FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DISCOVER OTHER WAYS TO GET TO CAMPUS DURING GREEN COMMUTER FAIR

Houston, Sept. 4, 2012 – Looking to reduce the carbon emissions and costs associated with your commute to the University of Houston campus?

The upcoming Green Commuter Fair may help you.

The fair will take place this Wednesday, Sept. 5, and Thursday, Sept. 6, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. both days. Tables will be set up in the PGH Breezeway and UC Satellite where students can get their Metro cards and learn about the Metropolitan Transit Authority’s bus routes, the Hertz on Demand car share program and alternatives for getting to campus.

This time around, the fair will provide an added layer of depth, as volunteers will be available to talk to students and staff about how they get to campus to try and discover what other alternatives are available to them.

“We’re inviting everyone to look at their commuting behavior and see if they want to make changes,” said Leah Wolfthal, coordinator of the university’s Office of Sustainability.

One method that is available to most people is Metro’s bus and light rail system. Metro Q Card representatives will be at the Green Commuter Fair to help students get a discounted University Metro Q Card, which allows currently-enrolled UH students to ride Metro at half the cost. Last September, 585 new Metro Q Cards were issued during the fair, and 63 cards were renewed. Those numbers are expected to be lower this year because the Department of Parking and Transportation has partnered with Metro to host a page on its website at www.uh.edu/pts that allows students to sign up and get their cards online.
Also at the fair, people who live in suburban areas will be able to learn more about how to get to campus using Metro’s Park & Ride system.

For those who live close enough to campus or a Park & Ride, biking and walking may be feasible and enjoyable options. A spokesperson with Outdoor Adventure will be on hand to talk to students about the bicycle safety and repair class it will be offering this fall.

Information will be available at the fair for people to learn more about the Hertz on Demand program, which allows members to rent a car for an hourly rate that includes gas and insurance. This is especially handy for those who don’t drive their vehicles to campus, but who may want to use a car during the day.

For more information on becoming a green commuter, visit www.uh.edu/greencommute or www.uh.edu/green.

About the University of Houston

The University of Houston is a comprehensive national research institution serving the globally competitive Houston and Gulf Coast Region by providing world-class faculty, experiential learning and strategic industry partnerships. UH serves more than 38,500 students in the nation’s fourth-largest city, located in the most ethnically and culturally diverse region of the country.