e-News Updates from the PSIEE listserv!

News Highlights and Announcements

- [psieehighlights Spring 2011 issue now online](#)
  PSIEE highlights, PSIEE’s online e-magazine is available on the PSIEE website.
- [Photo of the Week – Arctic Streams Responding to Changing Seasonality](#)
  Photo shows Penn State graduate student Adam Wlostowski measuring the potential for water to exchange between the channel and the bed in a tundra stream on the North Slope of Alaska (Brooks Range in the background). As part of a larger collaborative research project funded by the NSF to study how stream ecosystems respond to changing seasonality (winter is starting later than in previous decades), Adam and Michael Gooseff, assistant professor of civil engineering, are studying how the exchange of water between streams and the thawed subsurface changes throughout the thaw season (May-September).
- [Winning ‘Sustainable State’ videos express thoughtfulness, humor](#)
  What do a guy in a penguin suit, a piece of paper named “PoePa” and a beleaguered college student who has a spiritual awakening about how fortunate he truly is all have in common? All three were subjects of winning videos created by Penn State students for the 2011 “Sustainable State” video contest.
- [Mapping coral-endosymbiont biodiversity around the Arabian Peninsula](#)
  Assistant professor of biology Todd C. LaJeunesse and his graduate student, Drew Wham, are traveling the week of May 6 to Saudi Arabia to work with collaborators from the prestigious King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST) situated on the Red Sea.
- [Civil engineering’s Kollat wins best dissertation award](#)
  Josh Kollat, doctoral student in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, has won Best Dissertation in the category of natural science and engineering in the 2011 Universities Council on Water Resources (UCOWR) National Ph.D. Dissertation Award Competition. His thesis adviser is Patrick Reed, associate professor of civil and environmental engineering.
- [Penn State researchers develop stink bug monitoring tool](#)
  As crop growers and homeowners brace for another year of infestations by the brown marmorated stink bug, Penn State researchers have released a Web-based tool that they hope will help enhance their understanding of this invasive insect pest.
University Park self-guided Green Tour focuses on sustainability
Environmentally friendly locations are highlighted during Penn State's Green Tour at the University Park campus.

Jeffrey Brownson; Green Roof Keeps PV Modules Cooler for More Power
When rooftop photovoltaic (PV) panels get hot, their conversion efficiency degrades. One way to keep them cool is to mount them over a green roof — a roof covered with climate-appropriate plantings, adequately watered.

Electricity Marketes Initiative Holds Successful First Conference
The Penn State Electricity Markets Initiative (EMI) held its first conference on April 12, 2011 at the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission in Harrisburg. The conference, with over 80 attendees, included presentations of ongoing studies by EMI researchers as well as presentations by industry consultants and talks about the current issues affecting restructured electricity markets from industry and government representatives.

Chunshan Song to receive 2011 ACS Distinguished Researcher Award in Petroleum Chemistry
Song, associate director of PSIEE, will be recognized for his extensive original contributions to research in the petroleum chemistry field.

Penn State EcoCAR team accepted into EcoCAR 2 contest
More than a decade of strong finishes in advanced vehicle technology competitions has paved the way for Penn State to take on another three-year challenge. Organizers announced on April 13 that the Penn State Advanced Vehicle Technology Team is one of 16 teams selected to participate in EcoCAR 2: Plugging into the Future.

PSU strives for sustainability
In May 2009, Penn State’s board of trustees adopted “Priorities for Excellence — The Penn State Strategic Plan,” outlining the university’s goals and strategies through 2014.

Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria Have Evolved a Unique Chemical Mechanism, New Discovery Reveals
For the first time, scientists have been able to paint a detailed chemical picture of how a particular strain of bacteria has evolved to become resistant to antibiotics.

Penn State biofuels researchers get large grants from USDA
Three researchers in Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences recently were awarded a total of more than $2.8 million in Sustainable Bioenergy Grants from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

Campus Sustainability Office Seeks Applicants for Eco-Rep Positions
Incoming first year students who will live in East Halls during the 2011-2012 school year are encouraged to apply.
Volunteers wanted to assist with “Green” Memorial Day

The Going Green Boalsburg Committee seeks volunteers to help make this Memorial Day at Zero Waste Event. For more info. contact Heather Benjamin: goodfood@benjaminscatering.com.

(View all news)

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We welcome your input!
In order to make this listserv useful for our subscribers, we appreciate your feedback! Please send your comments/suggestions to Patricia Craig at plc103@psu.edu. Please use “PSIEE listserv” in the subject line. If you have information that you would like us to distribute please send that as well. Thanks!

Thank you for your continued interest in the Penn State Institutes of Energy and the Environment!

Best regards,
Patricia Craig