

Memorandum

To: Eileen Cashman
From: Alyssa Sanchez
Date: October 9, 2015
Re: Schatz Energy Research Center (SERC) and Campus Center for Appropriate Technology (CCAT) Site Visit

Purpose

The purpose of this memorandum is to review the SERC and CCAT site visit held on October 1, 2015 at 2pm at Humboldt State University. The format of this meeting, inform what the agencies are while, also discussing present projects of the respected agencies and how they are contributing to the community.

Discussion

The Campus Center for Appropriate Technology is an agency that strives to effectively demonstrate sustainable environmental living. The Schartz Energy Research Center works to establish clean and renewable energy, founded on the idea of creating a hydrogen fuel cell to store solar energy as an efficient way to converting energy into electricity.

One project that is being conducted by CCAT at Humboldt State University is the use of its on-site compost station. The agency takes it own produced compost with as well as the compost from the University and the local community. This structure is made up of all recycled items. This helps with the environment in several ways, with this project CCAT is able to restructure the soil in their local community, with high quality soil they can produce their own organic produce, which contributes to the already existing ecosystem. This project also benefits in the fact that it has low cost effect and has no negative affect to the environment it surrounds.

There are many opportunities to become involved with both CCAT and SERC, one way that I personally would become involved with SERC is by assisting them with their improvement on the hydrogen fuel cell system. With CCAT I would help develop and add to the already existing solar panels, creating an even higher self-sustainability agency.

One of the most interesting moments of this site visit was at the SERC location. Learning about the hydrogen fuel cell system and hearing that this agency was the first to successfully create the system was astounding. It was also highly informative while also exciting to see the on-site fuel cell system, which is being used by SERC members whom are using/observing hydrogen fuel cell vehicles.

Conclusion

The site visit made it clear to see that both agencies hold the same passion for a more energy efficient future. With this trip, one got to see the two different sides of what sustainable energy is, and how to develop new techniques and methods. While CCAT shows the more environmental and social behavioral way SERC shows the ability to establish clean and renewable energy.