



For Immediate Release

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Dimmer lights for a brighter tomorrow

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa students, administration, faculty and staff are joining together in an unprecedented collaboration to “green” the UH Mānoa campus while also addressing severe budget cuts.

As part of a campus-wide effort to improve energy efficiency, the UH Sea Grant College Program, at the request of the University administration and in partnership with the Facilities Management Office, Office of Sustainability, and individual campus programs and departments, is leading an initiative to “delamp” all buildings on the UH Mānoa campus.

Delamping refers to the process of removing bulbs from existing light fixtures, and is an effective way of reducing energy consumption by lighting. Historically, buildings on campus have been designed to be over lit, creating work spaces that use excessive amounts of energy and, on average, provide twice the amount of lighting needed. Delamping saves critical resources by cutting electrical demand, and also creates a more comfortable work environment.

In addition to removing light bulbs, in many cases the lighting fixtures will be changed to more energy-saving models.

With energy bills topping \$20 million per year, improving energy efficiency throughout the campus is critically important to the future of the university.

In celebration of Earth Week, Chancellor Virginia Hinshaw—along with Assistant Vice Chancellor for Campus Services David Hafner, students, and staff from the Facilities Management Office—will be available to discuss this initiative and other efforts the campus is undertaking to “go green.”

Media coverage is invited and encouraged.

When: Earth Week, April 20-24, 2009 (interviews may be scheduled any time during the week with 48 hours advance notice). Call Cindy Knapman, UH Sea Grant Communications Leader, at 956-7410 to schedule an interview.

Where: UH Mānoa campus, Hawaii Institute of Geophysics building.

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The University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program supports an innovative program of research, education and extension services directed to the improved understanding and stewardship of coastal and marine resources of the state, region and nation. Science serving Hawai'i and the Pacific for 41 years.