



# LEED Living Lab

UC San Diego

## Green Building Students

### LEED Living Lab: Pilot Course

The pilot Leadership in Energy and Efficiency Design (LEED) Living Lab at UC San Diego is in conjunction with the planned 1 million sq. ft. North Torrey Pines Living and Learning Neighborhood that's shooting for LEED Platinum certification. The goal of the lab is to teach students about green building design and LEED certification via hands on experience working with LEED credits.



### UC San Diego Master Site

UC San Diego's LEED Master Site has been in the works for the last few years and is finally coming to its close. It's essentially a list of credits that apply to all of Main Campus and SIO, so that all new buildings can more easily get to LEED Silver certification, as ordained by the UC Office of the President (UCOP).



## Achievements / Results / Outcomes

### LEED Living Lab: Pilot Course

The goal of the project is for students to feel better versed in green building design and sustainable building efforts, and to feel comfortable dealing with and navigating LEED credits so as to feel somewhat prepared for the tests of LEED GA/AP accreditation.

- Will be gauged via pre and post surveys.

### UC San Diego MasterSite

The acquired credits (in LEED v4):

- Site Management Policy
- Green Cleaning Policy
- Environmental Tobacco Smoke Policy
- Cooling Tower Water Use

## Lessons Learned / Intern Experience

Overview of lessons learned...

Successful Strategies:

1. Rather than worrying about making the wrong decisions, being clear and thorough with myself (and others) about my thought process
2. Keeping my records clean and easy to navigate
3. Making sure to explain the general reasoning behind things

Recommendations for Improvement / Program Expansion:

1. Facilitate ways for multiple interns at a given site to work together (or just interact)
2. Suggest relevant events for interns to attend, based on their focus
3. Keep spreading the word!

Leanne Kao

I'm currently a 3<sup>rd</sup> year in the B.S. Environmental Engineering program at UC San Diego. I've been passionate about the implementation and development of solutions to our cities' impacts on the environment for a while now. My experience working with LEED began freshman year, when I joined USGBC Students and joined a small group of students working on a Master Site for the campus, under mentorship of an Sustainability consultant. That experience alumni/Ackerstein brought me all the way to where I am now!



Acknowledgements:

I'm unbelievably grateful for the USGBC Student group I worked with on the LEED Master Site, for the effort we made together to learn how to navigate credits by simply reading through the book and stumbling our way through documentation; without it, I would not have met my mentor, Dave Weil, and all of the staff so passionate about sustainability, and ended up so integrated into the green building – green in general – efforts at UC San Diego.

Energize Colleges

