Awards & Recognition

Efficiency  Savings
Quality  Transformative
Sustainability  Pioneer
Productivity  Excellence  Leaders
Green  Strategic  Environmental
Initiatives  Continuous  Footprint
Innovation
2015 Canada’s Greenest Employers

Excerpt:
U of T has been named one of Canada’s Greenest Employers for 2015. This is the second time the University of Toronto has been honoured with this award.

Recognizing employers that "lead the nation in creating a culture of environmental awareness in their organizations," the Canada's Greenest Employers competition was launched in 2007 and is organized by the editors of the Canada's Top 100 Employers project.

In collaboration with various constituencies of the University, the Facilities & Services department within the Division of University Operations facilitates the 'Greenest Employers' application. “This award is an extremely rewarding and well-deserved recognition of the tremendous efforts being made by a large network of people who work to integrate sustainability into every facet of our organization.” said Ron Swail, Assistant Vice-President of Facilities & Services.

From the many dozen student groups, to our three sustainability offices, to the hundreds of academics engaged in research and education, to our facility departments, to our alumni network and our incubator activities where research, teaching, and creativity blend into products and services which reduce our environmental footprint, the University of Toronto is truly a leader in sustainability.”

Check the original article at http://www.hrandequity.utoronto.ca/about-hr-equity/news/2015n/uothge2015.htm
Formerly known as the Ontario Waste Minimization Awards, the RCO Awards is Recycling Council of Ontario’s annual showcase that celebrates and recognizes the best application of the 3Rs (reduce, reuse, recycle) in the previous calendar year.

The University of Toronto is one of the recipients of the RCO Awards - Gold level this year.

In addition, U of T also received a 3R Certification and is the first University to certify in Canada.

For more details please visit: [https://rcoawards.ca/home](https://rcoawards.ca/home)
Congratulations to Radu Ciotirca, Senior Utilities Reduction Manager, Facilities and Services! He received the 2015 Energy Manager Excellence Award in the most recent Energy Manager Forum held in the International Centre.

The award is given to an embedded energy manager who has achieved the most in-service savings in a most recently completed term.

Radu has been an integral part of the MSB energy reduction project and OISE energy reduction project that has generated tremendous savings for the University.
2015 University Operations Awards

The Vice-President University Operations has established the annual Staff Achievement Awards Program to recognize exceptional staff contributions to the success of their particular unit, the University Operations portfolio and the University.

The inaugural VPUO Awards event was held on Tuesday, September 1st, 2015 and Facilities and Services proudly congratulate the following F&S staff for being one of the inaugural recipients of the VPUO awards:

- Patrick Brennan – Outstanding Individual Employee Award
- Stan Szwagiel – Outstanding Individual Employee Award
- Wayne Shaw – Outstanding Individual Employee Award
- Ivo Sousa – Distinguished Service Awards
- John Jankowski – Distinguished Service Awards
- Irfan Miraj and Doug Colby (Asbestos Tracker Team) – Outstanding Staff Team Award

For more details regarding the VPUO awards and winner citations, go to: http://vpuo.utoronto.ca/2015-university-operations-award-winners-announced-at-the-first-ever-uo-than-q-bbq/
2014 Excellence Through Innovation Awards – Invoice Workflow Process

The Facilities & Services Invoice Workflow program is transformative in many respects. The workflow software automates the department’s invoice payment process (22,000 invoices per year) and significantly increases productivity for dozens of staff members. Darrel Fernandopulle (Director, Financial Services, F&S), Usama Makary (Manager, Financial Services, F&S) and Stacey Wilson (Assistant Director, IT Services) were one of the recipients of the 2014 Excellence Through Innovation Awards for seeing this project through from inception to completion.

The system actively manages the invoice approval process reducing risk to the department and the institution by: eliminating the potential for duplicate payments, ensuring timely approval of the department’s payables, allowing opportunities to garner early payment discounts and enabling a number of management reports for high level management oversight.

The system goes far beyond invoice scanning software by utilizing state-of-the-art optical scanning technology. Moreover, it will significantly reduce paper and move the department’s accounting and management group from a paper and pen approval system to a completely transparent electronic solution embedded with internal controls and full accountability.

For more details regarding the 2014 ETIA award-winning project profiles, go to: http://www.hrandequity.utoronto.ca/Assets/HR+Digital+Assets/Awards+and+Recognition/ETIA/etiarp.pdf
2014 Excellence Through Innovation Awards – Occupancy Sensor Driven HVAC Control System

John Walker (Area Manager, Utilities & Building Operations) is another proud recipient of the 2014 Excellence Through Innovation Awards. John partnered with an employee at Enbridge Gas to create a more efficient and effective way to operate the OISE building by using an inexpensive “retail throughput thermal sensor” and applying it to a large commercial building. The application of the thermal sensor technology combined with Variable Speed Drive (VSD) fans and modern building control systems elevated this 1970’s building to run as efficiently and effectively as any brand new building today. The building went from no controls to a precise “real time” occupancy-based heating ventilation and air conditioning controls approach. The net result was a much better climate for internal staff while drastically saving energy costs.

Annual savings as a result of this project will reach over $500,000 per year with 20,545 GJ total building annual energy savings per year equivalent to 920 tonnes eCO2 of GHG avoidance per year – that equals to the annual electricity use of 127 average households!

For more details regarding the 2014 ETIA award-winning project profiles, go to: http://www.hrandequity.utoronto.ca/Assets/HR+Digital+Assets/Awards+and+Recognition/ETIA/etiarp.pdf
Ron Swail has a decade-long record of innovative thinking and actions that have demonstrably improved the physical operations of U of T - resulting in better service, performance and outcomes - often at lower costs.

As Chief Operations Officer, Property Services & Sustainability at the St. George Campus, Ron has transformed the culture of the department which is now highly respected and valued by its clients for providing excellent service, sustainability, value for money and transparency.

Ron put together the submission that prompted U of T to become one of Canada's Greenest Employers for the first time in 2012. U of T's mark in the College Sustainability Report Card went up a full grade after he took over the submission package. U of T has one of the most comprehensive recycling and waste management programs of any North American educational institution and a record diversion rate of 72 percent.

Ron was instrumental in creating the University's first LEED Gold project (LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) at 255 McCaul Street (Exam Centre) at the St. George campus. This project established a new standard - combining sustainability innovations with best practice interior design resulting in a triple bottom line work environment.

Source and for more details regarding the 2014 Chancellor’s Award recipients and their profiles, go to: http://www.hrandequity.utoronto.ca/about-hr-equity/news/22n/tellsmrcah.htm
The Medical Science Building (MSB) consumes more energy than any other building at the University. It is also the most complex building to operate.

Chun Lee (Manager, Utilities & Building Operations) came up with an ambitious initiative to reduce energy consumption at MSB. The project scope was massive and included:

- employing cutting-edge wireless room level thermostatic controls (first to use this technology in Canada) in over 350 rooms,
- Variable Frequency Drives (VSDs) to control 32 central fans and
- the installation of a new building automation system.

The project was a tremendous success – the most successful energy reduction project ever undertaken at the University by a wide margin. The project cost $1.5M; we received almost $600k in incentives from Toronto Hydro and Enbridge Gas, and achieved energy savings based on actual meter readings of over $1M in annual savings. The project had an astonishing simple payback of less than one year.

This project is far and away the most complicated, cutting edge and ultimately successful building energy reduction project that the University has ever completed, affirming that the University of Toronto is not only a leading-edge institution with world-class research but also has one of the most innovative and sustainable Facilities Operations of any North American institution.

For more regarding the MSB Energy Reduction Project, go to: http://news.utoronto.ca/fueling-research-while-saving-energy
2013 Excellence Through Innovation Awards
– Smart Irrigation Program

Team members: Peter Johnston (Supervisor, Grounds Services) and Stan Szwagiel (Manager, Grounds Services)

The Smart Irrigation Program consists of a number of initiatives designed to reduce water consumption in the irrigation systems on the St. George Campus while maintaining the beauty of the campus grounds.

With the installation of the centralized irrigation control system, 82+ irrigation systems across campus are adjusted automatically for weather conditions, soil type and plant species, saving over 50% of the amount of water previously consumed. Installation of rain harvesters, permeable paving, French Drains, and perennials has improved groundwater retention, thereby reducing water consumption even further.

The Smart Irrigation Program will generate significant savings to annual water expenses. The University of Toronto St. George Campus is one of the first institutions to use these cutting-edge technologies to the extent that Facilities and Services – Grounds Services has, and the program serves as another testament to the commitment to innovation, sustainability and conservation.

For more details regarding the 2013 ETIA award-winning project profiles, go to: http://www.hrandequity.utoronto.ca/Assets/HR+Digital+Assets/Awards+and+Recognition/ETIA/2013etiapp.pdf
2013 Excellence Through Innovation Awards - Lab Glass and Plastic Recycling Program

Team members: Stan Szwagiel (Manager, Grounds Services) and Reno Strano (Supervisor, Recycling & Waste Management)

The non-hazardous laboratory glass and plastic recycling program is the first program of its kind in Canada. For 2011-2012, approximately 7 metric tonnes of material was recycled and approximately 2500 plastic buckets – about another 2 tonnes – were kept out of landfill. Laboratories are closely associated with research, one of the University’s core missions. However, historically, it has been difficult to implement sustainability/recycling initiatives in laboratories because of the presence of hazardous chemicals and the associated protocols required in handling them.

By advancing this pioneering recycling initiative into one of the University’s core operations, the Lab Glass and Plastic Recycling Program offers another testament to the culture of sustainability that has been embedded deep within the operating culture of the institution for over a hundred years.

This new recycling initiative is another testament to University of Toronto’s pioneering efforts in terms of implementing initiatives that further embed the culture of sustainability in the institution. Through ongoing recycling initiatives, the St. George Campus has reduced its carbon footprint more than a million metric tonnes since 1973.

For more details regarding the 2013 ETIA award-winning project profiles, go to: http://www.hrandequity.utoronto.ca/Assets/HR+Digital+Assets/Awards+and+Recognition/ETIA/2013etiapp.pdf
2013 Simcoe Hall Vice-Presidents’ (SHVP) Staff Award

This award celebrates outstanding staff members who are Confidential, Professional & Managerial Staff (PM 1-7 and IAP) or unionized and work in the service of either the Division of the President's Office, the Division of the Vice-President & Provost, a Vice-Presidential Division (where the Vice-President is a member of SVP), or the Office of Governing Council.

Each year, this award recognizes staff members who have made contributions to their Division or to the broader University ‘above and beyond' their job description.

The recipients from the Division of University Operations are:

**2013 (Inaugural year)** – Cecille Agmata, Executive Assistant, Facilities & Services

**2014** – Stacey Wilson, Assistant Director, Telecommunications, ITS/EASI and Laurie Harrison, Director, On-line Learning Strategies, ITS

For more details regarding the SHVP Staff Award, please visit: http://www.hrdequity.utoronto.ca/about-hr-equity/awards/avpa.htm
2012 Canada’s Greenest Employers

Launched in 2007, the Canada's Greenest Employers competition is organized by the editors of the Canada's Top 100 Employers project. This designation recognizes the employers that "lead the nation in creating a culture of environmental awareness in their organizations."

Each employer is evaluated in terms of:
• The unique environmental initiatives and programs they have developed;
• The extent to which they have been successful in reducing the organization's own environmental footprint;
• The degree to which their employees are involved in these programs and whether they contribute any unique skills; and,
• The extent to which these initiatives have become linked to the employer's public identity and whether they attract new people to the organization.

While this was the first time U of T has received this particular award, the University has long been recognized for its sustainability practices. U of T has received the Environmental Award of Excellence from the City of Toronto, been named ‘College Sustainability Leader’ by the Sustainable Endowments Institute and was LEED Gold Certified by the Canada Green Building Council for the St. George Campus' Exam Centre at 255 McCaul Street. "The University has a long culture of sustainability," said Ron Swail, Assistant Vice-President, Facilities & Services. "Since 1973, we have worked with the University community to integrate environmentally-responsible activities throughout the institution and we're proud of our achievements to date and excited for the work ahead."

To see the full article, please visit: http://news.utoronto.ca/what-makes-u-t-one-canadas-greenest-employers
## Campus Sustainability Leader – 2011 Sustainability Report Card

### “College Sustainability Leader”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Details</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>The University of Toronto is committed to sustainability through a formal plan and components of its master plan. Three committees, the sustainability office, and several staff members address campus environmental issues. Green purchasing is encouraged whenever possible, and all desktop computers purchased for the campus are Energy Star certified. The school has an alumni green fund.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Climate Change &amp; Energy</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>The university has reduced greenhouse gas emissions 23 percent from 1973 levels. Energy-efficient technologies on campus include a district energy system with cogeneration and flue gas heat recovery, and a large solar thermal array. Studies have been conducted regarding the implementation of photovoltaics and geothermal energy systems.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food &amp; Recycling</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>The school spends over half its food budget on local items and offers a wide variety of organic foods. U of T purchases some vegetarian-fed meat, some hormone- and antibiotic-free beef and dairy, and some seafood that meets sustainability guidelines. Food for a student-run restaurant comes from a campus garden, and fair trade coffee is available in all dining locations. The school offers promotions for use of reusable containers. Pre- and postconsumer food scraps are composted at all meals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Building</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>All buildings must comply with the Toronto Green Development Standard. One campus building is LEED Gold certified and another is LEED Silver. Water consumption has been reduced through the installation of dual-flush toilets, efficient laundry machines, and leak detection on some equipment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Involvement</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>The Victoria Environmental House accommodates eco-minded students. New students are introduced to sustainability on campus through skits, presentations, and an open house. The school employs 33 paid student interns and eight volunteer interns, as well as numerous eco-reps. Student groups, such as the Sustainability Commission and Students Against Climate Change, actively promote campus sustainability initiatives.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>The majority of the campus commutes using alternative transportation. U of T offers a discounted transit pass to all members of the campus community, and a free shuttle service to local destinations. A bike-sharing program was started in 2007, and repairs are organized through a student-funded facility. U of T also partners with a car-sharing program. Some vehicles in the motor fleet are hybrid or run on natural gas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endowment Transparency</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>The university makes a list of asset allocation, external managers, mutual funds, equity holdings, and fixed income holdings available to the public on the school website. A list of votes cast on proxy resolutions only by category is available to the general public upon request.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Priorities</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>The university aims to optimize investment returns and is exploring, but not currently invested in, renewable energy funds. The university also uses investment managers who consider environmental and sustainability factors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shareholder Engagement</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>The university asks that its investment managers handle the details of proxy voting. A committee that includes student representatives makes recommendations to the investment managers.</td>
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*With an overall grade of A-, the University of Toronto is among the top three universities in Canada with the highest grade, which designates us as a “College Sustainability Leader”.*

2011 Excellence Through Innovation Awards – Sustainability Dashboard Project

Attila Keszei (Sustainability Initiatives), Ivana MacIsaac (Systems Development) and Erik Ivanenko (Utilities) were one of the teams that received the 2011 Excellence Through Innovation Awards for collaborating and bringing the Sustainability Dashboard Project into fruition.

Also called the sustainability kiosk, the main objective of the project was to create a software application that could handle the type of data and mode of communication envisioned by Facilities and Services to compile and promote its sustainability initiatives and projects for over 40 years.

The first kiosk and display panel installed in the lobby of the Exam Centre details U of T’s sustainability milestones where students and other members of the campus community can visually see and learn about the wonderful things we have achieved and done for the environment as a community and be proud!
2010 Chancellor’s Award – Influential Leader

Attila Keszei joined the University of Toronto in 1978 and, in the course of his long career, has served as a mechanical design engineer, a resources management engineer and a manager of building mechanical systems. A compassionate and committed individual, he has helped to keep U of T running as efficiently as possible for 31 years.

Attila is widely respected for his environmental consciousness. In fact, his high standards for energy efficiency has made U of T a Canadian leader in energy innovation.

Initiatives such as the construction of the cogeneration plant, major lighting retrofits and more efficient water use have translated into very large cost savings for U of T—gains made without impairing the institution's ability to provide the energy required to fuel the rapid growth of research activity, the student population and building construction.

In the words of his colleagues: “The University of Toronto would be considerably poorer, less beautiful and less inspired had Attila not been here to lead the way to a more sustainable, comfortable and highly efficient campus.”

To see the full article, please visit: http://awards.alumni.utoronto.ca/viewer/view/575
CAUBO Quality and Productivity Award

The Sustainability Office’s Rewire project has been awarded third prize in the national category of the Canadian Association of University Business Officers’ (CAUBO) Quality and Productivity Awards 2009. The Rewire project at the University of Toronto aims to empower students, staff and faculty to reduce their energy consumption through small behaviour changes with high environmental impact.

The Canadian Association of University Business Officers (CAUBO) promotes the professional and effective delivery of services and administration of resources in all facets of higher education. This annual awards program is designed to recognize, reward and share achievements of administrators in the introduction of new services, improvement in the quality of services provided, and the management of human, financial, and physical resources.
University of Toronto, St. George campus received the City of Toronto Environmental award of Excellence, which recognized our Sustainability Office’s Rewire energy campaign and our $20 million Energy Reduction Project.
Energy Efficiency Award

Natural Resources Canada gave Facilities and Services its prestigious Energy Efficiency Award for energy innovators in recognition of our commitment to energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

We were recognized before other universities even started working on sustainability.

Our history of energy conservation dates as far back as 1973.
Waste Minimization Awards

In recognition of our leadership and dedication to the environment, Facilities and Services won two Waste Minimization awards from the Recycling Council of Ontario, one in 1991 and one in 1993.

That was over two decades ago! U of T is and always will be leaders in sustainability – because we care as a community!
Savings By Design Award

U of T was the first recipient of Ontario Hydro’s Savings by Design award in 1989. It was given to Facilities & Services.

We realized savings by installing solar reflecting film on the windows in some of our major buildings including Zoology, Sidney Smith, Galbraith and 215 Huron Street.