

NETWORK NEWS

Biweekly Edition No. 3
September 15, 2010

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.

What's Happening With IGEN

Organization Building

1. [DCEO Forwards IGEN's Second Check for Phase II](#)
2. [Utility Company Update](#)

Greening Your Curriculum

3. [GYC Course Under Development](#)

Pilot Pathways

4. [IGEN's First Webinar: Thin Client Computing](#)
5. [Round 2 of IGEN's Sustainability Inventory](#)

Communications

6. [Call for Your College's Success Stories](#)

What's Happening Around Illinois

Community College Highlights

7. [2010 Central Illinois Green Expo](#)

Of Interest

8. [Illinois Campus Sustainability Compact: Version 2](#)
9. [The University of Illinois Releases Learning Outcomes for Sustainability](#)

Calls for Help

10. [Volunteer Opportunity: Greenbuild 2010, Chicago](#)

Events

11. [2010 Wind Summit](#)
12. [USGBC-Illinois's \(North/Northwest Branch\) Private Networking Event and Tour of the Healthy Home 2010](#)
13. [2010 Illinois Energy Expo](#)
14. [The BIONEERS at McHenry County College: Food - How it's all connected.](#)

What's Happening With IGEN

Organization Building

1. DCEO Forwards IGEN's Second Check for Phase II

On September 7, the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Development forwarded IGEN's second check for phase II of its development. The intent of this grant is to provide funds for materials and outreach at the 12 funded sustainability centers and seed money for 36 community colleges to continue implementing sustainability initiatives, including but not limited to a sustainability web presence, events and community outreach projects.

More specific information regarding this grant will be available within one to two months once the remaining IGEN FY10 funding is secured.

2. Utility Company Update

The major utility companies across Illinois are required, by law, to collect rate payer fees and contribute these fees to a state wide fund. Once collected, these funds are to be directed towards energy efficiency and demand response activities across the state. While the utility companies themselves are responsible for implementing the majority of these programs, aspects of these programs can be, and are, outsourced.

Every three years the utilities submit their plans for approval by the Illinois Commerce Commission. **IGEN has recently learned the next round of plans are due on October 1.**

IGEN Executive Director, Leith Sharp, along with the IGEN Steering Committee and administrative team, are working diligently to connect with executive level employees of Ameren, ComEd, People's Gas and Nicor to urge these companies to include the community college sector (through IGEN) as a partner in their plans to achieve energy efficient communities. **The goal is to position the community college sector as a central partner in this next phase of plans.** By doing so, we may open the way to collaborate on the design of a variety of programs to help the utilities achieve their goals and in return we would access agreed funds to undertake these programs over the three years. This may prove to be a crucial next step in IGEN's efforts to assist and expand the sustainability outreach efforts of all Illinois community colleges.

With this new information, on September 14 the IGEN Steering Committee convened a meeting to discuss the immediate next steps and strategy for securing funding. During this meeting, the Presidents requested we obtain information relating to energy efficiency activities on campuses across Illinois (funded and non-funded colleges), immediately. This information will help to prove how pivotal the community college sector can be thereby giving IGEN the best chance to be included in the energy efficiency and demand response plans being submitted by all of the major utility companies on October 1.

We have created an energy survey which we are requesting all colleges to complete. The survey was sent to sustainability professionals and key contacts at all 48 colleges on September 15.

This is an important next step in the future of IGEN. We believe one of the greatest strengths of our Illinois community college partnership may be the ability to achieve greater successes by quickly working together to respond to the changing sustainability landscape.

Greening Your Curriculum

3. GYC Course Under Development

Sustainability professionals at the 12 funded colleges and members of the IGEN administrative team are finalizing the five GYC course modules: Defining the Problem - Impacts and Issues, Defining Sustainability, The Green Economy, Social Equity and Environmental Justice, and Local Learning Local Action.

Useful resources relating to each module have been compiled and are now under review. The IGEN administrative team anticipates the five modules to be standardized and made available online, with their resources, by the end of September, preparing colleges for a GYC launch as early as October 1.

For more information on the GYC program visit, www.igence.org or contact Julie Elzanati at julie.elzanati@heartland.edu.

Pilot Pathways

4. IGEN's First Webinar: Thin Client Computing

Join the Lake Land College team, including Joe Tillman, Director of Sustainability, Lee Spaniol, Director of Information Systems and Services, Bill Warfel, Systems Programmer and Network Administrator, and hear from faculty and student users, to learn about Thin Client Computing at Lake Land College and how this technology can be implemented at your college to save energy, reduce maintenance costs and improve computer performance.

The webinar will be held on **Thursday, September 23, 10:30-11:30 am**. The primary audience for this webinar is Sustainability staff, IT professionals, CFOs and other interested parties. To register, please email Jesse Foote at Jesse.Foote@igence.org.

5. Round 2 of IGEN's Sustainability Inventory

At the request of the Presidents Steering Committee, IGEN has launched its second round of the IGEN Sustainability Inventory to obtain information relating to energy efficiency activities. Based on the comments and suggestions from the 12 funded colleges, the IGEN administrative team extended the inventory to include all sustainability related activities.

The 12 funded colleges have been asked to complete this inventory by October 1. Within two to four months, the IGEN administrative team anticipates asking all colleges to complete this inventory.

The intent of this inventory is to identify first generation pilot projects that can be implemented at campuses across the state. Successful stories will be highlighted in the IGEN monthly webinar series.

The IGEN administrative team, over the next seven months, will work with interested colleges to identify areas on their campus in which a second generation pilot project can be successfully implemented and monitored. Once second generation projects are proven successful, the administrative team will work with the Presidents Steering Committee to encourage broad adoption throughout the state.

Communications

6. Call for Your College's Success Stories

The IGEN administrative team is looking for your success stories, college highlights, upcoming events and all things relative to sustainability and green practices on and around your campus. This information will be used on the IGEN website and in IGEN's Network News. Your stories are what sets IGEN apart, and we want to hear them! Please contact Alessandra Cairo at Alessandra.Cairo@igence.org with your college's news.

What's Happening Around Illinois

Community College Highlights

7. **2010 Central Illinois Green Expo**

On September 10-11, Illinois Central College welcomed more than 700 attendees to the 2010 Central Illinois Green Expo. Community members were given the chance to learn about energy efficiency, renewable energy and sustainable living. With more than 40 different presentations on topics ranging from wind energy, sustainable building sites and green lifestyle to improving home efficiency, building a community “green team” and becoming a “zero waste” family, there was something for everyone at the 2010 Central Illinois Green Expo.

In a joint effort to explore the critical issues that impact sustainability in the central region, this event brought together individuals, families and professionals as well as business and community leaders. Local organizations and businesses were set up in an exhibition tent to showcase programs and products that can build a thriving green economy. The event proved to be a great success for individuals of all ages.

Of Interest

8. **Illinois Campus Sustainability Compact: Version 2**

In 2005, then Lt. Governor Pat Quinn, and the Green Governments Coordinating Council announced the Illinois Universities and Colleges Sustainability Compact 2005-2010, which encouraged colleges and universities to make sustainability an element of their campus operations. This version was more of a check list of tasks that a higher education institution could address as an attempt to reduce their impact on the environment. There was a heavy focus on campus operations with little regard to students or academics.

With 81 signatories, the Compact proved to be influential and helped many institutions achieve a great deal. However, with a focus on campus operations and a lack of accountability for involving the campus community, the compact revision task force decided it was important to make revisions that would build upon accomplishments and focus on not only campus operations, but also engaging students, faculty and the community at large.

On August 27, at the 5th Annual Sustainable University Symposium, Version 2 of the Illinois Campus Sustainability Compact was released for formal adoption with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign becoming the first signatory.

The new compact is tiered by three levels of commitment in which achievement of all items is required before moving to the next level. The three levels are:

- ▶ Bronze, for those institutions making a commitment to creating a sustainability program and engaging the campus community.
- ▶ Silver, for those institutions which are ready to make targeted commitments to greening their operations and monitoring performance.
- ▶ And gold, for those institutions that are integrating sustainability throughout their campus and working towards measured improvement.

All community colleges are encouraged to sign the Illinois Campus Sustainability Compact. If your college signed version 1, you must recommit by signing the newly released compact.

The IGEN administrative team would like to recognize all those who worked on Version 2 of the Compact, but specifically Bert Jacobson, Dean of Environmental and Institutional Sustainability, Kankakee Community College and Stephenie Presseller, Sustainability Manager, Moraine Vally Community College, for their involvement with the Illinois Green Governments Coordinating Council, Green Universities and Colleges Compact Revision Task Force and the creation of the Illinois Campus Sustainability Compact 2011-2015.

For more information on the Illinois Campus Sustainability Compact 2011-2015, please visit www.green.illinois.gov.

9. The University of Illinois Releases Learning Outcomes for Sustainability

The Sustainability Education Task Force at the University of Illinois developed a set of learning outcomes for campus sustainability coursework. Appointed by the Chancellor and Provost, the task force is a committee of faculty, staff and students from diverse units across campus. [View the Sustainability Learning Outcomes at the UI's Office of Sustainability website.](#)

Calls for Help

10. Volunteer Opportunity: Greenbuild 2010, Chicago

Full-time college students and professionals, age 25 and under are needed! This year's Greenbuild 2010 is November 17-19 at McCormick Place West. Volunteers will be required to volunteer for a minimum eight hours and will then receive free admission to the conference. For more information, or to register, please visit [Greenbuild 2010](#).

Events

11. 2010 Wind Summit

Prairie State College is hosting Wind Summit 2010. The purpose of this summit is to provide a forum which, not only educates on the wind industry, but also encourages and supports involvement through communication and developing business relationships. With several experts on the agenda, insights into wind energy opportunities for both the manufacturing industry and educational institutions will be provided.

Registration details will be available shortly at www.igencec.org.

Monday and Tuesday, October 11-12, 2010
Prairie State College
1223 Lakeview Court, Palatine, IL

12. USGBC-Illinois's Private Networking Event and Tour of the Healthy Home 2010

The North/Northwest Suburban Branch of USGBC-Illinois would like to invite you to join them for an introductory meeting and private tour of the Healthy Home 2010.

Presented by Healthy Child Healthy World, Healthy Home 2010 is a groundbreaking designer show-house that sets a new benchmark for stylish green living with a focus on healthier indoor air quality. In an unprecedented collaboration among design industry leaders and indoor air quality experts, Healthy Home 2010 showcases how to create a healthier home from the inside out.

Registration details will be available shortly at www.igencec.org.

Thursday, October 14, 4:30 p.m-6:00 p.m.
Healthy Home 2010
1223 Lakeview Court, Palatine, IL

13. 2010 Illinois Energy Expo

Join the Association of Professional Energy Consultants and Heartland Community College for this statewide event which will bring together business leaders, building energy managers, building contractors, energy industry experts, energy educators and residents to explore energy conservation options that will help reduce energy costs and positively impact the Illinois economy. Exhibitors and presenters will offer information about energy efficient and alternative energy technologies and services, as well as financial assistance and incentives available for residential, commercial and industrial customers.

Visit the [APEC website](#) for more information or to register as an exhibitor.

Thursday-Saturday, October 28-30, 2010
Marriott Hotel & Conference Center
201 Broadway Avenue, Normal, IL

14. The BIONEERS at McHenry County College: Food - How it's all connected.

[The 3rd annual Bioneers at MCC Conference](#) is shaping up to be their best conference yet! Jim Braun, Coordinator of the Illinois Local Food, Farms and Jobs Council, will be the keynote speaker and will begin the dialogue about local food. Three of the breakout sessions to choose from will further investigate this topic: How to Make Local Food Happen, Becoming a Locovore, and Healthy Food and Schools.

Energy Efficiency Resources for your Family, Greening of the Faith Community and Global Climate Disruption are also breakout session options. DVDs from the national Bioneers Conference will feature national environmental leaders and "hot topics".

Register to be an [exhibitor](#) or register as an [individual](#). Cost is \$30.00 for adults, \$20.00 for students. CPDUs are available for teachers. Registration includes a local, organic lunch prepared by MCC Culinary Management Program students in cooperation with Chef Zak Dolezal, Dukes Alehouse and Kitchen.

Saturday, November 6, 8:30 a.m-4:30 p.m.
McHenry County College