Cal State Northridge is now home to a 1 megawatt fuel cell power plant that is the largest of its kind at any university. The project continues Northridge’s longstanding commitment to energy conservation by helping reduce the campus’ reliance on municipal power supplies. The new fuel cell plant, funded mostly with utility company rebates, will help power university facilities and generate surplus heat.

With the tax season at hand, Northridge students are continuing their tradition of providing free federal and state income tax preparation services to qualified low-income families and individuals, senior citizens and people with disabilities. The university’s Wayne and Roberta Colmer Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program is providing services through mid-April at 16 locations in the San Fernando Valley and Los Angeles.

Cal State Northridge kinesiology students interning at schools throughout the San Fernando Valley are establishing health and physical education programs designed to fit the needs of students, parents and educators at each school. The project—a joint effort by the Kinesiology Department, the Fitness Challenge Foundation and the Los Angeles Unified School District—aims to combat obesity among young people.

The U.S. Energy Department has awarded a $5.5 million, five-year grant to a research team that includes Cal State Northridge, Harvard, USC and the Los Alamos and Lawrence Livermore national labs. The project aims to understand why and how stress corrosion cracking occurs in materials used in such power-generating technologies as turbines, combustors and fuel cells.