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Genome Science Building Earns LEED Gold Certification



Established by the U.S. Green Building Council, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) is the nation's preeminent program for the design, construction, and operation of high performance, green buildings.

The University's new Genome Sciences Building, which was officially 'opened for business' this past October, has earned LEED Gold certification for incorporating a variety of sustainable strategies to reduce energy use, conserve and reuse water, and source sustainable materials.

The state-of-the-art facility houses more than 400 faculty, staff and researchers from the departments of Biology, Chemistry, Statistics and Operations Research and Computer Science, and features laboratories, classrooms, auditoriums and a rooftop greenhouse for research. Three "pods" of attached buildings frame an open brick plaza that incorporates bike racks, showers and lockers.

Originally designed to achieve LEED Silver standards, the 222,000 square-foot building outdid expectations in the employing of many innovative technologies to improve energy and water efficiency and enhance occupant comfort. These technologies include a green roof, vertical solar fins, and active chilled beams that decouple ventilation and cooling. Harvested rainwater and reclaimed waste water stored under the adjacent Central Park next to the football stadium provide water for toilet flushing and irrigation.

LEED certified buildings ultimately save money, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and contribute to a healthier environment. Having the Genome Science Building recognized with this certification is particularly noteworthy because research laboratories are by nature energy intensive facilities; reaching this level of energy reduction and avoidance for this type of research laboratory building is an extremely impressive accomplishment.

To view the Genome Science Building's LEED Scorecard, visit <http://new.usgbc.org/projects/unc-genomic-science-building>.



Two from Facilities Services honored with Massey Award

Facilities Services is proud to announce that two from its ranks have been named 2013 C. Knox Massey Distinguished Service Award winners. This annual recognition is one of the highest honors that can be bestowed upon University faculty and staff.

The late C. Knox Massey of Durham created the awards in 1980 to recognize “unusual, meritorious or superior contributions” by University employees, and each year, the chancellor selects recipients based on nominations from the campus community.

Tammy Cotton has been with Housekeeping Services for 16 years and is currently assigned to the UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center and the Thurston Bowles building. In her nomination for the Massey award, she is praised for her reliability and cheerfulness and is referred to as “a gem that lives at the intersection of professionalism and kindness.”



Cotton

Mary Craven has long been looked upon as the “mother” of Housekeeping Services. She began as a housekeeper, and while working, took clerical skills classes and worked her way up through the department. During her 20 years of service with the department, she has mentored, motivated and encouraged success in employees, and she has always maintained a great sense of pride in serving the University as a housekeeper. Although she retired this past September, she has left an impression on Housekeeping Services that will be felt for many years to come.



Craven

Chancellor Thorp hosted a dinner for all six of this year’s Massey Award recipients on April 27. In addition, each honoree received an award citation along with a cash award.

Facilities Services extends sincere congratulations to Tammy and Mary and is proud of their accomplishments, contributions and for serving the University so professionally and admirably – throughout the years, and on a daily basis.



University celebrates energy savings at conclusion of national building competition

Campus buildings NC Area Health Education Center, Tarrson Hall and Neurosciences Building have successfully crossed the finish line in the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) 2012 ENERGY STAR National Building Competition: Battle of the Buildings. In its third year, the competition featured teams from across the country racing to improve energy efficiency, lower utility costs and protect health and the environment. Together, competitors cut their energy costs by more than \$50 million and prevented nearly 290,000 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions.

NC Area Health Education Center reduced its energy use by more than 20 percent, placing 11th overall among all 3,000 competitors for energy use reductions. Additionally, Tarrson Hall and Neurosciences were formally recognized for placing in the top 10 percent in energy reductions.

The winner of the competition was Demarest Elementary School, in Bloomfield, NJ, which reduced its energy use by more than 52 percent.

From improvements in operations and maintenance to upgrades in equipment and technology, the competitors together saved more than 3 billion kBtus of energy and more than \$50 million on utility bills annually. The competitors also prevented greenhouse gas emissions equal to the electricity used by more than 43,000 homes per year.

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competition...

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The University is continuing its success in this competition with a first place overall finish in the competition's inaugural year by Morrison Residence Hall and a best in class finish this past year by Kenan Residence Hall.

"This is our third year competing in the Energy Star National Building Competition and we continue to improve energy efficiency here at UNC," said Chris Martin Jr., Director of Energy Management. "We are excited by the enthusiasm and commitment of our team and look forward to seeing more savings in the future."

The University reduced its energy use through a variety of strategies, including its successful Energy Conservation Measure (ECM) Program. This is fundamentally an in-house retro commissioning program where seven energy conservation measures are employed:

- Implementing air handler discharge reset to vary temperature between 58° F and 70° F
- Implementing HVAC Unoccupied Setback/Shutdown
- Changing minimum cooling airflow set points
- Identifying and eliminating simultaneous heating and cooling
- Implementing temperature standards: Summer 76-78; Winter 69-71
- Enabling all heat recovery loops and economizers
- Enlisting campus community to shut off lights and equipment



The 2012 Energy Star National Building Competition measured energy performance over the entire 2012 calendar year. Competitors tracked their building's monthly energy consumption using EPA's online energy tracking tool, Energy Star Portfolio Manager. The energy use reductions for each top finisher were verified by an independently licensed professional engineer or registered architect at the conclusion of the competition.

Energy use in commercial buildings accounts for nearly 20 percent of total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions at a cost of more than \$100 billion per year. Thousands of businesses and organizations work with EPA's Energy Star program and are saving billions of dollars and preventing millions of tons of greenhouse gas emissions from entering the atmosphere each year.

More information on the 2012 Energy Star National Building Competition, including top overall finishers and top finishers by building category, an interactive map of competitors and a wrap-up report can be found at <http://www.energystar.gov/BattleOfTheBuildings>.

A high profile landscape project recently took place on campus – it actually doesn't get much more high profile than a project affecting the appearance of the South Building.

The landscape plants around the South Building were installed more than 20 years ago, and had reached an advanced state of decline due to age and disease. The landscape was no longer sustainable due to excessive amounts of labor and materials required to maintain it. A plan to refurbish the landscape surrounding the historic building was developed by Grounds Services that included installing native trees, shrubs and perennials and space for additional benches.

The landscape renovation work took place over Spring Break to minimize any disturbance to the campus community, so when students and faculty returned, they were greeted by a host of colorful flowers, trees, shrubs and groundcover surrounding one of the campus' most storied buildings at the heart of campus.

If you haven't seen the attractive, cleaner and healthier landscape yet, be sure to stop and admire the foliage – especially during the spring when the campus is in full bloom!

