

# update

JUNE 11 THROUGH JUNE 25, 2008

## SUNY Upstate to participate in energy reduction drill this summer

SUNY Upstate Medical University has agreed to significantly reduce its electricity demand for one hour this summer on a day to be determined as part of its membership in the SUNY Electric Buying Group.

In addition to SUNY Upstate, 25 other SUNY campuses are members of the SUNY Electric Buying Group that enables the universities to purchase electricity at a reduced rate. In order to continue to receive those savings, the group requires all its members to participate in a one-hour energy reduction drill.

Here's how it will work: Campuses will receive 20-hour advance notice of the need to reduce power at a particular hour. Employees will be notified via Incident Command email when the energy reduction drill will occur. They also will receive a list of energy-saving steps to take during the hour. Such steps

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Photograph by William Mueller

*SUNY Upstate general mechanical electricians Ed Bement, left, and Filippo Larosa, adjust a variable frequency drive that helps conserve energy in starting electric motors, such as those used to power air cooling systems.*

## Technology receives provisional patent from SUNY Research Foundation

Mohammad Haeri, a graduate student in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and Eduardo Solessio, PhD, assistant professor in the Center for Vision Research of the Department of Ophthalmology, were members of a team that tied for second place in the Syracuse Panasci Business Plan Competition, held April 18 and 19 at Syracuse University's Whitman Business School. One-hundred teams participated in the competition.

Haeri's and Solessio's team, whose members received a combined \$7,500 to put toward their business concept, designed and developed an innovative and adaptable multicolor, multiconrolled LED-based light source for retinal vision studies.

Their innovative technology is green—saving on energy—and is less expensive than other light sources for retinal studies on the market. It does not have mechanical parts which makes it faster than other light sources

and allows for simultaneous multiple flashes—currently not available to researchers through other light sources.

The light source has received a provisional patent from the SUNY Research Foundation.

The team was advised by SUNY Upstate researchers Robert Barlow, PhD, and Daniel Tso, PhD, and faculty from Whitman School of Business at Syracuse University.

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**Technology**—continued from page 1

John Hoepner, MD, Robert Barlow, PhD, and Barry Knox, PhD, of SUNY Upstate’s Department of Ophthalmology provided the team with departmental funding support.

The Panasci Business Plan Competition is designed to spur the entrepreneurial spirit of students in creating growth-oriented business models.

The competition is hosted by the Program in Entrepreneurship and Emerging Enterprises at the Whitman School of Management at Syracuse University.



Photograph courtesy of Mohammad Haeri

Mohammad Haeri, seated, and Eduardo Solessio, PhD, right, work on the light source controlling system in Dr. Solessio’s laboratory. Joining Haeri and Dr. Solessio is Morteza Haeri, left, a team member and graduate student at Syracuse University.

**Student Accomplishments**—continued from page 4

Christian Medical Center (KCMC)--Duke University Kilimanjaro AIDS Program in Tanzania. Shaw will work in the laboratory on susceptibility testing, oversee data collection by clinical officers at the site, and analyze data after recruitment is completed.



Ava Star

Second-year medical student **Ava Star** was selected by the Association of Women Surgeons (AWS) to serve on its national medical student committee for the 2008-2009 academic year. Shaw will be eligible to

participate in AWS projects such as the AWS mentorship program, the AWS student poster session and membership expansion.



Cytotechnology students who participated in the American Society for Cytotechnology meeting are, from left, Brian West; Nicole

Bailey; Susan Stowell, Cytotechnology Department chair; Jamie Lee Pastor; India Curtis; Yuan Zhou and Svetlana Biggs

**Cytotechnology students present at ASC**

Cytotechnology students Brian West, Yuan Zhou and Nicole Bailey were among 12 students to present cytology cases at the annual meeting of the American Society for Cytotechnology (ASC) April 4 to 6 in Newport, R.I. Bailey placed third for her case titled, “Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma in an FNA of the Breast.” Cytotechnology students

Svetlana Biggs and Jamie Lee Pastor received awards for their presentations, which were shown as part of a computer loop at the conference.

Altogether, seven Upstate cytotechnology students attended the conference along with Susan Stowell, chair of the Department of Cytotechnology in the College of Health Professions at SUNY Upstate.