

6-21-2006

Future City: More than a competition—it grows into a campus collaboration project!

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Recommended Citation

Boyd, Susan K., "Future City: More than a competition—it grows into a campus collaboration project!" (2006). *Staff publications, research, and presentations*. 216.

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ELD/ASEE Annual Conference and Exposition Chicago, IL June 21, 2006

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**Future City: More than a
competition—it grows into a campus
collaboration project!**

Susan Boyd
Michel Orradre Library
Santa Clara University

**ELD/ASEE Annual Conference and Exposition
Chicago, IL
June 21, 2006**



The Evolution of a Library Exhibit

- Exhibit proposal: Display winning models from the Future City regional competition held at SCU on January 28, 2006.
- Requesting department: Civil Engineering.
- Brainstorm: What else can we do in addition to having 1-2 city models in the library's lobby?
- Answer: Showcase the use of environmentally-friendly building materials on campus and what each of us could do to promote sustainability.



What is the Future City competition?

- Annual competition for 7th and 8th-grade students sponsored by National Engineers' Week.
- Student teams use SimCity software to design a future city, and then physically construct a model city using “sustainable” materials and methods that would be in harmony with the environment.
- The aim of the contest is to further student interest in engineering and science. It requires problem-solving, teamwork, research, presentation and computer skills.
- Each regional winner is invited to participate in the national competition held in Washington D.C., during National Engineers' Week in February.



Campus Collaboration

- Civil Engineering Department
- Environmental Studies Institute
- University Operations/Facilities
- University Library
- Students: Residential Learning Community (RLC) named “Cypress” (formerly called Education for a Sustainable Future).



Civil Engineering

- CE Chair coordinated the logistics for the Future City N. California Regional contest.
- Provided examples of Senior Design Projects in the category of “Sustainable Engineering Systems.”
- Photos and construction materials were on display from these projects:
- Seismic susceptibility and sustainability of clay brick structures in El Salvador.
- Human powered utility vehicle.



Environmental Studies Institute

- Provided photos, diagrams, explanations and materials for their display titled:
 - What is Sustainability?
 - Collaborated with the library on recommending books and providing a bibliography of resources in this area.
- Provided a speaker for a lunch-time presentation:
 - Consumption and Sustainability: Can we really change?
 - Presenter: Dr. Sean Watts, Environmental Studies Department



University Operations/Facilities

- Provided examples of sustainable building materials used to construct the new “green” Kennedy Mall Student Center on campus.
- Items included: sustainable building materials, floor –mounted air diffuser, and a water-free urinal.



University Library

- Provided exhibit space: Library lobby and four display cases available during Winter Quarter 2006.
- Provided a conference room for planning meetings with exhibit participants.
- Provided a coordinator for the exhibit:
 - Susan Boyd, Engineering/Math Subject Specialist, Interim Science Specialist, and member of the Library's Exhibits Committee and Marketing Committee.



Residential Learning Community (RLC)

- Provided poster presentations of the best sustainability projects from an Environmental Studies class.



Marketing the Exhibit

- FYI
 - Article in the online faculty/staff newsletter.
- University Events Calendar
 - Online link to library page with more information.
- E-mail Announcements to Faculty and Staff.
- Library Homepage
 - A link to more information about the exhibit, and a bibliography of sustainability resources.



Library Exhibits: The Key to Success

- Collaboration: advantages
 - Creates campus “buzz.”
 - Work together on programming.
 - Diversifies the exhibit.
 - Contributions to the materials on display are shared among groups involved.
 - Creates positive PR for the library with other campus organizations.



Benefits for the Library

- Provides an educational tool.
- Encourages scholarly activity.
- Attracts the campus and the surrounding community to the library.
- Showcases the physical library vs. the virtual one.



With Appreciation

- Dr. Steve Chiesa, Chair, Associate Professor, Civil Engineering
- Dr. Sean Watts, Post-doctoral Fellow, Environmental Studies Institute
- Dr. Virginia Madzek, Director of Campus and Community Programs, Environmental Studies Institute
- Joe Sugg, Assistant Vice-President of University Operations
- Lester Deanes, Resident Director, Cypress/Delphi RLC
- Sean Reinhart, Library Help Services Coordinator, and (Exhibit Layout Designer)