

Summary of UC Davis's Posters for the California Climate Change Conference: Sept.8-10, 2008

Climate Change 101 Seminar Series:

From January through June 2008 the Department of Land, Air and Water Resources at UC Davis, with support from the John Muir Institute on the Environment and the UC Davis Air Quality Research Center, spearheaded a bi-weekly seminar series on climate science, addressing such issues as societal impacts and mitigation strategies. The series was directed towards state agency representatives, legislative staffers, and other professionals working on policy aspects of climate change and its effects on California.

Website where the talks are available to watch:

http://www.lawr.ucdavis.edu/seminars_cc101.htm

WaterWays Education Program:

WaterWays provides 4th, 5th and 6th grade classes in Solano County with water education programs. *WaterWays* has flexible and diverse programs that promote content knowledge and civic responsibility. Programs are facilitated by UC Davis student interns and *WaterWays* staff. Programs include a classroom based, field based, and multi-day experiences. In the **classroom** program, students learn the story of their water and engage in a simulation activity exploring the need for water conservation. In the **multi-day** program, students learn about the “real” water cycle in their region. Fifth grade students participate in multi-day investigation of the built and non-built environments of their elementary school campus and surrounding neighborhood. In the **fieldtrip** at Lake Solano Regional Park, students test water quality, explore the landscape contours and habitat of the Putah Creek watershed and the source of their drinking water. *WaterWays* programs address aspects of **climate change**. As part of students' investigation of their water source, students engage in discussion and activities exploring factors that contribute to a declining water supply and explore the use of mitigating conservation measures.

Website: <http://psrp.ucdavis.edu>

Focus the Nation (National Teach-in):

“On Thursday, January 31st, 2008, over 1750 educational institutions (primarily colleges and universities) across the country hosted events focusing on climate change solutions as part of [Focus the Nation](#). UC Davis hosted one of the more creative, community collaborative, and extensive events of the day with multiple venues and programs that ran the gamut from a day long Idea Fair and 8 hours of panel sessions, to tours of campus and community organizations and capstone "World of Ideas Café" that played host to prominent policy makers and University of California representatives, including UC President Robert Dynes and UC Davis Chancellor Larry Vanderhoef.”

From website: <http://sustainability.ucdavis.edu/focus/perspectives.html>

We will also advertise other events and programs that UC Davis sponsors or has hosted:

1. Climate Change: Solutions and Implementation Speaker Series: “The policy, science and business driven by needs to address climate change, and how that will transform funding, green innovation and academics.” Series went from January 23, 2008 until May 22, 2008. Website: <http://johnmuir.ucdavis.edu/events/climatesolutions.html>.
2. Carbon Footprint: “Junior high school students in Davis, CA, were targeted in an outreach project combining interactive and hands-on information about global warming and carbon footprints with a bike/walk to school challenge. The project was conducted by the Kearney Foundation of Soil Science, the Department of Land, Air and Water Resources and the John Muir Institute of the Environment at the University of California Davis. Approximately 70 undergraduates, graduate students, post-doc researchers, faculty and staff from UCD and the town of Davis were involved. Workshops were held in the 7th, 8th and 9th grade science classes in Davis’ 3 junior high schools, reaching a total of 1700 students. Each 50-minute presentation consisted of a Global Warming Jeopardy game, followed by individual calculation of carbon footprints oriented towards a junior high school student. Biking or walking to school, instead commuting by car, was introduced as an important and feasible activity that could reduce one’s carbon footprint. Working with staff from each junior high, students were then challenged to increase biking or walking to school during a 2 week Bike/Walk to School Challenge. UCD students and staff monitored automobile commuting (# cars, idle time) and bike use during this time and provided incentives for biking or walking. All schools were recognized for efforts to reduce their carbon footprints, and the concept was reinforced at the start of the following school year by planting a tree at each school.”
3. John Muir Institute of the Environment's Environmental Leaders Program: “The Environmental Leaders Program (ELP) is an interdisciplinary program for graduate students, housed in the John Muir Institute of the Environment, which provides graduate students with opportunities to link their academic learning to real-world practice by bringing university knowledge into decision making on the individual, community, and policy level. The goal of the ELP is to facilitate university involvement in society’s environmental problems, train graduate students in public scholarship, build university-community partnerships, and promote social and environmental justice. The challenge guiding the ELP is ‘How do we as individuals, communities, and as a society adapt to climate change and create solutions that lead to a more sustainable and equitable world?’” Website: <http://psrp.ucdavis.edu>

Other websites related to UC Davis and Climate Change:

UC Davis: Climate Change: <http://climatechange.ucdavis.edu/>

UC Davis Air Quality Research Center: <http://airquality.ucdavis.edu/index.html>

John Muir Institute of the Environment: <http://johnmuir.ucdavis.edu/>