University System of Maryland
LSAMP
Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation
2021 RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

UMD CAMPUS ENERGY USE REDUCTION DUE TO COVID-19 BUILDING CLOSURES

Oluwatobiloba Sanni[1], Jelena Srebric Ph.D[2]
[1] Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Maryland, College Park, MD

Commercial buildings are the highlight in building energy efficiency due to their high potential for energy savings. Furthermore, it is important in building energy efficiency to make statistical analysis and audit of the building's annual energy consumption. In 2007, The University of Maryland was among 336 colleges in a charter signatory of the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment in the pursuit to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and transition to building sustainability. This study analyzed the building energy consumption of 41 UMD buildings for two consecutive years based on the metering of electricity, steam, and chilled water consumption. This paper makes a comparative analysis of the buildings' energy consumption in 2019 and 2020. The impact of the COVID 19 pandemic during 2020 is particularly studied. The results indicate a significant overall decrease in the energy usage of the buildings in 2020. Moreover, a discussion follows on potential areas of possible mismanagement of buildings' energy usage.