

Batteries Included

Connecticut companies manufacture more fuel cell products and provide a higher percentage of fuel-cell related jobs than any other state, according to the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund, which promotes fuel cell development and commercialization. One of every three U.S. fuel cell-related jobs is in Connecticut.

Fuel cells may be thought of as large batteries that produce electricity from a chemical reaction between hydrogen and oxygen. There's no combustion, so there's no pollution. Fuel cells may have applications powering homes, businesses and vehicles.

The Connecticut Clean Energy Fund, financed by a surcharge on Connecticut utility bills and administered by the quasi-public venture capital outfit Connecticut Innovations Inc., invests in enterprises that promote and develop sustainable markets for energy from renewable resources and fuel cells.

The fund recently held its annual investment conference at the Mohegan Sun Convention Center in Uncasville, a facility that is powered by—you got it—fuel cells.

David Jollie, editor of the industry publication *Fuel Cell Today*, attributed Connecticut's success to a familiar combination: state government investment, a world-class Connecticut Global Fuel Cell Center at the University of Connecticut and a concentration of fuel cell companies, including UTC Fuel Cells, in South Windsor, FuelCell Energy in Danbury and Proton Energy Systems in Wallingford.

Corporate Scandal 101

The Japanese corporate scandals of the late 1970s precipitated a flowering of business ethics courses at U.S. colleges. But in the aftermath of the more recent Enron/WorldCom/Tyco wave of scandals, many B-schools actually cut or downgraded their required ethics courses, according to *Business Ethics* magazine.

Former Dexter Corp. CEO Worth Loomis, who now teaches business ethics at Hartford Seminary, and Rennselaer Hartford Professor Bob Emiliani recently briefed Connecticut economists on the topic, "Should Business Schools Get an 'F' in Business Ethics?" Their answer: yes.

The more recent scandals hit as the discipline is questioning itself. Should business ethics focus on developing socially responsible CEOs mindful of environmental dilemmas and labor rights or should it focus more on spiritually laden views of right and wrong? Should business ethics be taught in a single course or infused across all business courses?

Loomis urges B-schools to make business ethics part of all courses but also to develop freestanding, exciting business ethics courses that will grab the attention of aspiring managers.

It's not that the field is in full hibernation. In March, Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government established the Corporate Social Responsibility Institute. Among other things, the institute will bring together practitioners and scholars to study new models of leadership and explore the role of media and the financial sector in influencing corporate responsibility. Babson College received a three-year, \$150,000 grant from the Harold S. Geneen Charitable Trust to create a series of business case studies focused on ethical issues. Boston University's Philosophy Department convened philosophers and corporate executives in April for a symposium on ethical approaches to environmentalism and corporate responsibility.

Meanwhile, future demand for ethics courses looks healthy: a May Gallup Poll found that almost half of all teens have cheated on a test or exam.

Good Government

New England's local officials are increasingly going back to school to learn to better serve constituents.

In New Hampshire, Antioch New England Graduate School launched

the School Leadership Institute to enhance the ability of Monadnock Region school board members to work with administrators, community members and one another. Training focuses on budgeting, legal issues, student achievement and testing, special education and working with the media.

In Holyoke, Mass., Mayor Michael Sullivan closed city offices for one day, so city employees could attend training sessions at Holyoke Community College on everything from good customer service to using Outlook Express.

The University of Vermont's Center for Rural Studies and the Vermont League of Cities and Towns convened officials to discuss e-government strategies and attend hands-on workshops on creating, organizing and managing municipal websites.

Homeland Security

Fear of terrorism has created a range of new programs at New England colleges.

The University of Massachusetts Lowell launched an online certificate program in security management and homeland security for people working in public safety, law enforcement and security fields.

The University of Vermont College of Medicine announced it is one of 12 sites nationwide participating in a phase II clinical trial to evaluate a new vaccine against Anthrax. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services plans to purchase 25 million doses of a new Anthrax vaccine within two years.

Teikyo Post University signed a strategic alliance with WMD Task Force Inc., a commercial firm, to develop online seminars in homeland security.

Governors on Campus

Where do New England governors go when they leave office? Often, they teach at the region's colleges and universities. A sampling:

Madeleine May Kunin (Vt.) has a joint appointment as distinguished professor of political science at the

University of Vermont and St. Michael's College.

Jeanne Shaheen (N.H.) is a senior fellow at Tufts University's College of Citizenship and Public Service.

Michael Dukakis (Mass.) is a distinguished professor of political science at Northeastern University.

Bruce Sundlun (R.I.) is governor in residence at the University of Rhode Island.

Howard Dean (Vt.) is a distinguished visiting fellow at Dartmouth College's Rockefeller Center

Angus King (Maine) is a distinguished lecturer at Bowdoin College.

Home Strong Home

University of Maine Professor Habib Dagher was one of nine New Englanders honored in Boston by the New England Board of Higher Education earlier this year for promoting the relationship between higher education and the economy. And when the Bath Iron Works professor of Civil/Structural Engineering

returned from the Boston event to Orono, another type of award was waiting: U.S. patent 6,699,575.

On March 2, the U.S. Patent Office granted Dagher and colleague William Davids the patent on a reinforced building panel that substantially increases the structural strength of a typical house. The material will enable houses to stand up better to earthquakes, hurricanes and other stresses. The new patent is assigned to the University of Maine System, which gets the right to license the technology for commercial development.

Dagher is the founding director of UMaine's Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center, charged with developing wood-nonwood hybrid composites to rebuild and restore the nation's infrastructure.

NEBHE launched its New England Higher Education Excellence awards program in 2003 to honor New England individuals and organizations that have shown exceptional leadership on behalf of higher

education and the advancement of educational opportunity.

Other 2004 winners included: former U.S. Sen. Claiborne Pell (D-R.I.), former N.H. Gov. Jeanne Shaheen, U.S. Sen. Judd Gregg (R-N.H.), the Changing Lives Through Literature alternative sentencing program, the Connecticut Distance Learning Consortium, Springfield Technical Community College President Andrew Scibelli, the Rhode Island Children's Crusade and the University of Vermont for its partnership with a Bronx high school.

SNIPPETS

Dropping a Bomb

"People save lives, do community service, conduct groundbreaking research [at Harvard], and we're the ones who get the attention."

—Katharina Cieplak-von Baldegg, editor in chief of Harvard's new H Bomb Magazine, as quoted in the Boston Phoenix about media coverage of the racy new literary magazine focused on sex.

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