

11/1/08

Planet Blue Open House Attended by Nearly 100

The Planet Blue Open House event was held in the lobby of the ERB 1 building on Wednesday, October



6. Planet Blue team members hosted a festive gathering to explain the goals of Planet Blue, and to discuss specific ideas for utilities conservation and increased recycling in the ERB 1 and 2 and Gerstacker buildings.

Open House attendees were able to learn the details of how their buildings work, and they were also able to learn about energy saving tools, such as Motion Sensing Power Strips (MSPS). Over 30 people signed up to receive a free power strip, which will be distributed by Planet Blue.

Results of an energy 'quiz' filled by nearly all the Open House attendees indicated interest in learning about additional tools and practices for energy conservation – such as motion sensing lights and strategies for thermostat control. Some comments made on the quiz:

I learned

- ... about the size of the University's utility bill
- ... about the size of the our building's utility bill.
- ... about the energy conservation efforts at UM
- ... where batteries are recycled in the building
- ... about the Building Automation System
- ...how to properly dispose of e-waste
- ... that lasers use a lot of water



Save energy. Save money. Save the Planet.

- ... how the buildings are monitored and run
- ... about the numerous energy programs on campus – this was a great educational event!
- ... about improvements in fume hood vents
- ... a lot of new information – great presentation!
- ... that computers and electronics are a controlled item (for disposal)
- ... the amount of energy consumed by CRT monitors
- ... who to call for heating / cooling issues
- ... how much UM is doing to save