. Attendees will have the opportunity to build their own vermi-compost bin for the home or office. The workshop includes the take-home materials (including worms) necessary to begin composting and provides information on caring for a worm composting bin. Symposium attendance is not required to attend the BYOB workshop.

Symposium registration is \$25 prior to Feb. 1 and \$30 after Feb. 1. Build Your Own Bin workshop registration is \$15 prior to Feb. 1 and \$20 after Feb. 1. The symposium is free to students with a valid student ID.

Businesses and organizations related to composting or gardening are invited to exhibit at the symposium. Exhibitor space is \$55, which includes one registration to the symposium (registration only; BYOB fee not included).

To learn more or register, visit <http://www.llcc.edu/greencenter/GreenInitiatives/CommunityWorkshops/2011CompostSymposium/tabid/6331/Default.aspx> or contact [Julie Bates](#), at (217) 786-2434.

Monday, February 14, 2011, 12:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.
Lincoln Land Community College
Trutter Center
Springfield, IL

31. Women in Green

Join experts from the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor, the Illinois Community College system, and around the State for two captivating events that will examine sustainability programs and initiatives which support the development and advancement of the green economy; explore ways to recruit and retain women in green careers; emphasize the importance of women in green occupations; and highlight green programs of study in Illinois.

Wednesday, February 23, 2011, 10:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.



Lewis and Clark Community College
National Great Rivers Research & Education Center Field Station

Thursday, April 28, 2011, 10:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Illinois Central College
Agriculture and Industrial Technologies Building

32. Use Less Energy and Spend Less Money: SEDAC Workshop

Learn how to reduce energy costs through energy efficiency designs for both businesses and public entities. Businesses of all sizes and public sector administrators or facility managers for K-12, community colleges, universities, park districts, libraries, local governments, water and wastewater treatment facilities in the Ameren Illinois service territories are invited to attend.

Visit, <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/fulton/> to register.

Wednesday, March 2, 2011, 12:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
Spoon River College
Community Outreach Center
2500 E. Jackson Street
Macomb, IL

33. Food and Agriculture Under the Big Sky: People, Partnerships and Policies

The joint 2011 Annual Meetings & Conference of the Agriculture, Food, and Human Values Society (AFHVS), Association for the Study of Food and Society (ASFS), & Society for Anthropology of Food and Nutrition (SAFN) will be June 9-12 in Missoula, Montana!

For more information, or to register, please visit the [conference website](#).

Do you have a poster, paper, panel, roundtable idea or workshop in mind? Visit [submit abstracts](#) to submit an abstract for this conference. The deadline for abstracts to be submitted is **February 11, 2011**. Not only are academic sessions welcomed, but activists, government staff, farmers, and others with practical knowledge of food and agricultural systems are encouraged to participate as well. Organizations, businesses, agencies, and publishers may also participate as exhibitors.

Thursday - Sunday, June 9-12, 2011
University of Montana - Missoula

*Please note. Courses completed at Heartland Community College before February 10, 2011 are eligible for 50% reimbursement of fees.