Announcement

Tuesday, November 18, 2008

Subject: Delamping initiative will be taking place at UHH

Dear Campus Community,

The Energy Savings/Sustainability Committee has been working diligently on efforts to reduce energy costs and sustainable methods for University of Hawaii at Hilo. The immediate goal is to significantly reduce our electricity bill so that more funding can be reallocated to other departmental budgets, particularly instructional departments.

As part of that effort, many energy saving ideas have been gathered. One of those initiatives that were proposed is to “delamp” UHH classrooms, offices, and labs. What this entails is working with all of the building occupants and users to remove light bulbs and reduce the amount of lighting in many areas. Not only will this effort save energy costs, but in reality, it will improve workplace conditions. Many rooms are overly bright and the lighting levels are higher than is typical in classroom and office settings, which is unhealthy and can lead to stress, eyestrain and headaches.

So, this week and in the next few weeks, Auxiliary Services will be leading the effort to “delamp” the campus buildings. The Vice Chancellor of Administrative Offices and Budget Offices in KFP began that effort a few weeks ago with much success. We will continue along with the DeLamping Project with delamping the Chancellor’s Building, KFP, and UCB, and then the remainder of the campus. When it comes to individual’s offices, we will confer with occupants of the office areas because of individual preferences and try to be as flexible as we can. However, we need to dramatically reduce the costs, so please try to work with the electricians on this effort. Every dollar saved in this effort will go back to others’ budgets, so the incentive is great! This project is just the beginning of many you will see coming. We are having an energy consultant come to UHH to conduct an energy audit. The consultant will be providing a report on our campus and meeting with our committee. We expect that it will provide UHH with additional energy savings recommendations, some that will be more longer term solutions.