

**For Immediate Release**

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Contact: Penny Martin at (614) 644-8774Penny.Martin@development.ohio.gov**Hiram College Reduces Emissions through Energy Efficiency**

Hiram College has received a loan from the Ohio Development Services Agency's Energy Loan Fund. The loan will help the College meet the greenhouse gas emission reductions and campus sustainability goals laid out in its Climate Action Plan.

In 2009, Hiram College entered into the American College and University President's Climate Commitment to reduce its environmental impact and energy emissions at its facilities. The low-interest loan from the Agency will allow the college to reduce its energy usage at multiple buildings on campus, which will lower its yearly carbon dioxide emissions by almost 5,000 metric tons and reduce its energy costs by almost 50 percent annually.

"By implementing energy efficiency measures, Hiram College is an example to other colleges and universities, showing them how sustainability can benefit their schools," said David Goodman, director of the Ohio Development Services Agency.

Improvements to lighting and air handlers, room automation, new windows, and vending machine energy conservation will reduce energy costs in Henry Hall, the Quad, Whitcomb Hall, Bates Hall, Frohring Music Hall, Hinsdale Hall, Kennedy Hall, Centennial Hall, Dean/Peckham Hall, the Dining Hall, and Gerstacker Hall on the Hiram College campus. New low-flow toilets and modern sinks and shower heads will also allow Hiram to reduce and track water usage.

"At Hiram, we take seriously our commitment to reducing our carbon footprint and to implementing green technologies, which reduce our energy and water consumption," said Hiram College President Tom Chema. "The loan program allows us to bring about campus improvements while reducing our costs for energy usage. It is the best of both worlds."

The Energy Loan Fund offers low-interest financing to businesses, manufacturers, public entities and nonprofits for energy efficiency and advanced energy projects that achieve a minimum of 15 percent energy use reduction. In addition, the Agency provides borrowers who close on a loan from the Energy Loan Fund a 50 percent rebate for the cost of an energy audit.

For more information about the program visit

http://development.ohio.gov/bs/bs_energyloanfund.htm or call (614) 644-8864.

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