

The Duquesne University Times

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Going Green: Environmentally Conscious Campus, January 2008

1/28/2008

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Facilities Management not only manages Duquesne University's "green campus" efforts, but also leads the charge. This new feature will highlight the University's efforts to conserve, preserve and protect resources and promote environmentally sound practices across campus.

Have you spotted a peculiar-looking container outside the Duquesne Union? The receptacle, officially called BigBelly Solar, is part of Facilities Management's efforts to improve the environmental quality of the University's daily operations.

BigBelly is an on-site compaction system that uses solar energy to compress waste. This feature increases its capacity, which in turn reduces collection trips while keeping pests away. BigBelly draws 100 percent of its energy from the sun but it is also connected to a 5-watt battery that guarantees its function even on rainy days. BigBelly can operate for a day on the equivalent energy it takes to make a piece of toast and is a great addition to Duquesne's sustainability efforts.



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