



Obama Visits Hocking College's Advanced Energy Institute

While on the campaign trail in Ohio, Senator Barack Obama made a stop at Hocking College on Sunday, March 2. During his speech he discussed the economic benefits of "green technology" job training at Hocking College and commended the College for its efforts.

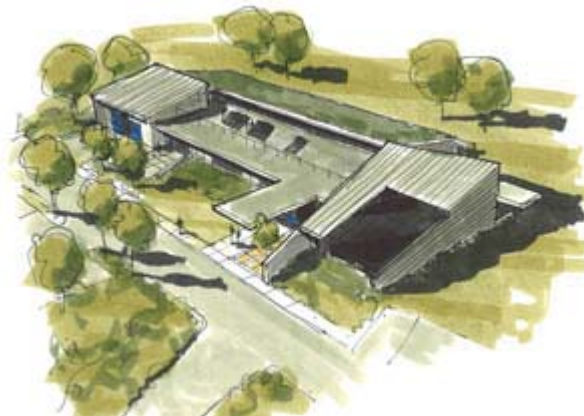
"The story of this college is just outstanding in preparing young people to work in green-collar jobs, which are the jobs of the future," Obama said.

If elected, he said, he would invest \$150 billion over 10 years to establish "a green energy sector that will create up to 5 million new jobs, including jobs here in Ohio." Obama said he also would seek a law requiring that 25 percent of the nation's electricity come from renewable energy sources by 2025.

In addition to Obama, several other government officials and policy makers have recently visited Hocking College to learn more about the new Energy Institute, including Ohio's First Lady Francis Strickland and Congressman Zack Space.

Energy Institute Pursuing Ohio's First LEED Platinum Certification

The Energy Institute recently held a VIP sneak preview event where representatives from Siemens, Johnson Controls, Honeywell and other companies with a vested interest in alternative energy, learned about the unique design planned for the Energy Institute from Columbus-based DesignGroup, the architects and engineers for the project.



Plans call for the Energy Institute to employ green design features such as geothermal heat, a sod-covered roof for insulation and a system to capture water runoff from the building and parking lot and use it to irrigate landscaping on the campus. In addition, the building will be oriented toward the south to make maximum use of sunlight for illumination and heating.

As leaders in sustainable energy, Hocking College and its stakeholders believe that the Energy

Institute should mirror the credo of the program's mission and provide students with a building that itself will provide hands-on training in alternative energy. It is anticipated that the project will bring 90 new jobs to the area and \$3.4 million in private investments.

Construction of the facility is partly being funded with a \$1.6 million grant from the Economic Development Administration, while the equipment and development portion is being funded with a \$192,000 grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission for a bio-diesel ASTM testing lab.

Appalachian Advanced Energy Association Formed

Hocking College and Hocking County Community Improvement Corp., a privately funded economic development organization, recently formed the Appalachia Advanced Energy Association to focus on bringing green energy companies to the Logan, Ohio area.

The association will work hand-in-hand with the new Hocking College Energy Institute, which broke ground on Nov. 15 adjacent to the Logan-Hocking Industrial Park. The institute will provide energy-related training and internships for Hocking College students and partner with high schools to provide hands-on learning experiences.

Jerry Hutton Appointed as "Renew 18" Chairman

Jerry Hutton, dean of energy and transportation technologies at Hocking College, recently accepted chairmanship of Advanced Energy



Networking for Congressman Zack Space's District 18 covering 28 Ohio counties.



Hutton hosted the Congressman's District 18 Energy Networking workshop at the Inn at Hocking College on April 11, 2008 where 65 participants attended. The outcome of the workshop will be a white paper for Congressman Space

called "Renew Ohio 18."

Hutton also was contacted by Senator Sherrod Brown and asked to assemble a similar group at Hocking College that will produce "Blue Green Alliance: Ohio's Road to Energy Independence."

Students at Hocking's Andros Island Program Install Wind Turbine

Hocking College's alternative energy and vehicular hybrids winter quarter class was in Andros Island in the Bahamas. The students studied wind, solar thermal, solar PV and micro hydro power systems. The big project for the quarter was the construction of a Skystream 3.7 wind turbine.

As part of their study abroad experience, the class' goal was to make the village of Forfar totally self-sustainable. To do that they installed a wind turbine to generate electricity for the station and tuned up the station's solar hot water heating system. Students also measured and

monitored the electric power consumption of the station. They worked diligently counting light bulbs, measuring electric consumption of every plug-in appliance they could find, and discussing conservation and efficiency measures. The students evaluated electrical usage and Forfar resident population data for the past three years. The conclusion of the study was a presentation to the Forfar staff, which laid out a very detailed picture of where electricity is being used, recommended conservation measures, future projects to improve energy efficiency at the station and renewable energy projects, which could lead the station to an energy neutral position over time. The students worked very hard on the project and provided invaluable data to the Forfar staff.

Learn more about this exciting and educational adventure for the Hocking College's advanced energy students and view the students' blog at www.hocking.edu.

HC Campus Transit Bus Is Operating On Bio-fuel

The Hocking College campus transit bus is now operating on bio-fuel. About seven gallons of fuel is required for the daily trips and the bio-fuel is processed from recycled cooking oil that was originally used in food preparation by the chefs and kitchen staff from the Inn at Hocking College.

Jerry Hutton, dean of energy and transportation technologies at Hocking College, said the 32-passenger bus makes regular stops in the community beginning at 7:30 a.m. "The last bus from the college departs at 6 p.m. and there are four circles made between those hours," Hutton explained.

"It will be interesting in about a month to see how the efficiency of the bio-fuel compares to gasoline. With gas prices nearing \$3.50 locally, it should prove to be quite a savings," Hutton said. Students in the fuel cells and alternative energy program are using a bio-fuel processor to convert the cooking oil into bio-fuel.

For more information on the Hocking College Energy Institute, contact:

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