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American University Honored as Business Leader for Energy Efficiency

American University is recognized for its commitment to improve campus-wide energy efficiency

July 15, 2013 (Washington, DC) - [Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships](#) (NEEP) has recognized American University (AU) as a 2013 Business Leader in Energy Efficiency. Nominated by the DC Sustainable Energy Utility (DC SEU), AU was honored for its green building policies and continued efforts to advance campus-wide energy efficiency.

With assistance from the DC SEU, AU completed a major lighting retrofit to modernize Bender Arena, home to the university's NCAA athletics programs and host to commencement exercises, concerts, and world renowned speakers. The improved lighting and controls in Bender Arena cut energy use by more than 350 MWh per year and reduce the cooling necessary when the gym is in use for a total of more than \$50,000 in annual cost savings.

"We're committed to reducing energy consumption in the District of Columbia," said Ted Trabue, Managing Director of the DC SEU. "Dedicated partners like American University are leading the way by example."

AU has pledged to achieve carbon neutrality by 2020. A leading strategy is to reduce campus-wide energy consumption. In addition to retrofits in Bender Arena, the university is currently working with the DC SEU to upgrade lighting in three parking garages and to make HVAC improvements to the American University Library, which will reduce energy use and increase occupant comfort. AU has also adopted a green building policy requiring that all new buildings meet or exceed LEED® gold standards and is one of only three universities in the world that is currently working on a large-scale LEED volume project to certify 25 existing buildings on campus.

"Sustainability, carbon neutrality...these are all issues that are on the national agenda," said David Osborne, the Director of Energy and Engineering at American University. "From that standpoint, not only is it good business sense, but it's also the politically and socially responsible thing to do."

American University was recognized along with 11 other Northeast Energy Efficiency Business Leaders, including Green Mountain Coffee Roasters, ESPN, and Anheuser Busch at the 2013 Northeast Energy Efficiency Summit. Watch the video to see American University's beautiful campus and learn more: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vUPsGOP83nl&feature=youtu.be>.

ABOUT AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

American University is a leader in global education, enrolling a diverse student body from throughout the United States and nearly 140 countries. Located in Washington, D.C., the university provides opportunities for academic excellence, public service, and internships in the nation's capital and around the world.

ABOUT the DC SEU

The DC SEU helps District residents and businesses save energy and money through energy efficiency and renewable energy services. For more information on the DC SEU, visit www.dcseu.com, or contact Hanna Grene at 202-309-3839 or hgrene@dcseu.com.

ABOUT NEEP

NEEP was founded in 1996 as a non-profit whose mission is to serve the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic to accelerate energy efficiency in the building sector through public policy, program strategies and education. For more information visit www.neep.org.

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