



# GREENING OF UAB

News By Facilities Energy Management Department

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## GREEN ROOF DESIGN IS UNDER RESEARCH AT UAB

On top of the UAB Chemistry Building, Facilities has installed 15 miniature test roofs with different types of “green” or sustainable roof systems. Each of these test roofs are basically 4 x 8 feet boxes constructed of plywood and insulated similar to most UAB buildings. Inside each plywood box is a wireless temperature sensor that is continuously being recorded and trended by a remote computer.

This data is being collected by both Facilities and the senior design students in the UAB School of Civil Engineering. Many different types of green roof systems

such as reflective roofs are being evaluated in comparison to traditional roofs for their effectiveness in conserving energy and sustainability. The results will be used to determine the type of roofs to be used on future UAB buildings and when roofs are replaced on existing UAB roofs. Due to the increasing cost of energy, this research is very important in UAB efforts to reduce energy consumption.

When it comes to Green roofs, there are many opposing opinions and very little scientific data especially for this region of the southeast. The results from this research at UAB will provide factual data that hopefully will be used by others in this geographical region in designing Green roofs. Olen Pruitt, Executive Director, UAB Facilities Management, said that this partnership of Facilities and the School of Engineering is a perfect partnership providing students an opportunity to use their education in providing research to save energy not only for UAB but can be used by architects, engineers and Facility managers in the community, state and the entire region.



Green roof systems on the top of the Chemistry Building are currently being researched for energy conservation and sustainability.

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UAB has the reputation of being a pioneer in many types of research and it is exciting to be part of this Green research to support our energy conservation efforts. Dr. Robert Peters and Dr. Nasim Uddin in the School of Civil Engineering lead the students in this research. The students correlate the data with actual real time weather data.

**UAB CONSERVES ENERGY**  
**THINK "GREEN" - SAVE "GOLD" \$\$**



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