

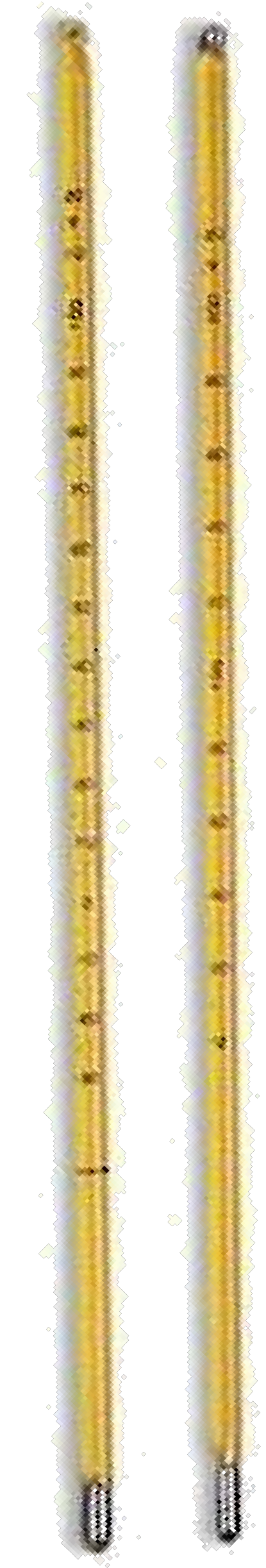
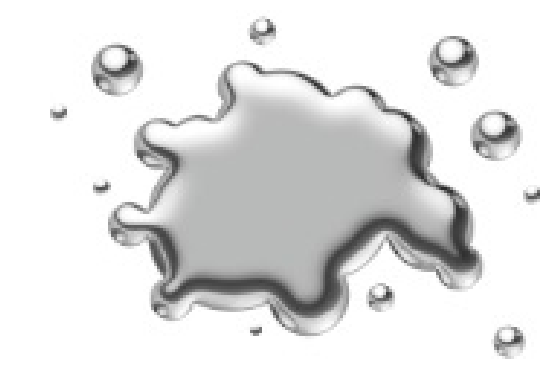
# UCSC MERCURY THERMOMETER EXCHANGE

The Mercury Thermometer Exchange program aims to remove as many mercury thermometers from the laboratories as possible. The goal is to protect the safety of workers, faculty, staff and students on campus, as well as our watersheds and ecosystem.

Mercury is a naturally found element, but human activity causes an unnatural build up of it in reserves such as our oceans and atmosphere. As it relates to a laboratory setting, mercury has an incredibly low vaporization rate, and is most dangerous in its vapor form. Furthermore the vapors are not visible.

There are accurate, chemically harmless thermometers widely available, and Environmental Health and Safety are using their funds to provide these thermometers **free** with exchange of a mercury thermometer.

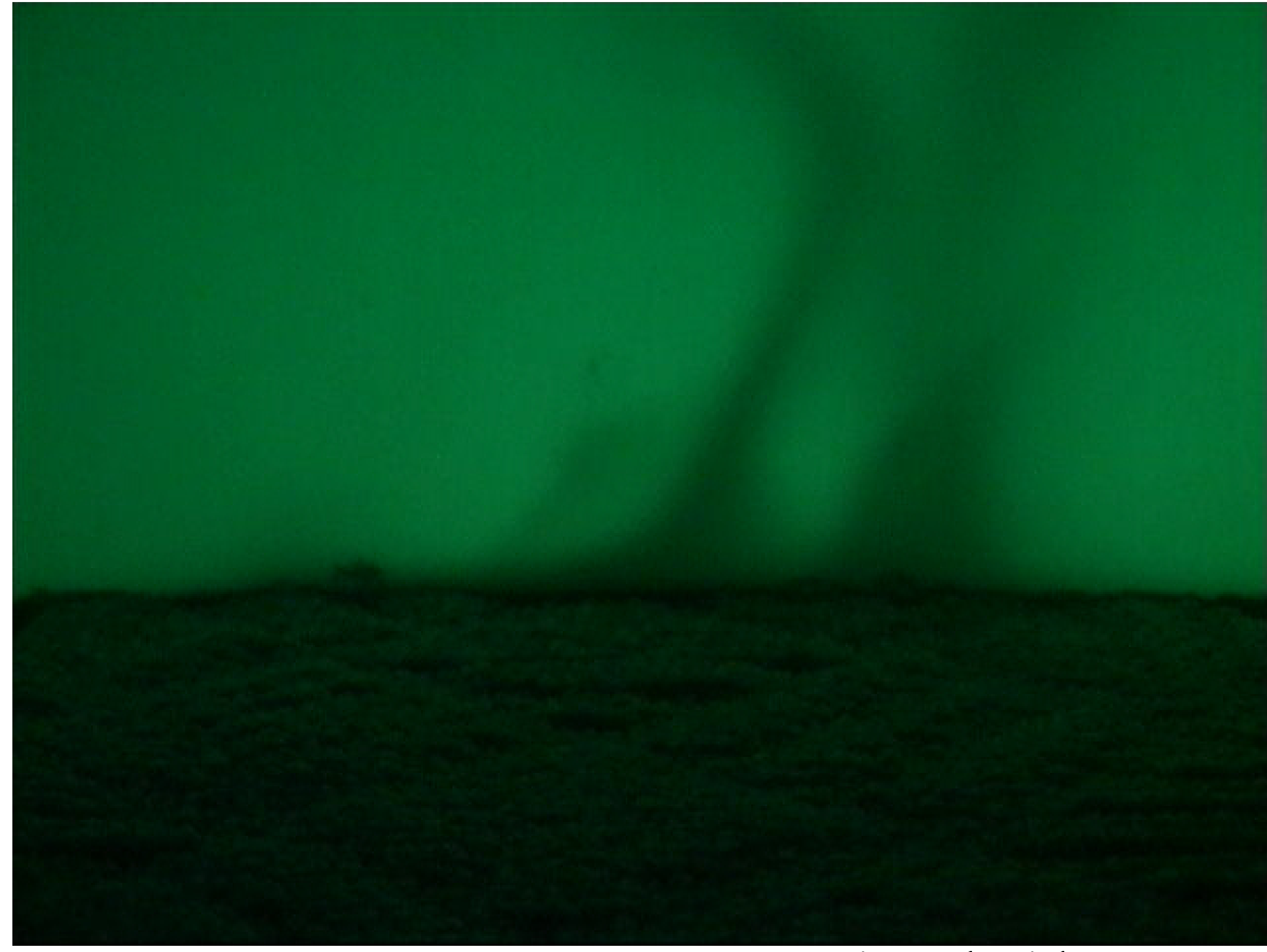
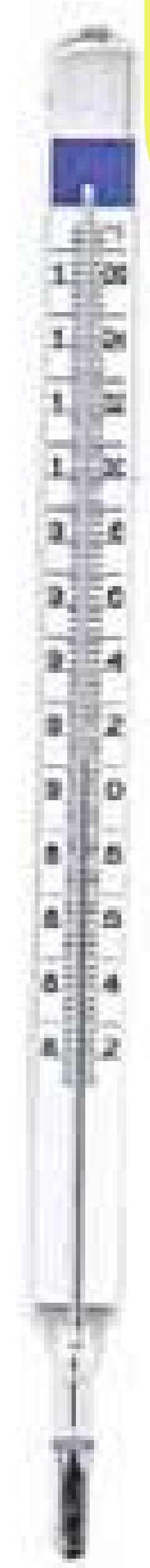
As of May 18<sup>th</sup>,  
we have  
reduced the  
number of  
mercury  
thermometers  
by 157



Participation from 7 laboratories on campus

≈ **471 grams of mercury removed from UCSC**

We have given out 38 new spirit-filled thermometers



mercury vapors at room temperature viewed with a UV light and florescent background from Bowling Green University's experiment.

