

As a part of the completed [Central Utilities Performance Contracting project](#) that began in 2007, UMKC is projected to save about \$1,600,000 annually. These savings were realized by installing energy-efficient lighting ballasts/lamps, water fixtures, fume hood systems and temperature control systems throughout the campus. New Central Plant chillers for the Volker Campus and the School of Medicine also are more cost-efficient. These savings are being used to pay off the bonds that financed the project.

There are many good reasons to refine and improve our stewardship of the energy expenditures necessary to operate UMKC. Among the principal reasons – helping with current economic challenges, reducing our use of resources and being environmentally friendly, and minimizing the effect these costs have on our educational mission, our people and our jobs. As UMKC identifies additional energy savings, we must look beyond the items already addressed and implement additional steps.

This month, UMKC Campus Facilities Management staff will continue two cost-effective changes in daily operations. They will adjust the temperature set points for cooling systems around campus from 72 to 75 degrees, and they will continue the extended time that air handlers are shut down during non-occupied hours which was begun earlier this year.

The temperature set points and air handler shutdowns cannot be universally applied. Campus Facilities Management will take into account special situations for research equipment and instruments, humidity control requirements and studio environments. Research labs, locker rooms, music and instrument rooms, museums, special collections and rooms with wood floors are examples of special areas that will be managed using different criteria.

In addition to the energy conservation measures described above, and based on what we have heard from you in the [Suggestion Box](#), here are some frequently asked questions and answers about more efficiencies all of us can practice.

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

- I am warm natured. What can I do to adjust to a warmer work environment?
  - Take advantage of the UMKC summer “business casual” dress code as appropriate for your job and allowed by your department. A temperature of 75 degrees is comfortable; but if you find yourself constantly feeling overheated, call Campus Facilities Management at x1354 so your office area thermostat can be checked.
- What else can I do to help conserve energy?
  - Monitor light usage. Turn off the lights when you leave your office, a conference room or a classroom. For safety reasons, UMKC leaves lighting on in most corridors and entry ways.
  - Practice green computing. Turn off printers, monitors and other computing peripheral equipment when you go home. Do the same for central copiers and printers, which continue to draw power in their “sleep” mode.
  - Avoid direct sunlight in your offices. Tilt blinds in the summer to block direct sunlight into your work area.

- Share coffee pots, microwave ovens, refrigerators and other equipment when possible.
- Buy green. Make sure that office equipment and computers have the Energy Star logo.
- Report problems to Campus Facilities Management at x1354. A leaky faucet, overcooled office (yes, we do have some) or a broken window wastes energy and money.
- I have concerns about the shutdown of air handlers in my space. Who do I contact?
  - This program will be overseen by Campus Facilities Management. Contacts are John Heldstab, Manager Engineering and Construction, at [heldstabj@umkc.edu](mailto:heldstabj@umkc.edu) , or Mike Norris, Energy Resources Coordinator, at [norrisjm@umkc.edu](mailto:norrisjm@umkc.edu) .

UMKC continues to look for changes to our campus surroundings with cost and environmental savings in mind. While much has been accomplished, we must continue to look for further opportunities to capture greater savings and help keep our capable staff and faculty doing their jobs.

Sincerely,

Leo E. Morton  
Chancellor