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CALORIES TO KILOWATTS

Texas State set to unveil the Largest Human Power Plant in the World

San Marcos, TX, Nov. 10, 2009 - Texas State University – San Marcos will unveil the largest human power plant in the world. In an attempt to create a greater awareness about environmental sustainability, the university is retrofitting 30 elliptical machines in the student recreation center to convert human exercise into electricity.

Texas State will be the first university in Texas to utilize this technology which converts human energy into a useable form of renewable energy that is connected to the university power grid. The technology being installed at the student recreation center was developed by ReRev, a company based out of Clearwater, Florida.

ReRev has installed similar exercise machines in other universities and private establishments around the nation, but nothing of this magnitude. ReRev will be in San Marcos December 4-5 retrofitting the ellipticals for energy production. The grand opening for the project will be held at the Student Recreation Center on December 8, 2009 at 3:00pm.

We want the Texas State community to gain a better understanding of how much energy it takes to power simple devices we use on a regular basis. A typical thirty-minute workout will produce 50 watt hours of clean, carbon-free electricity. That is enough energy to power a laptop computer for one hour, or a desktop computer for thirty-minutes. We believe that once students understand how much energy it takes to power appliances or electronics, they will adapt their lifestyles to create a more energy efficient and sustainable community.

Students, faculty, staff, and community members of San Marcos who use the Student Recreation Center will not only be able to work out they will be able to turn burning calories into kilowatts. Help join Texas State give back to the electric and not just use electricity but, produce it.

The cost of the project is \$19,750 and paid for by Texas State's Environmental Service Committee and the Department of Campus Recreation with support from Associated Student Government.

For more information:

www.campusrecreation.txstate.edu/Calories-to-Kilowatts

