
MEMORANDUM

TO: EILEEN CASHMAN AND MARGARET LANG
FROM: JOCELYN BARBER
SUBJECT: LAB 12- SERC AND CCAT VISIT TRIP MEMO
DATE: NOVEMBER 30, 2016

Purpose

The purpose of this memo is to provide an overview of the trip to CCAT and SERC on November 18th 2016 in Friday 115 lab at 9 am.

Discussion

The trip included a tour as well as information on previous and ongoing projects that took place within the departments. We were able to ask questions to project managers that advised or took part in engineering eco-friendly design projects.

The Campus Center for Appropriate Technology had several different designs within the property that caught my attention however the “portable energy” trailer interested me the most. This project was designed with a trailer and bikes and the idea was that you could transport the trailer to any event and produce energy by putting people on the bikes to do work. I enjoyed this project the most because it is simple and smart and comes with a lot of societal as well as environmental benefits. This project makes it so you can produce light or any other source of energy for a particular event without having to rely on the grid or a generator that could possibly stop working. It’s reliable and renewable. One environmental cost that may come with it however is the gas needed and burnt to transport it from event to event.

CCAT has a greywater recycle system called the Wash n’ Flush where the water from washing hands is directed back into the toilet bowl so that users aren’t wasting freshwater by peeing in it and flushing. I have designed one of these systems at the Sanctuary in Arcata for a 215 project. The Wash n’ Flus is currently not working the way the designers want it to and I think given my experience with our grey water recycle system I could help in fixing or maintaining it.

The most interesting thing I learned on the field trip is that there are several ways to live a sustainable and eco-friendly life and if everyone were educated on how to adapt to these lifestyles and integrate these designs into their own life, our planet might be much better off.

Conclusions

My experience on the SERC and CCAT trip was amazing it was a great way to start off my Friday. It’s refreshing to see that people are interested in making an effort to create a new way of living even if it does mean that they have to give some things up. I see a lot of potential in the ERE program here at Humboldt State and this trip made my perception on things that much brighter. The intelligence and dedication presented on the tours motivate me to become more involved in projects and designs that will better the community.