



University of Houston
Division of Administration and Finance
University Services

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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UH PROMOTES GREEN COMMUTING

Houston, September 9, 2009 – Over six hundred students pledged to be green commuters during the UH Green Commuter Fair on September 1 and 2. UH and the Metropolitan Transit Authority teamed up to register students for their METRO Fare Q Card and provide information about green commuting solutions.

The two day fair served a total of 667 students, faculty and staff. Of those, 605 signed up for a METRO Q Fare card. Full time students who registered were eligible to receive the student rate card that allows them to ride METRO buses and light rails for 50 percent off the regular rate. Additionally current METRO riders came to the fair to renew their Q Fare Card without having to go downtown.



"I was supposed to get my fee bill receipt from the Welcome Center and go to the METRO downtown office to get my student contract on the METRO Q-card renewed. The commuter fair saved me all the hassle. Go Coogs, Go Greener," computer science graduate student, Chintan Parikh said.



For students unsure if green commuting is a viable option for them, the fair provided the advice of assistant vice president for university services, Emily Messa aka the Green Commuting Doctor, who listened to individual commuting needs, offered one-on-one commuting counseling and handed a prescription sheet with commuting solutions.

"It was an incredibly rewarding experience for me to visit with the students and learn about the challenges that they faced with accessibility to campus," Messa said. "One by one, we looked at their unique circumstances and came up with ways for them to be green commuters."

Students who registered for a METRO Q Fare Card received a free METRO backpack and were encouraged to take advantage to a special promotion offered through Parking and Transportation. The promotion offers students five dollars worth of rides if they pick-up their Q Fare Card at the parking

services counter at the Welcome Center between September 9 and 18. For full time students who registered for a new card the offer translates to a ten dollar value.

Did you miss the Green Commuter Fair? Don't worry; it's a Green Commuter Fair everyday at the Welcome Center. The representatives for at the parking services counter can help you register for you METRO Q Fare card and or add value to your existing card.

For more information about green commuting visit www.uh.edu/parking.

About the University of Houston

The University of Houston, Texas' premier metropolitan research and teaching institution, is home to more than 40 research centers and institutes and sponsors more than 300 partnerships with corporate, civic and governmental entities. UH, the most diverse research university in the country stands at the forefront of education, research and service with more than 35,000 students.