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Students muster conservation displays

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In a semester-long collaborative effort with the community, Humboldt State University engineering students have completed a series of displays to promote energy conservation.

Through a Service Learning Project, undergraduates and faculty joined with the Redwood Coast Energy Authority (RCEA) designed and assembled interactive displays about home appliance and phantom loads, thermal curtains, tank-less hot water, incandescent versus compact fluorescent bulbs.



Students in the Introduction to Design class (Engineering 215) designed and built the displays (see photo) in cooperation with RCEA's executive director, David Boyd, who provided design requirements, funding and feedback. Students worked in teams to push their projects from conception to completion. Ben Mattio, an Appropriate Technology (Engineering 305) student, was client liaison for the students and RCEA and Dana Boudreau of Energy Wise acted as the contractor and consultant. Instructor Lonny Grafman provided the students with knowledge and support for prototype development.

The teams showcased their quartet of interactive displays in a formal presentation to a group of faculty and community judges, and all four were accepted for exhibition in the RCEA's Energy Resource Center.

Grafman called the Service Learning Project "a huge success."

For details, call Lonny Grafman at 826-3649.

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