

## CCAT AND SERC MEMO

**TO:** PROFESSOR VERGARA  
**FROM:** JACQUELYNE KITTREDGE  
**SUBJECT:** ENGR 115  
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### **Purpose**

The purpose of this memo is to describe what I learned at the tour of SERC and CCAT. The specific purpose of these organizations as well as what I learned during the tours are included.

### **Discussion**

CCAT is the campus center for appropriate technology. CCAT is student run and student funded. Their main goal is to show students about appropriate technology and the different uses of appropriate technology. Appropriate technology is small scale technology that is manageable by people without any expensive construction or costly material. They offer a lot of fun activities and workshops for students and the community. They also teach people how to reuse items in order to better the environment. One thing I learned on the CCAT tour was how many items are reusable and can be utilized to make different things. I noticed different items that would usually be taken to the dumps and reused. For example, there was a terrace full of plants that were planted in old tires. There was also talk about utilizing their grey water system and expanding it to clean water on campus. They made a treatment system made out of a barrel which acts as a settling tank, then the water flows through a bathtub filled with various gravel and plants to further clean it. This water could be use for irrigation purposes and could save a lot of water if implemented in a larger scale.

The Second tour was Schatz Energy Resource Center which is located on campus. SERC works on different products which deal with energy efficiency and designing new technology. One thing I learned about was the lighting global program. This is a multi step process to test products and provide quality assurance. Different products are ran through tests, once products are approved and they get put on their website as manufactured. The majority of these products are for undeveloped countries like Asia and Africa who ran on kerosene lighting for a very long time. SERC also is known for fuel cells and made the first fuel cell vehicle. The main focus for SERC is energy efficiency and a big push towards utilizing solar energy.

### **Conclusion**

SERC and CCAT are extremely beneficial to HSU and the community. They are both continuing to develop and better our environment. The two tours were informative on the impacts different technologies have on the environment.