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Tufts *Sustainability in Action!* gets green



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New DOE SunShot Initiative

U.S. Energy Secretary

March 18, 2011

Dear Tufts Environmental,

Spring Break is here! I can tell because it's almost 60 degrees outside. That and the fact that tomorrow is March 19th, which, according to our university calendar, is the official start of Spring Break. I hope you have some cool things planned, whether they be going someplace absurdly cool, or doing some fun things around the area. Whatever it is you do, take some pictures and [send them to me](#) and I'll feature some of them in the next newsletter (which, by the way, will be in two weeks).

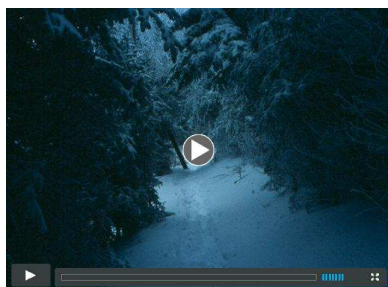
This week's newsletter sees an update from Tufts Eco-Rep coordinator [Rachael Wolber](#) in India; announcements about events such as [a presentation](#) by the Director of Environmental Initiatives at Staples; a [Sustainability Roundtable](#) bringing together those interested in Sustainability at Tufts to increase coordination and craft a message to incoming President Monaco; and the first annual Massachusetts Excellence in Commuter Options [\(ECO\) awards](#) where Tufts will be

Steven Chu recently announced the Department of Energy's (DOE's) SunShot Initiative, aimed at reducing the total cost of solar energy systems so that they are cost-competitive with other forms of energy without subsidies before 2020. Achieving the required cost reductions to reach this goal will facilitate broad deployment of solar energy across the United States and help the U.S. regain status as a leader in solar photovoltaics (PV). You can read more about the initiative by following [this link](#).



The Grab Bag

Ever wanted to through-hike the Appalachian Trail, but haven't been able to find six months of free time for 2,200 miles of hiking? Well then you're in luck because here's a really awesome video of the entire hike, condensed into an easily-watchable-from-your-computer-chair five minutes!



receiving an award for its efforts to encourage alternative transportation (no, really!).

Stay Green!

-Jason

Header photo: Sally Sharrow, Coordinator of Tufts Bikes, stands in front of the newly set-up bike shop in the Crafts Center. Tufts Bikes is very near opening, and will host an [Opening Celebration](#) on April 1st.

News from OOS

Rachael Wolber reports from the field!

Tufts Eco-Reps Coordinator Rachael Wolber reports on waste issues in India

"We need to be able to organize as a community to fight for our rights," said Sashi Pandit, founder of the National Association of Waste Workers (NAWW) in Delhi, India. The "rights" that he spoke of are the rights to pick recyclables out of municipal waste, and earn a small profit. But recently, incentivized by carbon credits, the Delhi government has started contracting private firms to collect waste, forcing the already marginalized waste workers, commonly referred to as "rag pickers", out of their livelihood. Groups like NAWW have tried to fight back with organization and collective action, but it has not been an easy process. My [study abroad](#) group got a taste of the reaction this movement is provoking when policemen



showed up to intimidate the association members when we tried to meet with them. And this is not an issue that only affects India-the US is linked to this group through the global recycling

market and the export of e-waste. Overall, this visit showed me that issues of environmental sustainability do not exist in a vacuum-they are inherently linked to human activities.

Rachael Wolber is studying cities, urban planning, and sustainable growth with the International Honors Program,

Green Tunnel

New Green Dorm Rooms!

The following residents have had their dorm room certified by the Eco-Reps in the past week:

Eliot Alter
 Abigail Tyrell
 Lauren Fritzsche
 Tyler Andrews
 Glenn Verner
 Abdiel Garcia
 Allison Rugg
 Brian Yi
 Andrew Terrano
 Adam Brosh
 Sarah Hartman
 Bruce Wang
 Brian Rohr
 Alyssa Kutner
 Samantha Frank
 Alex Wallach Hanson
 Elizabeth Rosenberg
 Mark Rafferty
 Timothy Peng
 Mervett Hefyan
 Gary Grandonico
 Scott Shuldiner

Congratulations!

Job Opportunities

[Green Power Marketing and Communications Intern](#),
 Massachusetts Energy Consumers Alliance, Boston, MA

[Green Corps](#), Various Locations- **Last day to apply is March 31st**

traveling to Delhi, India, Dakar, Senegal, and Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Preparing Your Room for Spring Break

A Message from Tufts Eco-Reps

In our haste to leave memories of mid-terms and studying behind we sometimes rush out of our room without thinking about what we're leaving behind. Please be sure to **turn your thermostat** (if you have one) down, **close and lock your windows, unplug your electronics** (or turn off your power strip!), and **turn off the lights**. Your efforts will prevent frozen pipes, needless heat loss and wasted electricity use. If your windows don't close properly, please take the time to contact Facilities Services at 617-627-3496.

Thank you for taking a minute for the environment - your actions really do make a difference!

On-Campus Events

New:

Learn about Staples' Sustainability Capabilities and Practices

March 22, 2011, 10:00am

Hotung Cafe, Campus Center, Medford Campus

Tufts Purchasing and the Office of Sustainability invites you to learn about Staples' sustainability capabilities and best practices. Guest speaker Al Tyler is the Director of Environmental Initiatives for Staples. Al works with customers in building 'go green' and sustainability programs and assists them in achieving their internal environmental goals. Al has extensive knowledge of sustainability trends and issues and provides insight into the best practices of our customers to help other customers enhance their environmental programs. Learn ways that your department can purchase green, find out how Tufts stacks up against our peers, and give input on potential programs and goals for Tufts University.

[Clean Energy Industry Internship](#), Mass Clean Energy Center, Massachusetts

[Summer environmental education and interpretation Intern](#), U.S. Fish and Wildlife, Laurel, MD

[Sustainability Intern](#), Princeton-Blairstown Center, Princeton, NJ

[Market Manager](#), Medford Farmer's Market, Medford

[Bicycle Jobs](#) (various), UrbanAdventours, Boston

[Nexamp Efficiency Jobs and Internships](#), Nexamp, North Andover, MA

[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:

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

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Please RSVP to dawn.quirk@tufts.edu

ENVS Lunch & Learn: Jack Ridge - Environmental Changes Recorded in the Tidal Marshes of Boston Harbor

March 31, 12-1pm

Rabb Room, Tisch College Lincoln Filene Center, Tufts University, Medford Campus

The grassy tidal marshes of Boston Harbor and other tidal estuaries of the northeastern U.S. are areas of continuous clay and peat accumulation over at least the last 2000 years. Environmental changes during this time are both natural and anthropogenic. Changes in sediment composition (clay vs. peat), magnetic properties, sand concentration, heavy metal concentrations, and fossils tell us something about such things as sea level change, growth of the marsh, air pollution, colonial clear-cutting of the land surface surrounding the harbor, and construction projects as well as their impact on the harbor. All of these investigations by geology and environmental studies students over the last 22 years have been carried out in various marshes including Belle Isle marsh in Revere, Mill Creek in Saugus, and the Weymouth Fore River. From these studies a composite history of the harbor has been assembled that provides us with a rare continuous record of environmental change.



[Jack Ridge](#), PhD, is a Professor in Tufts Geology Department. He teaches [Environmental Geology \(GEO 2\)](#), [Geomorphology \(GEO 32\)](#), and [Quaternary and Glacial Geology \(GEO 115\)](#).

Sponsored by the Environmental Studies Department

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Decarbonization in US Energy: Trends, Drivers and Challenges

March 28, 2011, 12:30-1:45pm

Crowe Room (Goddard 310), The Fletcher School

Kathleen Araújo is a Research Fellow with the Energy, Climate and Innovation Program (ECI) in Fletcher's Center for International Environment and Resource Policy, and a Doctoral Candidate at MIT.

She specializes in national energy-environmental planning and energy system conversions. With this, her work examines regulatory, market and technical factors which frame energy optimization strategies. Kathleen's research with ECI centers on decarbonization and innovations in technology and practices which enable accelerated adoption of low carbon energy.

Sponsored by the Tufts Department of Economics, Tufts Institute of the Environment and Fletcher's Center for International Environment and Resource Policy

Sustainability Roundtable **March 29, 2011, 6-7:30 pm**

Laminan Lounge, Olin Hall, Medford Campus

The Tufts Sustainability Collective is hosting the first ever Sustainability Roundtable on Tuesday, March 29th. Discussions will include ways to improve communication between sustainability and like-minded groups on campus, as well as writing a senate resolution and letter to incoming president Anthony Monaco. Organizations are invited to send up to four representatives. For additional information and questions, please email tuftssustainabilitycollective@gmail.com

Please RSVP, as space is limited, by filling out [this form](#).

Tufts Bikes Opening Celebration

April 1, 2011, 4-6 pm

Hotung Cafe, Campus Center, Medford Campus

Come celebrate the launch of Tufts Bikes, bike share program with a celebration from 4 to 6pm on Friday, April 1st on the upper Campus Center patio on the Tufts Campus in Medford. The opening celebration will feature free food, entertainment, raffles, local bike companies, bike advocacy



organizations, rides around campus for all ages and abilities, and a speech by University President Lawrence Bacow.

For up-to-date information on the happenings of the bike share and Tufts Bikes, check out their [blog](#), [facebook](#), or (brand new) [twitter page](#)!



Tufts Energy Conference

April 15-16, 2011

**Cabot Intercultural Center, Tufts University
Medford Campus**

Learn from and engage with key energy industry experts, policymakers, and the rising generation of energy leaders in a thought-provoking discussion on the pertinent challenges and opportunities facing today's energy sector. Sign-up today to get your discount!

This year's theme is **"Exploring Energy's Great Debates: Moving Past Posturing to Arrive at Achievable Energy Solutions,"** our goal is to create constructive debate on how incremental policy changes and business model innovations can make a meaningful impact on global energy challenges in the next 10 years. In addition to learning from our diverse expert panelists, you'll have the opportunity to network with energy-industry professionals and learn about career and internship opportunities in a variety of fields at our showcase.

The Tufts Energy Conference (TEC) is organized by a diverse mix of Tufts undergraduates and graduate students from the Fletcher School for Law & Diplomacy, the Urban and Environmental Policy & Planning program and the School for Arts, Sciences & Engineering.

Registration includes access to the full two-day conference, Friday hors d'oeuvres, Saturday breakfast, and Saturday lunch. For more information, visit the [TEC website](#).

Sponsors for the 2011 Tufts Energy Conference include: CB&I, BP, Shell, Institute for Global Leadership, Center for International Environmental and Resource Policy &

Energy, Climate and Innovation Program, Enel, Strook, and Tufts Institute for the Environment.

Previously Mentioned:

[Environmental Summer Research Scholarships for Tufts Students](#)

The Summer Scholars Program is a wonderful opportunity for undergraduate students to begin or continue faculty-mentored research on campus, and for faculty to have funded research assistants.

[Information for mentors](#)

[Information for students](#)

[Tufts Energy Challenge:\\$1000 Award](#)

[Tufts Water Conference](#)

Conference Date: April 1

Fletcher School

[2011 Friedman School Graduate Student Research Conference](#)

April 2, 2011

Tufts University, Medford Campus

[ENVS Lunch & Learn: Michael R. Davis, FAIA, LEED-Architecture, Energy, and Climate Change](#)

April 14, 2011, 12:00-1:00pm

Rabb Room, Tisch College Lincoln Filene Center, Medford Campus

[A Research Day on Sustainability](#)

May 3, 2011- [Poster Abstracts due April 1](#)

Aidekman Arts Center

40 Talbot Avenue, Medford, MA 02155

Off-Campus events

New:

The Greening Grace Team Lecture Series

**Every Wednesday from March 23 - April 13,
6:45pm
Grace Church, Medford**

The Greening Grace Team of Grace Church is hosting a series of environmental and sustainability lectures.

Speakers will include:

Joseph Asaya from Greener Earth, who will speak about their campaign to bring opportunities to people in third world countries by increasing their access to solar energy.

- Deborah Brown from the EPA, who speak about environmental justice issues here in Massachusetts and some of the things that are being done to address these issues.
- Alicia and Jonathan Hunt of Medford will speak about cost effective ways of reducing energy use in your home or apartment. Alicia has presented home energy savings seminars around Massachusetts and together they have cut their electricity and gas bills in half in recent years.
- Bishop Bud Cederholm, known as the "green bishop", is a thought-provoking and entertaining speaker who will lead a discussion about "the most important ethical and moral challenge the world faces today."

For more information on the lecture series, follow [this link](#).

Excellence in Commuter Options

Awards Breakfast

**April 1, 8:45-10:15 am
Massachusetts State House - Great Hall<
24 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02108**

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation

(MassDOT) - through MassRIDES and MassCommute - supports Massachusetts employers in their efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through decreased drive-alone trips while encouraging employees to travel to work by transit, carpools, vanpools, or by bicycling or walking.

Tufts will be one of the organizations that MassDOT will recognize at the first annual Massachusetts Excellence in Commuter Options (ECO) Awards for our efforts toward making a more sustainable Massachusetts.

For more information, visit the [Eco-Awards website](#).

Previously Mentioned:

[Help Plan Medford's Climate Summer Week](#)

March 16, 6:30 pm

**Medford City Hall, Council Chambers, 2nd Floor
Medford, MA 02155**

[Sustainable Environmentalism in the 21st Century](#)

March 17, 1-4 pm

Wheaton College, Norton, MA

[Wild and Scenic Film Festival](#)

Opening Night Reception:

Robin Young leads expert panel on energy's future

Friday Mar 25, 2011 6:00 PM - 9:30 PM

Afternoon FilmFest:

View shorts MC'd by NPR's Bruce Gellerman

Saturday Mar 26, 2011 1:00 PM - 3:15 PM

The Finale:

See Carbon Nation plus locavore tasting and silent auction

Saturday Mar 26, 2011 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

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

April 1-3, 2011

Adamah Farm at Isabella Freedman

Fostering Sustainable Behavior Workshop

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

"Organic Lawns for Homeowners" Workshops

**April 7 and 9, 2011
Various Locations around Massachusetts**

MA Sustainable Communities Conference: Best Practices in Local Sustainability

**April 15,
8 am-4 pm
Holiday Inn, Marlborough, MA**

MIT Sustainability Summit

**April 22, 2011
Microsoft NERD Center, MIT, Cambridge**

Educational Opportunities

New:

UMass Sustainable Development Online Graduate Program: Summer course

listings available now

UMass Online has evolved its offered curriculum and programs to better address the issues of our time. With this has come, among others, a new Sustainable Development Graduate Program, designed to enable professionals and students from around the globe to identify, explore and formulate best practices in Sustainable Development.

Summer Courses are now available for viewing online. To learn more about the Sustainable Development program, [follow this link](#).

Previously Mentioned:

(Click the links for more information)

[Seventh Annual Summer Institute for Social Marketing and Health Communications](#)

**Week of July 10, 2011
Emerson College, Boston**

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

See you in two weeks!

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

[Forward email](#)



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