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REMOTE POWER UNIT COMES TO LIFE AT WCC

[October 5, 2016](#)[Sam Nadell](#)[0 Comments](#)

by Sam Nadell

(Photo: Freddy Velasquez)

WCC held a dedication ceremony commemorating the installation of a renewable energy device known as the Remote Power Unit, outside the Technology Building on September 21.

The RPU was given as a gift by Aris Wind, LLC, and has been operating successfully since it first started up in late August. Aris Wind is a Mount Vernon-based renewable energy firm noted for advanced and unique wind and solar products. It is used for off-grid and grid-tied power applications, and had teamed up with WCC to make the installation of the RPU possible.

The design of the RPU incorporates multiple forms of renewable energy, including a wind turbine and solar panels. Other features of

the RPU installation include a USB charging station and an internet connected control and monitoring program.

“This RPU installation at Westchester Community College is our 6th in Westchester County. As a local company, Aris is grateful for the opportunity to demonstrate its off-grid power and lighting technology in our own backyard.” said Dan Connors, the Chief Operating Officer of Aris Wind, emphasizing his support for integrating the RPU into the WCC renewable energy curriculum.

“Beyond demonstrating a ‘sustainable lighting solution’, working with Westchester Community College to utilize the RPU as a renewable energy teaching tool is even better.”

Afterwards, members representing the Energy Team from the science and technology-based academic program Bright Futures spoke on the impact of the project. They stressed how the RPU can act as a symbol towards the importance of the U.S. leading by example in the initiative to adopt policies of energy conservation and develop clean, renewable forms of energy such as wind and solar power.

Jane Solnick, Director of Corporate Affairs for Westchester County and representing Con Edison, also stressed the importance of more young people getting involved in these types of initiatives. “We are wholeheartedly behind these types of technologies and are hoping to see more of it throughout the county, so we are glad to be a part of it” she said. “We are delighted that we are getting young people involved because that is going to be the future for all of us.”

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