

Among the recent accomplishments that have positioned Southern as a leader in the environmental arena are:

- A **green building certification**, awarded in 2006 by the U.S. Green Building Council for the West Campus Residence Complex, which opened in 2004. The designation was part of the council's Leadership in



West Campus Residence Complex

Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program, and West Campus was one of the first two buildings administered by the state Department of Public Works to attain such an award. This project has minimized air pollution, improved indoor air quality, and saved the university money.

- A **campus-wide recycling program** that includes mixed office paper, newspaper, cans, bottles, light bulbs, batteries, and motor oil. This effort is also geared to improve awareness of recycling via articles in the university newspaper, e-mail announcements, and new signs to call attention to recycling stations on campus.
- Recognition (in 2003) by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for **controlling energy costs**. Energy conservation measures include the installation of energy misers on campus vending machines to reduce refrigeration costs, motion detectors on lights throughout campus, motion devices to initiate water flow in campus restrooms, as well as "easy save" devices on all computers in the university's computer centers.



- **Shuttle bus service** to and from the New Haven train station, a step that encourages commuters to use public transportation and reduce vehicle exhaust/emissions from personal vehicles.

- A **new Energy Center**, completed in 2004, which has enabled the university to meet increasingly challenging environmental standards. The new center, which replaced a 54-year-old power plant, utilizes ultra low sulfur fuel, is 40 percent more efficient than the old center, and has reduced pollutants by 50 percent.



Energy Center

- New parking garages that **capture and separate the runoff from oil and gas**.
- The **university's newly designed letterhead** is printed on 100 percent post consumer recycled paper.

- **Reduced littering** through the installation of new trash receptacles across campus.
- **Hosting the 2007 Green Expo**, which includes environmental exhibits and demonstrations and workshops to promote the use of clean and efficient energy while demonstrating ways to lead a more sustainable lifestyle.
- **Student activism** through the Environmental Futurists group and residence hall conservation competitions, among other initiatives.

In addition to campus conservation measures, the university has joined hands with innovative campuses across the country by signing onto the American College & University Presidents' Climate Commitment. Southern President Cheryl J. Norton

signature on this important document represents the university's dedication to environmental responsibility.

By signing this document, leaders of educational institutions agree to bolster their environmental

efforts through improved energy efficiency, conservation, and other steps in pursuit of "climate neutrality." The agreement also calls for an inventory of all greenhouse gas emissions.