

EVERGLADES

UNIVERSITY

SARASOTA CAMPUS

News Release--Immediate Release

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Everglades University Opens Their Solar Energy Teaching Lab

Sarasota, FL—Aug. 5, 2014—With construction having completed on the Solar Energy Teaching Lab at the Sarasota campus of [Everglades University](#), there will be a grand opening and ribbon cutting for the community at large on Thursday, August 21 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the campus, which is located at 6001 Lake Osprey Drive in Sarasota.

Everglades University (EU) Sarasota Campus has completed construction of their Solar Energy Teaching Lab. With assistance of grants from Florida Power & Light (FPL), EU constructed this lab which includes several different solar technologies with an outside covered area for holding classes where students may research the efficiency and reliability of different technologies in Florida's unique climate.

"Due to a software program and television monitor located in the lobby of the campus, the students are able to see and track the performance of the solar trees, solar panels and the wind turbine," stated Kristi Mollis, President of Everglades University. "These tools will support the program courses in the Alternative and Renewable Energy Management program, especially Solar Energy & Photovoltaics, Wind Energy, and Energy Storage & Policy."

Starting in 2012, the Sarasota campus for Everglades University (EU) began installing a number of energy-saving devices on and around the campus thanks in part to a grant from Florida Power & Light (FPL), which helped to defray the cost of the project. The campus now has two solar trees, which Smart cars can plug into and recharge. There are also multiple rows of solar panels on the roof, as well as a wind turbine at the southwest corner of the campus, in order to help decrease the campuses dependency on traditional energy sources. As a result of the energy-saving initiatives taking place at the Sarasota campus of Everglades University, the Florida Gulf Coast Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council bestowed the "Business of the Year" award to the school. Everglades University was recognized for their outstanding an ongoing commitment to sustainability, campus solar project and Alternative and Renewable Energy Management program.

"Using the knowledge students have gained in the Alternative and Renewable Energy Management program, our graduates are agents of change for a healthier environment," said Caroline King, Campus Vice President. "We lead by example with our commitment to sustainability and we look forward to sharing this Solar Teaching Lab with the entire Sarasota community."

The University plans to share their resources and knowledge by hosting local schools' educational field trips and community seminars to expose students to green career pathways and demonstrate green buildings/clean energy.

For those wishing to attend the event, please RSVP to Melinda Waller at 941-907-2262.

About Everglades University:

Everglades University has been accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools since 2010. Everglades University is an accredited, private, not-for-profit university offering bachelor's and master's degree programs that prepare students to advance in their careers or fields of study. With small class sizes, innovative degree programs, and convenient on-campus and online class schedules to accommodate working students and adult learners, Everglades University is committed to student success.

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Everglades University provides relevant degree programs to meet the demands of the evolving job market, which is a result of our partnerships with industry professionals. Our Student Services Department works with both graduates and employers in the community to build employment opportunities. Everglades University is proud of our graduates' contribution to the workforce and economic development, locally and throughout the state.

Visit our website at www.evergladesuniversity.edu.

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