

Sustainability Committee

Report to Faculty Assembly, December 12, 2008



Students have met with gardeners and with folks in supporting this project can reach SEAS students through their faculty advisor, Carole Huber in GES.

SEAS students with support from our committee are moving forward with a plan for a **campus organic garden**. Keith Woodring from Facilities has suggested a number of possible locations. students at CC about their garden, with local master from Pikes Peak Urban Gardens. Faculty interested

in supporting this project can reach SEAS students through their faculty advisor, Carole Huber in GES.

A number of members of our Committee attended the **Southern Colorado Sustainability Conference**. PPCC is starting a garden supported by their president and their culinary arts program. CSU Pueblo has partnered with their local utility for a huge solar installation. The AFA commandant has established guidelines for reducing the carbon footprint and they now teach a Sustainable design course in Engineering and have an active chapter of Engineers without Borders which is helping build housing to green guidelines on Indian reservations.

The Sustainability Committee, in partnership with the SEAS, will sponsor a series of **free lectures and films** to highlight many local projects as well as global issues in sustainability next semester.

Sustainability minor. Dave Havlick, GES, announced a number of new courses proposed in the College of Business and in Health Sciences that will be added to the Sustainable Development minor. COB is also looking at developing a sustainability major within the COB.

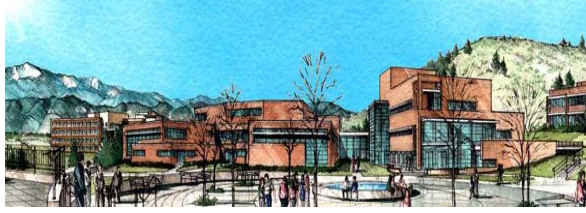
A chance meeting with the commander of Peterson AFB has led to an invitation for six from UCCS to tour their **green roof**, the only one to date in our community.

www.afspc.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123072031 Developed in Germany in the 1960s, green roofs are typically building tops that are partially or completely covered in plants, flowers or vegetables. Green roofs lower heating and cooling costs for buildings by providing an extra layer of insulation in the winter and providing evaporative cooling in the summer. The plants also reduce storm water run-off, filter pollutants and carbon-dioxide out of the air and can increase a roof's lifespan. Green roofs have long been popular in Europe -- it's estimated that 10 percent of all German roofs are green -- but the technology is just beginning to catch on in the United States, according to a green roofs Web site, www.greenroofs.org. In recent years, high-profile buildings such as the Library of Congress and Chicago's City Hall have greened their roofs. In Colorado, the U.S. Bank and Environmental Protection Agency buildings in Denver have green roofs. Peterson's roof is Colorado Springs' first "green grid" roof, using a system of lightweight planted modules that can easily be moved around for maintenance or other needs. The roof is planted with eight different types of sedum, a relative of the cactus that thrives in drier climates.

Communique has added a column to highlight sustainability actions on campus.

A **Sustainability bulletin board in Science**, first floor south, outside the Science Learning Center, highlights issues, topics, events in Sustainability.

NetImpact Tracy Gonzalez Padron from COB is organizing a chapter for our campus.



Office of Sustainability. Linda Kogan announced that the campus has received a grant from the Governor's Energy Office which will, together with the new \$5.00/student fee and a large rebate from CS Utilities provides for a

solar installation on the roof of the new Science/Engineering building. The campus is also moving to **single stream recycling** and will once again participate in Recycle Mania, a national competition across campuses.

Committee members will lead their individual departments or offices in adopting green meeting, event guidelines

<http://www.uccs.edu/advancement/resources/events/checklist.html>

Departments may wish to purchase their own copies of **GREENING YOUR OFFICE, FROM CUPBOARD TO CORPORATION** published by ChelseaGreen, \$7.95.



Students on campus have organized a local chapter of **PETA** and are encouraging folks to eat less meat (or no meat) "Meat's not green" as a step toward decreasing global warming. The world's foremost authority on global warming, the chair of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, has said that if people want to help decelerate climate change, they should "give up meat for one day [a week] initially, and decrease it from there."



Transportation. Despite a generous offer from Campus to fund **discounted bus passes** for UCCS students, the local Mountain Metro has declined to consider this option until next year.

Best wishes for a healthy and green holiday!

jrj for the Sustainability Committee