

# THE GRAPEVINE

ACEEE Summer Study at Asilomar, California

Friday, August 18, 2006

## We Are The People We Have Been Waiting For

by Bill Prindle



**Bill Prindle, Deputy Director,  
ACEEE**

Congratulations to those of you who have held on to the succulent (as opposed to bitter) end of Summer Study. If you are like me, your thoughts naturally bend toward getting back—back to home, back to work, back to what's familiar. But let me invite you to head home with a different perspective. It's

this: There is no going back, only forward. This perspective challenges me to change how I think and how I work.

We hope this Summer Study has changed you, changed the way you see some aspect of this great work we are engaged in. For me, it has made the strongest case yet that we are entering a new era for energy efficiency. The world is beginning to turn to us for real answers, real results, real soon. To quote the Talking Heads: "this ain't no party, this ain't no disco, this ain't no foolin' around..." (although those of us who moved to the incomparable sound of Philip Aaberg and Perry and the Pumpers last night might demur).

Surabi Menon painted the climate challenge on Sunday night in the starkest possible terms. If you didn't think the

global warming problem needs immediate action, you might have shifted your thinking on that. Our utility commissioner panel on Monday night described a renaissance of renewed action in the states. Tom Princen on Tuesday challenged us to think in terms of sufficiency, not just efficiency. Several sessions asked us to rethink some cherished habits.

And we are seeing action in the wider world, not just brilliant thinking within the efficiency community. Seven northeast states, plus California and Oregon, are launching major new climate policies. Major companies, from Wal-Mart to Dow Chemical, are entering substantial new sustainability commitments, much of which turns on increased energy efficiency. Dozens of major cities have joined the Clinton Foundation's new climate initiative. We may be witnessing a turning of the tide on public action in clean energy policy.

And who will these people call on for the expertise and delivery capability for this newly-valuable energy efficiency resource? Look across the table, across the dining room, across the meeting room. It's us, folks. We are the people that we—and the world—have been waiting for.

So phrased another way, my invitation to you as you head home is: take your game up a notch. Ask yourself: what is that powerful idea I haven't quite gotten into proposal form? What's the game-changing concept that I've hesitated to bring up for fear of being thought too bold, too grandiose? What is one new thing I can act on today that might make a big difference? I challenge you to think beyond your to-do list. I invite you to think and act less incrementally and more in leaps and bounds.

If not us, who? If not now, when?

# What was your favorite session topic this year at Summer Study?



**Chuck Goldman, LBNL**

A session I went to on next-generation lighting programs in the Northeast was my favorite. I liked it because the panel leaders talked about all of the changes in the program and the unexpected consequences. I like hearing about successes as well as lessons learned from unexpected results.

**Rick Diamond, LBNL**

We had a session on designing low energy homes that was really fun, led by Larry Kinney.



**Audrey Parker, Clearesult Consulting, Incorporated**

I really liked Wednesday morning's session on efficiency versus sufficiency. It discussed more of the social and cultural statistics and explored ways to effect change in people's attitudes toward energy efficiency.



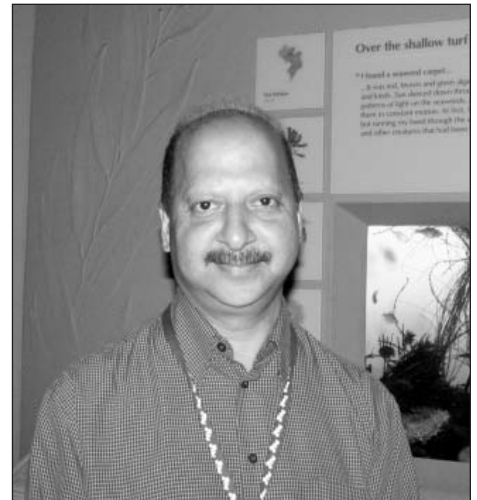
**Reggie Wilkins, Southern California Edison**

My favorite session was the climate change mitigation mechanisms panel on Wednesday, where they focused on the big picture as well as individualized approaches to the problem.



**Isabelle Saint-Laurent, Natural Resources Canada**

The efficiency vs. sufficiency panel was my favorite. The concept of efficiency versus how much is enough was very interesting, and Andreas Hermelink's presentation brought a very practical approach to the topic.

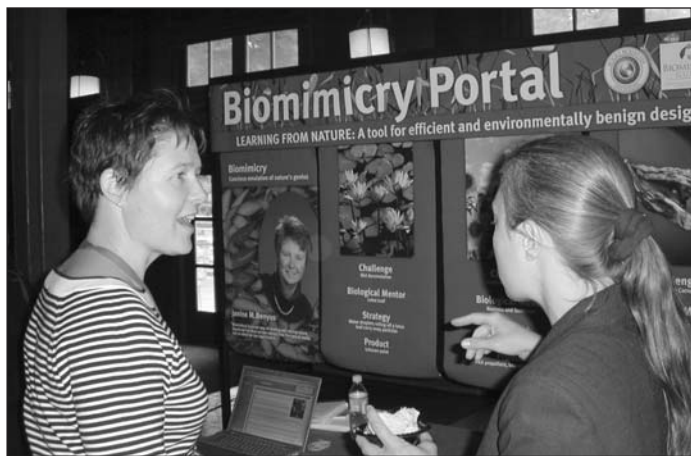


**Anil Parekh, Natural Resources Canada**

The panel topic on North American and European energy efficiencies was my favorite session. The energy policies program on Monday was also very well put together.

## Newbie Power

Thursday's informal session for 20- and 30-somethings generated a lot of buzz from participants, who discussed topics including policy change, reframing energy efficiency campaigns, green tags, and explaining planetary perils to our future children. Thanks to facilitator Audrey Parker for providing excellent moderation, and to all of the folks who made their way to the obscure Manzanita II location. One suggestion: Next time let's hold this session on Monday instead of Thursday, so we can build friendships earlier in the Summer Study.



Patricia Thompson hears the gospel on Biomimicry from Alexis Karolides.



John Proctor and David Butler have a lively interaction at the Hot/Dry Air Conditioner poster on Tuesday.



Craig Christensen explains the BEopt software to John Gusdorf and Alex Lekov.

## Cars on a Low Carbon Diet



Here were some of the responses from our car query:

I fuel my 20-year-old Mercedes Benz wagon with 100% biodiesel. I've had no problems at all, with no conversion costs, just French fry aroma from day one—and that was two years ago!

—Rob Border, Seattle, Washington

I have a 2001 Toyota Echo that gets 40 mpg. I drive an average of 20 miles a week, and have offset carbon emissions through [www.cooldriver.org](http://www.cooldriver.org).

—Elka Karl, Oakland, California

I drive a Toyota RAV4EV, a pure battery electric car, which was produced from 1996–2003. One Thousand pounds of nickel-metal hydride batteries store 27 kWh of energy to propel the vehicle 100-plus miles at highway speeds. There are hundreds of formal charging stations in California, and millions of informal ones (bring your own charger to plug into 240-volt outlets). Our home's PV system generates enough extra power to charge the car. Mostly though, I bicycle and take public transit; Green Tags offset my remaining carbon.

—Steve Greenberg, Berkeley, California

## Home Energy Special Issue

*Home Energy* will be publishing a special issue covering the energy and water connection. California devotes 19% of its electricity supply to providing water to end users in the



state. And California is not an anomaly; in many states around the country, the energy needed to supply water and to heat it is becoming an increasing concern. Please direct inquiries and article submissions to Mary James at [MCJames@homeenergy.org](mailto:MCJames@homeenergy.org).

## Kudos to the *Grapevine* Staff

Who is everywhere at once and up until the wee hours making sure all the day's events are reported and all the next day's schedules are on your breakfast table by 7:30 sharp each morning? Why it's the *Grapevine* staff, of course. We the co-chairs would like to thank the whole *Grapevine* crew, Mary James, Elka Karl, Steve Greenberg, Jim Gunshinan, and Leanne Maxwell, for their tireless efforts throughout the week.

—Ron Judkoff and John Busch

## International EE Conference


The Fifth international conference on energy efficiency in motor systems (EEMODS) will be held in Beijing, China, from June 10–13, 2007.

The organizers are calling for papers. Please email Paolo Bertoldi at [paolo.bertoldi@cec.eu.int](mailto:paolo.bertoldi@cec.eu.int) or visit [www.eemods.cn](http://www.eemods.cn).

### THE GRAPEVINE

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## 2008 Co-Chairs Announced

The co-chairs for the 15th Summer Study have been announced. They are Michael Baechler from PNNL and LBNL's Rich Brown.

## Today at 8:30 am

### Emerging Daylighting Metrics—Is it Daylighting Just Because There's Lots of Glass?

Fenestration, like any technology, may be done well or poorly. When it comes to windows and skylights, in their role as energy-efficient daylighting technologies or as contributors to health and productivity, the metrics for "well" and "poorly" are not defined. Old tools and standards for the design and evaluation of daylighting are being challenged in the hope that new tools and metrics can better provide designers, utilities, and others with certifiable results. Join us to discuss this topic at the Fred Farr Forum on Friday at 8:30 am.

## Correction

The *Grapevine* would like to issue a correction on Tuesday's Poster Panels Listing. We listed Vincent O'Grady's poster session as "National Impact Lifestyle Leadership: Green Homes, Green Residents." The correct title should be "Minimal Impact Lifestyle Leadership: Promoting Green Residents in Green Homes."

## Jobs, Jobs, Jobs

The **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency** is seeking a program engineer/analyst to work on the development of benchmarking tools for commercial buildings. For more information speak with Alexandra Sullivan while at Summer Study or send an e-mail to [sullivan.alexandra@epa.gov](mailto:sullivan.alexandra@epa.gov).

## ACI '07 Call for Presenters Due August 25th

The deadline to submit a proposal or an idea for the ACI Home Performance Conference April 23–27 in Cleveland, Ohio is Friday, August 25. Visit [www.affordablecomfort.org](http://www.affordablecomfort.org) or call Linda Wigington (724) 852-3085.