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Tufts *Sustainability in Action!* gets green



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Obama's Better Building Initiative for Energy Efficiency

Following his call in his State of the Union for clean energy advances, President Obama proposed on February 3 new efforts to improve energy efficiency in commercial buildings

February 11, 2011

Dear Tufts Environmental,

Valentines day is just around the corner- that time of year when we all buy into the consumer-brainwashing and buy all sorts of useless trinkets and over-packaged candies to impress our loved ones. Too cynical? ...Probably. The solution: Have a green valentines day! Buy some [organic flowers](#), purchase [local and sustainable chocolate](#), or if you want to be creative (or cheap), make your own card! This Valentine's day, show Earth that you care *as well as* your Valentine.

Anyways, this week's newsletter, as always, is filled with some great events on and off campus, as well as some super interesting tidbits. Also, [the OOS is hiring a part time staff person](#), so be sure to check that out if you're interested! Read on for updates from the Eco-Reps, a new federal energy efficiency initiative, and a whole slew of cool things to do!

Stay Green!

-Jason

across the country. His **"Better Buildings Initiative"** will aim to make commercial buildings 20% more energy efficient over the next decade, and it **could reduce energy bills by about \$40 billion** at today's prices. Through a series of incentives, the plan will encourage private-sector investment to upgrade all types of buildings ranging from offices and schools to universities and hospitals. In 2010, **commercial buildings consumed roughly 20% of all energy in the U.S. economy.** For more info on this program, read the full [White House Press Release](#).

Students with Green Dorm Rooms:

Allison Fechter
 Amy Shipp
 Anne Skelding
 Aspen Webster
 Benjamin Koethe
 Benjamin Limoges
 Brian wolf
 Carolyn Boudreau
 Casey Patterson
 Claire Felter
 Duncan Maclaury
 Elaine Kim
 Fiona Weeks
 Gabrielle Zandy
 Ian Erhard
 Jessie Pearl
 Jiajie Su
 John Gill
 Karen Bustard
 Keara Jones
 Kristen Johnson
 Lincoln Giesel
 Mariah Bruner

Header photo: The Eco-Reps are back this semester, working hard on bulletin boards, green dorms, and all sorts of fun events! Check out the [article below](#) to read all about what they've been up to.

News

Eco-Reps initiate the Green Dorm Room Certificate program

The Eco Reps program is proud to announce the first recipients of the Green Dorm Room Certification on the Tufts campus. This program allows students to earn a certificate for their dorm room by demonstrating ecologically friendly and sustainable living habits such as



the use of reusable water bottles, compact fluorescent light bulbs, and conserving water. More than 35 students have already completed the certification! Check out [the sidebar](#) to see who is currently residing in a

certified Green Dorm Room! Any student is welcome to complete the certification process by following this [link](#).

Once completed, students in dorms with Eco-Reps will receive a certificate for their room hand delivered by their Eco-Rep (those who are in dorms without Eco-Reps need to pick up their certificate from the Office of Sustainability). We encourage students on campus to step up their sustainability and demonstrate their commitment by having their room certified. For more information about the green dorm room certification process or the Tufts Eco Reps, contact tuftscoreps@gmail.com or speak to the Eco Rep in your dorm today!

Dorms with Eco-Reps

Carmichael [Jessie Pearl](#)
Carpenter [Melissa Langer](#)
Hill [Dani Jenkins](#)
Hodgdon [Pat Oungpasuk](#)
Houston [Rose Eilenberg](#)
Lewis [Thiago Lima](#)
Miller [Claudia Tajima](#)
Wren [Lincoln Giesel](#)



Marisa Shapiro
 Matt DiGirolamo
 Michael Fishman
 Orli Gottlieb
 Rachel Gantz & Toby
 Crispin
 Robert Kaufman
 Sophia Wright
 Yee Marie

**Congrats and thanks
 for living green!**

Job Opportunities

[Green Building Internship](#),
 Fore Solutions

[Managing Director](#), The
 Oberlin Project, Oberlin
 College

[Communications and
 Outreach Specialist](#), Office
 of Sustainability, Tufts

Grants and Fellowships

[TIE Graduate Student
 Fellowship](#)

[More job listings from TIE](#)

[Career resources at OOS](#)

Interesting Links:

Educational:

- [The Office of Sustainability](#)
- [Tufts Institute for the Environment](#)
- [Environmental Studies Program](#)
- [The UEP School](#)

Blogs:

The OOS is Hiring!

The Office of Sustainability is looking to hire a
Communications and Outreach Specialist:

This person will be responsible for the Office of Sustainability's internal and external messaging and public relations with its many constituencies, with a goal of promoting Tufts' sustainability efforts to the public and building a culture of environmental sustainability on campus. He/she will create annual reports, brochures, and news articles about sustainability on campus as well as maintain the OOS website including updating current design and content.

The Communications and Outreach Specialist will also create social marketing plans and outreach materials including posters, flyers, prompts, emails, and other materials in support of behavior change initiatives. She/he will also help measure, record and communicate Tufts' progress toward its sustainability commitments and regional greenhouse gas goals. In addition, the Communications and Outreach Specialist will have the opportunity to help design and organize outreach events, provide support to Tufts staff "Eco-Ambassadors," and teach sustainability practices to faculty, staff and students.

To find out more about the position and how to apply, visit the [Tufts University Job Listings website](#) and search for Job Requisition Number **55533**.

On-Campus Events

New:

Film Screening: Gasland

**Wednesday, February 23rd, 8 PM
 Barnum 104**

The *Students for a Just and Stable Future* branch of Tufts Sustainability Collective will be showing the film [GASLAND](#).

About the film

The largest domestic



- [Tufts Bikes](#)
- [The Veg Table](#)
- [Girly Green Girl](#)

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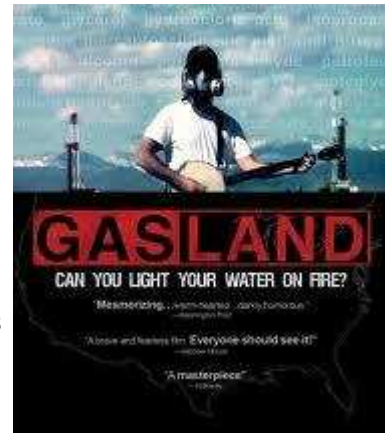
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natural gas drilling boom in history has swept across the United States. The Halliburton-developed drilling technology of "fracking" or hydraulic fracturing has unlocked a "Saudi Arabia of natural gas" just beneath us. But is fracking safe? When filmmaker Josh Fox is asked to lease his land for drilling, he embarks on a cross-country odyssey uncovering a trail of secrets, lies and contamination. A recently drilled nearby Pennsylvania town reports that residents are able to light their drinking water on fire. This is just one of the many absurd and astonishing revelations of a new country called GASLAND. Part verite travelogue, part expose, part mystery, part bluegrass banjo meltdown, part showdown.



For more information email [Suzanne](#).

Request for Poster Abstracts: Tufts Water Conference

Abstract Submission Deadline: March 11
Conference Date: April 1
Fletcher School

This spring semester the Water: Systems, Science and Society Program will host an interdisciplinary research conference, "Water in 2050: The Infrastructure to Get There". At this time, students working on water issues are invited to submit abstracts for poster presentation. The poster session offers a unique opportunity to highlight student research in a professional capacity. The session is designed to cross pollinate ideas and research occurring across a wide scope of issue areas, disciplines and research methods. Students from within Tufts, as well as other Boston-area schools are encouraged to participate.

The abstract submission form can be downloaded here:
<http://www.tufts.edu/water/symposium.html>

To learn more about the conference including the agenda, keynotes and sponsors, visit:
<http://www.tufts.edu/water/symposium.html>

Off-Campus events

New:

Tactical Design and Ecology: Workshop, Talk, and Tasting

**February 15, 2011, 5-7 pm, artists' talk 7-9pm
MIT Wiesner Building (E15) Lower Level (Cube),
20 Ames St., Cambridge**

Come explore emerging food systems - tongue first! Find new ways of engaging and intervening in your world! Hear two brilliant hybrid practitioners discuss their work!

Artists in Context and the MIT Program in Art, Culture and Technology (ACT) have jointly organized a return to Boston for renowned artist, engineer and activist Natalie Jeremijenko to speak on her work addressing a core challenge behind the climate crisis: a crisis of agency. We also are proud to present local artist, activist and animal lover Matthew Mazzotta (an ACT alum), who will speak about his work engaging people with their environment, their pets and with one another in energetic new ways!

The event is being held in conjunction with the MIT Course *"Advanced Seminar in Network Cultures and Participatory Media: Tactical Design for Cooperative Agency and Disruption"* led by Prof. Nitin Sawhney at ACT. This event is funded by a Director's Grant from the Council for the Arts at MIT. For more information, email act@mit.edu.

Fostering Sustainable Behavior

Workshop

**April 7-8, 2011
Toronto, Canada**

This two-day workshop provides a comprehensive introduction to community-based social marketing and how it is being applied throughout the world to foster sustainable behavior. Those who attend the workshop will learn the five steps of community-based social marketing (selecting behaviors, identifying barriers, developing strategies, conducting pilots, and broad scale

implementation), and will be exposed to numerous case studies illustrating its use. As such, this workshop provides an in-depth exposure to community-based social marketing and provides participants with the knowledge they need to design and evaluate their own community-based social marketing programs. Further, attendees will have extensive opportunities to discuss the application of community-based social marketing to the design of actual programs. At the end of the two days participants will have acquired sufficient knowledge to use community-based social marketing to develop successful programs to foster sustainable behavior.

[Workshop Information and Online Registration](#)

Previously Mentioned:

[Jewish Food Justice! An Organic Farm Retreat](#)

April 1-3, 2011

Adamah Farm at Isabella Freedman

Educational Opportunities

Previously Mentioned:

(Click the links for more information)

The Bard Center for Environmental Policy [Masters in Environmental Policy or Climate Science and Policy](#)

Webinars

Consumption and the Environment Webinar Series

First Tuesday of every month, starting February 1st

12:30 pm

This series is coordinated by EPA Region 10 and the West Coast Climate and Materials Management Forum. It is designed to provide you with the information and

resources you need to reduce GHG emissions and to create more sustainable patterns of consumption in your community.

March 1st: Consumption, Advertising and the Creation of Desire

Speaker: Barry Schwartz, Author, "The Paradox of Choice"

Register for the series [here](#).

2011 Greener Campus Webinars

February 24 at 2:00pm Eastern [Geothermal on Campus - Clean, green approaches to heating and cooling campuses in all parts of the U.S.](#)

For those who are interested, this webinar will be streamed here at the Office of Sustainability! (behind Miller Hall). Please [RSVP](#).

March 10 at 2:00pm Eastern [Community Partnerships - Advisory councils and other ways community college leaders are building partnerships for the success of green workforce initiatives.](#)

See you next week. And don't forget to [send in your pictures](#) for the header!

The Tufts Office of Sustainability
<http://sustainability.tufts.edu/>

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