



Contact: meghan@bikeleague.org
Communications Director
League of American Bicyclists
202.822.1333

PRESS RELEASE

October 7, 2011

Embargo until *October 10, 2011*

***Bicycle Friendly Universities Revolutionize Campus Bicycling Culture
Six New Universities are Honored***

Washington, D.C. – October 10, 2011 – The League of American Bicyclists is announcing six new Bicycle Friendly Universities (BFU) today at the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) conference in Pittsburgh, Pa. “We are pleased to see that so many of our great higher education institutions - large and small - are stepping up to meet the challenges of sustainability, safety and health, and they are doing so with the help of the Bicycle Friendly Universities program,” said Andy Clarke, president of the League. “College campuses across the country are offering students and faculty a higher quality of life as a result.” The BFU program recognizes institutions of higher education for promoting and providing a more bicycle-friendly campus for students, staff and visitors. The six new BFUs complete a successful inaugural year for the BFU program. There are now 26 BFUs in 20 states that are encouraging students and staff to travel to and on their campuses on bicycles.

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign’s bike-friendly efforts earned them a Bronze BFU award. The school has a strong campus-wide bicycling culture, bicycling skills and theft prevention outreach, and an on-campus bike shop for bicycle education and repair assistance. “The Bicycle Friendly University award validates all the hard work our faculty, staff, students and community members have devoted to bicycle enhancements,” said Morgan Johnston, sustainability and transportation coordinator for the university. “The BFU designation will help us leverage support for additional improvements.” In partnership with the City of Urbana, the University recently added to its already well developed bicycle network with the construction of a multi-million-dollar Complete Streets enhancement project. The project received an Exemplary Human Environment Initiatives Award from the Federal Highway Administration.

Chatham University, located in Pittsburgh and previously awarded a Bicycle Friendly Business designation, will now add a Bronze-level BFU designation to their bicycling accolades. “Chatham University has strong sustainability and employee wellness initiatives, and bicycle commuting is an important component of both,” said Mary Whitney, Chatham University sustainability coordinator. “Chatham’s bicycle infrastructure has grown significantly, and the adoption of the Bicycle Commuting Tax Credit and establishment of the Chatham Bike Works educational bike shop are highlights.” Chatham will accept the BFU award at the League’s BFU announcement during the AASHE conference.

Another standout was Ohio State University, one of the six universities to receive a Bronze BFU designation. The University invested more than \$2 million over the last three years to connect the campus to the city’s bicycle infrastructure system, construct new bike facilities and parking, and to launch the “How We Roll OSU” bike education and safety campaign.

The League is proud to recognize the great work of these BFUs and share their models with other institutions and communities nationwide. "For many Americans, the college years are when they are reunited once again with their bicycles," said Bill Nesper, director of the League's Bicycle Friendly America Program. "Bicycle Friendly Universities are welcoming them by making bicycling the safest, most efficient and enjoyable way to get around." The BFU program provides the roadmap and technical assistance to create great campuses for cycling. To apply or learn more about the free BFU program, visit the League online at bikeleague.org/university.

2011 Fall Bicycle Friendly Universities

Chatham University
George Mason University
Ohio State University
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
University of North Carolina Wilmington
University of Vermont

2011 Fall Bicycle Friendly Universities – Honorable Mentions

California State University, Fullerton
Southwestern University
University of California, Berkeley
University of Georgia

About the Bicycle Friendly America Program

The Bicycle Friendly Community, Bicycle Friendly State, Bicycle Friendly Business and Bicycle Friendly University programs are generously supported by program partners Bikes Belong and Trek Bicycle's One World, Two Wheels Campaign. Special thanks to New Belgium Brewing Co. for a grant to develop the BFU program application. To learn more about building a Bicycle Friendly America, visit <http://www.bikeleague.org/programs/bicyclefriendlyamerica/>

The League of American Bicyclists promotes bicycling for fun, fitness and transportation, and works through advocacy and education for a bicycle-friendly America. The League represents the interests of America's 57 million bicyclists, including its 300,000 members and affiliates. For more information or to support the League, visit www.bikeleague.org.

###