

The Newsletter of The Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges



SORTED has a new website! The Sustainability Online Resource and Toolkit for Education, which is funded by the Learning Skills Council (LSC) and managed by the EAUC, is an important web-based resource available to all. With no subscription or registration required, everyone has access to the excellent material captured on SORTED.

Launched on 7th September, the new-look website has been developed following a detailed review, which included its content and structure and which, importantly, was based on user evaluation. As a result, SORTED has been completely rewritten and restructured making it straightforward to use.

As the one stop shop for all things sustainable in the sector, SORTED now allows visitors to the website to choose their point of entry. So, whether you are at the beginning of your sustainability journey or already well on the way, you will always be able to find what you need quickly and easily.

SORTED also has invaluable real-life case studies covering all areas of sustainability, giving examples of best practice and invaluable lessons learnt. For example Myerscough College, which is taking part in the government-sponsored scheme - Aquafund, saved 2500m³ of water in the first 11 months and expects to save £30,000 over the full three years of the scheme. Another SORTED case study is provided by Wyggeston & Queen Elizabeth I College who turned to charity StudentForce for Sustainability to provide much needed support to help meet their sustainability commitments in an effective and affordable way.

Packed with a wide range of resources, SORTED has a wealth of useful tools to help you understand what sustainability means to the sector. Covering all subject areas including carbon reduction, alternative energy, sustainable procurement and the curriculum,



SORTED will keep you up to date with all the latest changes to legislation and regulations. The design of the new site makes accessing information easy with Quick Information, a Case Study Index and a Glossary all easily available from the home page.

SORTED now has a wealth of useful information including news, reports and guidance papers. However, at the EAUC we are always looking for new information to share. If you have information on an interesting sustainability-related project or case study that you would like to share through SORTED, please contact Abbie Weaver at the EAUC aweaver@eauc.org.uk.

To view all the news case studies and guidance material captured on the new SORTED website, please visit www.eauc.org.uk/sorted/home.

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Green Gown Awards 2009 Announced at Prestigious Ceremony

The winners of the 2009 Green Gown Awards were announced at a fabulous gala banquet in June. 12 winners and 16 highly commended institutions, from around the UK, were recognised for their excellent initiatives promoting sustainability within the further and higher education sector.

Held at Imperial College London, the first-ever dedicated award ceremony was extremely well attended, with over 250 guests hoping to scoop a prize. Hosted by TV wildlife presenter Kate Humble, the event was attended by many VIP guests including David Lammy MP, Minister for Higher Education and Intellectual Property, Baroness Hardwick, Chief Executive of Universities UK, Martin Doel, Chief Executive of the Association of Colleges, and many more.

The winning entries were chosen from 178 applications, representing nearly 100 different institutions. Each application underwent a rigorous assessment, involving over 30 judges from a range of organisations such as the Carbon Trust and the Learning and Skills Council (LSC). Applications fell into 12 categories covering different aspects of sustainability – from construction and ICT to social responsibility and student initiatives.

This year saw the introduction of a new Green Gown Award, sponsored by the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), and presented by David Lammy MP. The BIS Award is presented for an outstanding contribution to sustainability in an English college or university. This year's winner was Warwickshire College, who also scooped the award for Colleges and Smaller Institutions. The college was chosen for the award above all other winners because the judges felt it had gone on a comprehensive and strategic journey, and had raised the bar of sustainability for the whole sector.

"I am delighted that Warwickshire College has won the 2009 BIS Award. It highlights the excellent work on sustainability that is taking place in Further Education as well as



Kate Humble with BIS Award winners Warwickshire College and David Lammy MP

in HE", said EAUC Executive Director, Iain Patton. "Economic, social and environmental sustainability is surging its way onto the boardrooms, classrooms and offices of the sector. These Awards give due recognition to the creativity, innovation and determination of the 2009 winners. In them we have beacons lighting the way for every college and university in the land to step up the mark and commit to a more sustainable future".

Thank you to all who attended and who helped to make this event a success. We hope to see even more innovative and high quality applications next year. Watch out for the launch of the 2010 Green Gown Awards in January.

We would like to thank this year's Green Gown Awards partners and sponsors for supporting the event:

Best of 2008 Green Gown Awards Master Class

Before the Award ceremony, many people attended the Best of 2008 Master Class, which focused on the achievements of some of last year's winners. Opened by founder of the Green Gown Awards, HEEPI's Peter James, the event was made up of several parallel sessions where eight previous winners showcased their projects and shared the secrets of their success. Presentations focused around four key themes – Campus, Curriculum, Community and Leadership.

For more information or to view the Master Class presentations, please visit www.eauc.org.uk/the_best_of_2008_green_gown_award_master_class



For more information on the Green Gown Awards, please visit www.eauc.org.uk/green_gown_awards



Green Gown Awards 2009 – The Results!

Carbon Reduction Category

Winner	Leicester College, Counting the Carbs
Highly Commended	University of Cambridge, Energy Management Systems on the Web
Highly Commended	University of Central Lancashire, An International Model for Sustainability

Colleges and Smaller Institutions Category

Winner	Warwickshire College, Journey Towards Sustainability
Highly Commended	Bedford College, Embedding Sustainability
Highly Commended	Harper Adams University College, What Makes Students Switch Off?

Continuous Improvement – Institutional Change

Winner	University of Bradford, Ecoversity - Beyond Greening
Highly Commended	Pembrokeshire College, Embracing the Sustainable Challenge

Continuous Improvement – Specific Area

Winner	University of Leeds, Transport Plan
Highly Commended	University of Hertfordshire, Improving Resource Efficiency
Highly Commended	University of Warwick, From Good to Great: Ongoing Improvements to Combined Heat & Power

Courses Category

Winner	University of St Andrews, Sustainable Development Undergraduate Programme (SDUP)
Highly Commended	University of Bradford, From Archaeology to Zoology – ESD for All

Green ICT Category

Winner	Queen Margaret University Edinburgh, RE:LOCATE Thin-Client Project
Highly Commended	Cardiff University, A Green Supercomputer & Datacentre
Highly Commended	Imperial College London, Greening the Supply Chain Using ICT

Research Category

Winner	University of Sussex, Informing the Global Deal on Low Carbon Technologies
Highly Commended	Edinburgh Napier University, Integrated Collector Storage Solar Water Heater

Residence Category

Winner	Lancaster University, Eco-Residences
Highly Commended –	Kingston University, End of Term Halls Donation Scheme

Social Responsibility Category

Winner	Queen Mary, University of London, Clean Living: The Return of In-house Cleaning
Highly Commended	University of Brighton, Community University Partnership Programme (CUPP)

Student Initiative Category

Winner	Leeds University Union, Water Should Cost the Earth & Green Streets
Highly Commended	Stevenson College Edinburgh, Wikis to Wormeries – A Giant Wiggle for Sustainability

Sustainable Construction Category

Winner	London School of Economics and Political Science, New Academic Building (NAB) – BREEAM Excellence Refurbishment Project
Highly Commended	Pembrokeshire College, First BREEAM Excellence in the UK
Highly Commended	Queen Margaret University Edinburgh, RE:LOCATE

The BIS Award – for Outstanding Contribution to Sustainability in an English College or University

Winner	Warwickshire College
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Universities That Count Working Lunch

Over 60 people, both existing and new participants attended the Universities That Count (UTC) working lunch, which took place on the day of the Green Gown Awards Ceremony. The title of the event was 'How was it for you' and it included lively discussion on the initial results from this year and on how this important benchmarking programme could be improved in the future.

Participants will be able to sign up for year two of the programme in September. For more information or to view the event presentation, please visit www.eauc.org.uk/utc

Universities That Count Programme – First Year Off to an Excellent Start!



Owned and lead by the sector, Universities that Count (UTC) is a programme with a purpose - to encourage effective Environmental and Social Responsibility practices in universities across the UK.

UTC has got off to an excellent start this year by establishing itself as the standard for benchmarking Sustainability and Social Responsibility in UK Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), with 56 universities taking part.

The institutions have now received their individual feedback reports, with a detailed analysis of how they have done against each of the four 'pillars' of responsibility – Community, Environment, Marketplace and Workplace. The report enables them to compare their performance against their peers and also that of the business community. Congratulations to all the universities but there is still much to be done. As UTC is an annual programme, it will provide yearly opportunities to measure performance and highlight the areas for improvement with the biggest impact for each institution.

An End of Year Sector Report will be published in September allowing comparison between HEIs and other business sectors. Individual results will not be made public this year as the programme establishes itself. UTC is an invaluable tool as it comes from the sector for the sector. It is an internal eye that does not name and shame institutions but is a positive, constructive experience. UTC is not just a benchmarking methodology but has a higher purpose as a management tool, driving improvements and supporting the sector to become more sustainable.

Based on the Business in the Community Corporate Responsibility Index, UTC uses a common set of Index questions between business and HE enabling cross-sector benchmarking and best practice comparison, a valuable outward-looking feature for the university sector. However, the UTC Index has been and will continue to be

adapted specifically for the sector allowing it to respond to the unique challenges HEI institutions face. The programme encourages HEIs to include sustainability and social responsibility in their teaching and research activities, which will prove very useful to universities wanting to raise their game.

UTC is only a success if it responds accurately to the views of the sector. Since its launch in 2008, UTC has been evolving, in response to sector feedback and ongoing discussions with Vice Chancellors and senior management. If you have any comments you wish to share, to help us to improve next year's questionnaire, with particular focus on teaching, learning and research, please get in touch.

The UTC Index is a powerful tool for change. Its primary aim is to create a step-change in the way universities respond to environmental and social issues. As a result, we hope those institutions that took part this year will join again next year, along with many new institutions that want to become part of this exciting scheme. Year two of UTC will launch in September 2009. The index will be formally opened for completion in early December 2009, so make sure you take part!

Sign up for year two will begin soon, however, if you are interested in joining this crucial reporting system, please visit www.eauc.org.uk/utc or contact shopkins@eauc.org.uk for more information.



For existing participants a formal training and consultancy package to support the UTC programme is being prepared, including a range of feedback and performance improvement workshops to support participants to embed transformational change. We value all input from participants in developing this programme, so please get in touch. Don't forget to register for the CSR EAUC training event on 14th October, University of Leicester. For more information, please visit www.eauc.org.uk/events or email info@eauc.org.uk

Welcome

We would like to give a very warm welcome to the following new members who have joined us recently:

Associate Members

AIMS	Energise Ltd
Altman Technologies	HSE Group Ltd
Better World Books	Inbuilt
BRE	National Library of Scotland
Bull Information Systems	Philips Lighting
Centrica	Solutions Ltd
Countrywide Waste	Stanley Foundation Ltd
DeskCentre	Sustainability Insight
	Tony Team Ltd

UCAS
University College London Union
Vaccubrand
Vipre UK

Educational Members

Banff & Buchan College of Further Education
Derbyshire Adult Community Education
Service

Eastleigh College
Linkage College
Pembrokeshire College
Perth College
Peter Symonds' College
Scottish Agricultural College
South Thames College
University of Abertay Dundee
West Kent College

For information on the many benefits of membership visit www.eauc.org.uk



Legal Spotlight

Fluorinated Greenhouse Gases Regulations 2009

This legislation revokes and replaces the Fluorinated Greenhouse Gases Regulations 2008, and covers the use of fluorinated gases - hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs) and sulphur hexafluoride (SF6) - in five industrial applications: stationary refrigeration and air conditioning; mobile air conditioning; fire protection; high voltage switchgear and solvent cleaning.

The legislation requires standard checking requirements to prevent leakage, and also requires the repair of any detected leakage.

A periodic check every 3, 6 or 12 months by certified personnel is required, depending on the quantity of gas in the equipment. Checks are not required for systems containing less than 3kg of gases.

In addition, for all units containing more than 3kg of fluorinated gases a log book must be kept, indicating the quantity and type of product, quantities added when necessary, and the quantity recovered during servicing, maintenance and final disposal. Other information such as details of the servicing company, dates and results of the checks is also required.

Operators must ensure that fluorinated gases are recovered only by qualified personnel.

The Ozone-Depleting Substances (Qualifications) Regulations 2009

These regulations revoke and replace the 2006 regulations and continue to implement requirements for minimum qualification standards for persons carrying out:

- the recovery, recycling, reclamation or destruction of controlled substances; and
- the prevention and minimising of leakages of controlled substances.

Controlled substances means chlorofluorocarbons, other fully halogenated chlorofluorocarbons, halons, carbon tetrachloride, 1,1,1-trichloroethane, methyl bromide, hydrobromofluorocarbons and hydrochlorofluorocarbons, whether alone or in a mixture, and whether they are virgin, recovered, recycled or reclaimed.

Minimum competency levels can be demonstrated through obtaining a qualification on one of the following courses:

- City & Guilds Certificate in Handling Refrigerants Scheme 2078
- Construction Industry Training Board Safe Handling of Refrigerants (J01)
- City & Guilds Level 2 Award in F Gas and ODS Regulations Scheme 2079-11: Category I or 2079-12: Category II.
- Construction Industry Training Board Safe Handling of Refrigerants J11: Category I or J12: Category II.

The Carbon Reduction Commitment

The Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) is a new mandatory emissions trading scheme, starting in April 2010, that aims to improve energy efficiency and reduce the amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emitted in the UK. Qualification for CRC is based on half hourly electricity consumption during the qualification period - the 2008 calendar year.

An organisation qualifies as a full participant in CRC if, during the qualification period:

- it had at least one *half hourly meter* (HHM) settled on the *half hourly market*, and
- its annual electricity consumption through all HHMs was at least 6,000 MWh.

Organisations that have at least one HHM, but whose annual energy consumption is less than 6,000MWh do not have to participate fully in CRC, but do have to make an information disclosure. Fully participating organisations will have to monitor their emissions and purchase *allowances*, sold by Government, for each tonne of CO₂ they emit.

The better an organisation performs in terms of reducing its emissions, the higher it will appear in the annual performance league table Government will publish, showing the comparative performance of all participants. All the revenue raised from selling allowances is 'recycled' back to participants, and the league table position affects how much of the revenue each organisation receives.

The proposed CRC would only target emissions outside the European Union Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS) and would also exclude energy usage already covered by a Climate Change Agreement (CCA). Unlike the EU ETS, the CRC will rely on self-certification of emissions backed up by audit rather than verification.

For more information, please see the EAUC Insight Guide on the Carbon Reduction Commitment at www.eauc.org.uk/carbon_reduction_commitment_insight_guide



Thanks to Waterman Environmental for their support in preparing this Spotlight.

“opinion”

Lessons from the People & Planet Green League

The Green League 2009 is in its third year and some clear trends are beginning to emerge. There is intense competition for the top five slots, and no one university dominates the Green League in the way that Manchester United dominates the Premier League. But there is increasingly clear evidence that the sector is dividing into a leadership group, and a ‘not-my-priority’ group.

The Leadership Group comprises a relatively small group of universities which are showing sustained and imaginative efforts to model the kind of environmental management practices which will become the hallmarks of a low carbon university. They demonstrate that it is possible to grow student numbers, to expand and improve facilities whilst driving down carbon emissions and modelling the policies and practices that will be expected of a low carbon society. The Green League makes it crystal clear that to be a top performer a university needs to invest in full-time posts dedicated to environmental management and to carbon reduction. As LSE has demonstrated over the years, even older universities with a range of properties can do consistently well if environmental management is a priority for its leaders.

But to prevent catastrophic climate change, and to make the scale of cuts to carbon emissions required under the Climate Change Act, the HE sector cannot rely on five, or even the twenty universities awarded a First Class degree in the Green League, making the bulk of the HE sector’s contribution.

Every institution has to play its full part and we need to find ways to convince the ‘not-my-priority’ group that top quality environmental management is an essential and defining characteristic of the sector. In the words of the Secretary of State for Business Innovation and Skills, Lord Mandelson, “The transition to low carbon is an economic and environmental imperative. It is also inevitable. There is no high carbon future.”

This kind of remark reflects the very significant changes that have occurred in the political and economic context in recent years. Compared to just five years ago, it is clear that cutting carbon is the crucial issue of our time. It is no coincidence that two thirds of universities (85 in total) now have a carbon management plan – but the key issue is how meaningful, comprehensive and ambitious these plans are.

Some universities, like St. Andrews, are setting the bar admirably high with carbon reduction targets of 100% by 2012. This is exceptional and to some extent it reflects the particular circumstances of that university. But it also reflects a determination to make a step change in carbon management, and in that sense it contrasts markedly with those universities that have adopted targets which are at best modest and, at worst, look more like a gesture than a serious commitment to transform environmental management.

As well as being ambitious the sector needs to have carbon reduction targets that cover all areas of emissions and not just energy use. It was a real surprise to see that half of all the existing carbon management plans do not include travel or procurement at all. Yet Oxford Brookes has calculated that over 60% of its carbon footprint comes from travel so to produce a carbon management plan that excludes these areas is like eating a meal and counting all the calories in the starter and the wine but excluding the main course.

Written by Ian Leggett, Director, People & Planet,
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earth bite

SHED Update

Back in April, the EAUC and the Higher Education Academy launched the Sustainability in Higher Education Developers (SHED) network. SHED has two constituent parts: 1) SHED Share, a mailing list for people to share information, announcements, and post queries about education for sustainable development (ESD). 2) SHED Act, a subset of SHED Share, with the aim of allowing people to develop collaborative work more easily. SHED Act is designed for active and key ESD people in HE to keep in touch with each other. Lately, SHED Act members have been discussing ESD policy in New Zealand and contrasting it with UK policies. SHED Act will report on its activities periodically to the SHED Share list and the HE Academy’s ESD Project e-Newsletter. To join SHED Share, which is open to everyone, e-mail info@eauc.org.uk. To apply to join SHED Act, and/or to receive the Academy’s e-Newsletter, e-mail sustainability@heacademy.ac.uk

United Nations University - RCE East Midlands

Co-operation Over Competition
– Navigating the ESD Way

Regular readers will already be familiar with the UN Regional Centres of Expertise in Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). The RCEs are the major regional expressions of the UN Decade for ESD (2005-2014) which is encouraging educational institutions to re-consider their mission and activities such that they might make a fuller contribution to pursuing sustainability. RCEs are each unique in their institutional composition, focus and size but all share the conviction that educational providers play a vital role in promoting the sustainable futures of the regions where they are located. HE institutions are major players within each of the seven UK RCEs. In some cases, they are led by a single institution or perhaps two or three major players. In our case (we are the Co-Chairs of the HE working group of the East Midlands RCE; the first established in the UK back in 2007), our major challenge has been bringing together representatives from the ten HEIs located in our region. In this brief report we focus on two aspects of how we have responded to this challenge. First, our recognition of the need for institutional partnership and cooperation and second our attempts to engage more fully with key sectors of the wider educational field within our region.

We have been keen to promote the transformative educational potential of ESD via the encouragement of dialogue across the university sector within the region. The most important part of this has involved finding ways of getting our divergent institutions to collaborate rather than compete with each other. Over the past two years representatives from most of our ten institutions have regularly met in order to learn from one another and co-ordinate efforts. Most recently, this has led to the idea of a rolling programme of regional ESD conferences. The first of these was successfully held in November 2008 at the University of Leicester, where a number of educators from different universities were able to showcase their ESD work. It is hoped that future regional



The delegation to Nicaragua visiting a school in Masaya

events will help to raise the profile of ESD within the senior management teams of the region's universities, insuring a better footing for ESD within notions of what constitutes graduateness here in the 21st Century.

For RCEs to really make a difference, however, regional collaboration needs to take place not simply within educational institutions working within the same sector but also across educational sectors and beyond. This kind of cooperation has been less coordinated so far and one of the challenges currently facing us is to find innovative ways of developing these kind of cross-sectoral activities. One recent example of the initiatives that we would like to pursue was a project involving cooperation between academics, a local authority and an educational NGO. Last October colleagues involved in the East Midlands RCE from Loughborough University, Leicester City Council and the Leicester Masaya Link Group participated in a delegation to Leicester's twin city Masaya in Nicaragua.

One of the main foci of the trip was what the two cities could learn from each other in relation to the development of renewable energy technologies as part

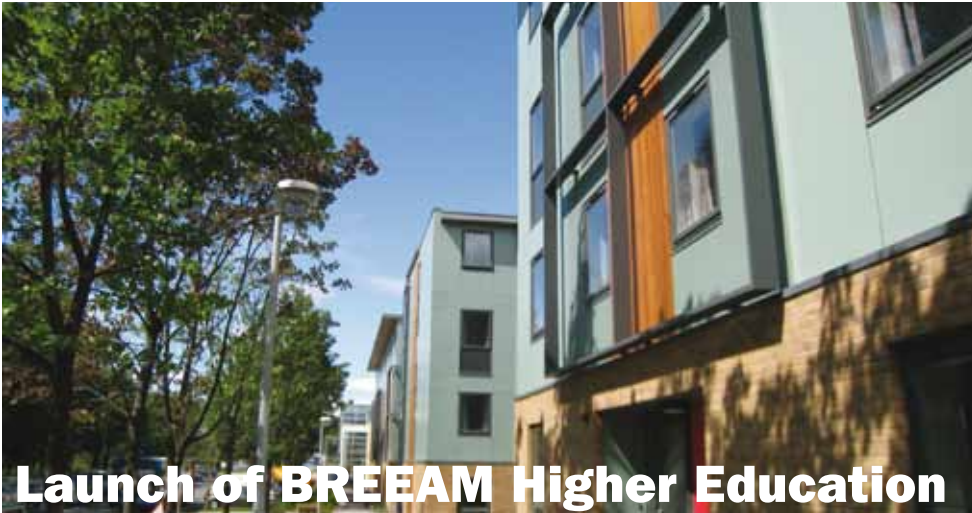
of recent collaborations in this area. As a result, resources have been raised to further develop the use of solar panel technology in remote rural communities around Masaya. Concurrently resources are being developed which will explore the global and local dimensions of energy poverty and climate change across schools in Leicester and within courses at Loughborough University. This type of activity has developed out of a recently completed European Union and Foreign and Commonwealth office COOPENER project and is being taken forward by funding from Leicester City Council and E.on's Corporate Social Responsibility fund.

Written by Dr. Ed Brown of Loughborough University and Dr. Paul Warwick of the University of Leicester



Participants in the Guatemalan renewable energy symposium





Launch of BREEAM Higher Education

In March 2008 BRE Global was appointed by the UK Higher Education Funding Councils and Association of University Directors of Estate to develop a BREEAM (BRE Environmental Assessment Method) version specific to the higher education (HE) sector.

This new methodology allows university institutions to obtain a third-party certification that demonstrates the social, environmental and economic sustainability of new build and refurbished university facilities.

BRE Global worked in collaboration with the HE funding councils, AUDE and HEEPI (Higher Education Environmental Performance Improvement) to develop a set of standard criteria tailored to the needs of the HE sector. The tool is flexible enough to allow the assessment of teaching, research and mixed use buildings; laboratories have been given particular consideration, with a number of specific credits aimed at encouraging the use of energy efficient measures without compromising safety; strategies include reduced fume cupboards' air flow, free cooling, heat recovery, design integration, right-sizing of systems, etc. Specific features in BREEAM Higher Education include a filtering system to exclude from the assessment any credits incompatible with confidentiality issues surrounding the building's activities, and information and a campus-wide approach that allows the use of campus facilities to demonstrate compliance with the credit criteria (e.g. centralised waste and cyclist facilities).

BREEAM Higher Education was launched

in July 2009; a list of BREEAM assessors licensed to carry out higher education assessments and training dates is available on www.breeam.org/highered.

Part of the BREEAM Education family

The assessment criteria for HE buildings will form part of an expanded BREEAM 2008 Education standard. BREEAM Education as a whole helps schools, colleges and universities set environmental targets for new and refurbished education buildings. It also serves as a useful tool for designers by demonstrating the environmental performance of their designs. Assessments can be carried out at the design stage and verified post construction for schools and colleges including the following:

- New buildings
- Major refurbishment projects
- Extensions

To learn more about how BREEAM Education works and what specific issues it takes into account, download a copy of the BREEAM Education manual from www.breeam.org.

For information on BREEAM, sign up for the free monthly e-newsletter at www.breeam.org/register or for enquiries call 01923 664462.

Written by Virginia Cinquemani, Education and Healthcare Sector Manager, BRE Global Limited, CinquemaniV@bre.co.uk

Steinel Help Reduce Energy Consumption at Bristol University

In a bid to improve lighting levels whilst reducing energy consumption, Steinel's RS Pro Sensor light fittings were installed in the corridors at Bristol University, in line with the university's Environmental Policy for reducing energy usage.

The project involved replacement of 28W2D luminaires in the corridors of a four storey building with no natural daylight. Because of the lack of natural illumination, the lights were previously switched on all day and the diffusers had aged and yellowed, resulting in poor light quality. A need to improve lighting levels, and improve energy efficiency was identified.

The Steinel RS Pro Sensor light fitting incorporating an integral microwave presence detector was selected for its good light output and ability to provide accurate and easy adjustment of light levels. The integral sensor enables the RS Pro Sensor to be connected to the existing circuit wiring in one simple operation, without the need to wire separate presence detectors. This resulted in reduction in installation times and costs, in addition to the energy and financial savings that will be enjoyed by the facility.

Steinel's RS Pro System professional sensor lights provide the last word in energy efficiency and flexibility.

The high frequency sensors are invisible from the outside and offer greater precision, reach and speed than infrared sensors in this type of interior fitting. Illumination is automatically switched on and off when required, whilst the 'Light ON' duration and twilight threshold can be adjusted to the desired setting.

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Owls and Bats Encouraged to Remain on Campus

The University of Warwick is acknowledged to represent one of the UK's foremost campus-style universities. During this year's EAUC Conference, delegates were able to experience firsthand the high quality built and natural environments at the main campus.

Balancing the requirement for high quality teaching and research space with the needs of the environment has and will continue to represent a constant challenge. Historically, the University has sought to incorporate ecologically sensitive features into all aspects of its development programme – from master planning to individual building design. These features have included integrated planting programmes, the construction of a green roof, the installation of bird boxes and the protection of invertebrate species.

As part of the honour of hosting the EAUC Annual Conference 2009, the University was offered a sum of money to off-set the carbon footprint impact of the event. This money has been invested in a series of bat and owl boxes to encourage these nocturnal residents to remain on the campus. The installation of the boxes has been centred upon the Warwickshire side of the campus, where the impact of new buildings will be most acute. Designs have been chosen with specific species of bats and owls in mind. This process has been informed by historical surveys and species' counts, undertaken both by academics and students at the University and as part of the development programme.



The University Estates Team install an owl box in the Cryfield area of the campus

"As we continually seek to create world-class teaching and research facilities, it is important that we do not neglect the natural inhabitants of the campus," said Environment Manager, Nick Hillard. "I am delighted that, through hosting the EAUC Conference, we are able to provide these facilities in an effort to help maintain our ecological diversity."

Written by Nick Hillard, Environmental Manager, University of Warwick, nick.hillard@warwick.ac.uk

Students' Unions Rise to the Environmental Challenge

This year's Sound Environmental Impact Awards were the most successful ever, with an 18% increase in registrations to 79 Students' Unions participating in the scheme.

The Sound Environmental Impact Awards are a practical environmental accreditation scheme designed specifically for Students' Unions.

This year, five Gold Awards were awarded to the top five scoring Unions in addition to three special achievement Awards that were open to all Unions. Loughborough Students' Union were the Overall Winner for the third year running. However, just one point separated the top three Unions, with Leeds University Union and Newcastle University Union Society in joint second place!



Loughborough Students' Union were this year's winners winning the Ecologist Communications Challenge Award and the Overall Award

Thirty-five Unions gained the new Silver Standard, twenty Unions gained the Bronze Standard and nineteen Unions were classed as Working Towards Accreditation.

In order to foster continuous improvement, the Bronze and Silver essential criteria are increased by one each year.

New for next year will be four Sound Impact master-classes open to Unions who are new to the scheme or those who wish to improve their score. Each

will have a different focus: greening your Union, greening your University, carbon auditing, and supply-chain ethics.

One of the founding aims of the scheme was to develop collaborative relations between Unions and the environmental staff in their institutions. If you haven't worked with your Union on Sound Impact yet, please do approach them and see if you can get involved.

The Sound Environmental Impact Awards are run by NUS Services, the commercial arm of the NUS, in partnership with NUS, People & Planet and the EAUC. For more information about Sound Impact visit www.nus.org.uk/Sound.

Written by Katherine Middleton, Greener Unions Co-ordinator, NUS Services Ltd, soundimpactawards@nussl.co.uk



Progress on Halving Waste to Landfill in the University Sector

When Imperial College London recently started construction of two new £100m residential blocks, they sent just 4 skips to landfill each month by using off site construction and segregating wastes, a recycling rate of almost 90%. Given that Envirowise estimate the true cost of a skip at over £1350, this makes a saving on skips alone of over £40,000 per month compared with sending all the waste materials to landfill sites.

"Universities really seem to get this" says Johnny Holland from the Waste Resources Action Programme (WRAP). "Unlike some parts of the construction sector where project teams are too focussed on the speed of build and incorporating hefty wastage allowances into their costings, universities come at it from a much more sustainable angle, usually driven by recognition of the cost and environmental benefits at a senior level".

WRAP has found that Estates, Facilities and Environment Departments often already have a waste strategy, segregating construction wastes and looking for cost savings at the demolition stages. By utilising existing

resources and tools provided by WRAP and the good practice already used by other UK universities, they can drive up recycling rates and tell contractors and designers how more savings can be achieved.

As the representative body for all things environmental in the sector, the EAUC have recognised that WRAP's halving waste to landfill commitment has an important part to play. Iain Patton, Executive Director, recently signed-up to the commitment: "We look forward to working with WRAP on this important construction commitment. We also plan to work together on several events publicising the cutting edge work of various universities in increasing their recycling rates and improving the recycled content of new buildings".

The joint events between the EAUC and WRAP will take place in Leeds on 10th November and London on 16th November. Look out for more details on the EAUC website www.eauc.org.uk/events.

Currently, Birmingham City Campus Project, Leeds University, Imperial College London, University of West of England and Manchester



Iain Patton accepting the EAUC's halving waste to landfill commitment certificate from Johnny Holland

University have signed the commitment and it is anticipated that a number of others will soon follow.

Written by John Holland, Key Account Manager – Construction, WRAP, john.holland@wrap.org.uk

EAUC Professional Development Programme

The EAUC has now published the first part of its 2009/2010 Professional Development Training Programme. Eight new courses have been added to this year's programme until December 2009, covering a range of subjects in a variety of locations across the UK.

- **UCCCFs Climate Change Action Plans - Design, Development & Implementation**, University of Edinburgh, 9th September 2009
- **Sustainable Procurement – Levels 1 & 2 of the Flexible Framework**, Leeds City College, 30th September 2009
- **Business Stream Breakfast Briefings**, Glasgow 17th November, Edinburgh 18th November, Aberdeen 24th November 2009
- **Corporate Social Responsibility – Gaining Strategic Control & Establishing Consistent Leadership**, University of Leicester, 14th October 2009
- **Introduction to the Carbon Trust Standard**, University of Dundee, 20th October 2009

- **Sustainable Procurement – Level 3 of the Flexible Framework**, Aston University, Birmingham, 5th November 2009
- **Know Your Waste**, University of Reading, 26th November 2009

Our Professional Development Programme is unique. Every training event includes topical experts and examples of sector application, including key input from colleagues across the sector who will share their knowledge and experience to help you go back to your institution and work more effectively.

Details of the training events starting in 2010 will follow shortly. For more information on all EAUC events and for details of how to book, please visit www.eauc.org.uk/events or email info@eauc.org.uk.

We offer our Professional Development Programme at affordable rates, with added discounts for EAUC Members. **So what are you waiting for? We look forward to seeing you on a course soon!**

A Clear Perspective for Positive Change

Tackling energy efficiency through greater building intelligence is at the heart of i-Prophets Energy Services and its cutting edge information management system, digitalenergy.

digitalenergy is a flexible online resource where Estates Managers, Energy managers and occupants can monitor the energy performance their buildings, providing a clear picture of energy performance and access to tools to improve efficiency and demonstrate compliance with legislation in the UK. digitalenergy is government approved for the calculation of carbon emissions and can be used for Display Energy Certificates, Energy Performance Certificates, Air Conditioning Inspections, and offers access to facilitate reporting for the Carbon Reduction Commitment.

"i-Prophets enables businesses to implement a holistic approach to managing energy consumption," explained Richard Hipkiss, i-Prophets Sales and Marketing Director. "With energy data and other key variables for buildings logged and tracked in digitalenergy's integrated system, clients can be confident of meeting current and forthcoming legislation.

"digitalenergy also provides collective data on performance, recommendations for future improvement, and a workable methodology to implement and track changes."

i-Prophets Energy Services are at the coal face, responding to clients' needs, creating information networks and providing solutions to energy management concerns. With leading technology backed by expert consultancy and ongoing support, i-Prophets provide clients with a pathway to positive change through greater intelligence – a sustainable and demonstrative way to improve energy efficiency.

For more information on i-Prophets, visit www.i-prophets.com or call 0845 003 9087

i-Prophets Energy Services are Associate Members of the EAUC

i-prophets
energy services

5,500 Bottles Saved from Landfill



Race organisers and Somerset College have saved more than 5,500 plastic bottles from landfill following the Taunton Marathon held recently.

Recycling firm Perry's supplied the College with three frames for plastic bottles that were positioned along the route. Runners dropped the bottles off in the frames as they ran past. Race organisers also collected bottles that had been discarded along the route. The

bottles were collected by Perry's during the week after the marathon and will be recycled.

With the Genesis Centre as the regions model for sustainable construction, short courses on sustainability and sustainable modules embedded into courses, Somerset College leads the way in the West Country for sustainability.

Estates work across the campus now considers sustainable practice in every area. Light sensor technology is now in most campus areas and new energy efficiency measures are continually adopted. The College estimated its carbon footprint in 2007 and since then has reduced energy, landfill and much more. The 2009 carbon footprint will demonstrate some of the progress made towards being a zero carbon college.

Recycling is strong at the College with recycling centres based outside all work areas and landfill bins removed from classrooms and offices which constantly challenges staff's waste mind set and encourages them to recycle.

Written by Helen Freeman, Head of Marketing, Somerset College,
helen.freeman@somerset.ac.uk

Latest Member Offer - Free PC Energy Audit from IT Energy!

As part of the EAUC Green ICT project, IT Energy would like to invite fellow members to receive a free no obligation PC energy audit. This audit will help you understand the potential savings that can be obtained by deploying power management techniques across your organisation. This free of charge service will provide consumption data reports based upon Kwh, Financial and CO2 with your own unique energy rates, using our technology we can then provide power saving templates to overlay the measurements and simulate potential savings.

IT Energy are members of the Climate Savers in Computing initiative and have already uncovered substantial savings for the education sector including University of Aberdeen and University of the West of England. Energy savings within IT is a growing subject amongst IT Management and provides quick returns on investment. Salix Finance has also identified PC power management as an investable technology.

For those interested in a free PC energy audit, please contact Matt Crane at matt.crane@it-energy.co.uk. For more information on all EAUC Member Offers, please visit www.eauc.org.uk/member_only_offers.

“And this just in from EAUC Chair Sheri-Leigh Miles, following comments received from members on the People and Planet Green League”

People & Planet Green League – Still Relevant?



I will start this piece by stating that my own institution performed well in the 2009 Green League, increasing its ranking to within the Top Ten, as I am sure it is no surprise that feelings about this initiative are easily swayed by performance! I also want to make it very clear that as an advocate of student-led initiatives I have been incredibly impressed with the impact this League has had, as I know many of us have been. I am, however, left after this third year with the feeling that the impact and usefulness of this League is on the wane, at least in its current incarnation.

We have grumbled, but grudgingly accepted, the flawed methodology, the assumptions and the sometimes questionable conclusions that have led to the awarding of the classifications in the Green League, as they have raised the profile of the work we are doing, created a bit of a stir and generally initiated some discussions at levels we don't always easily penetrate. But this year the discussions are more around questioning the overall benefits; does it really help to be repeatedly told you are not up to scratch if you are working hard to do your best? Why is there no recognition of the areas in which you have made great strides if it goes beyond 'Green'? A bit of healthy competition is positively relished in our sector but the playing field needs to be reasonably level and the referee should have the faith of the players. I am not sure that this is now the case.

The 'Universities that Count' has also been developing alongside the Green League and is beginning to emerge as a more considered and comprehensive benchmarking tool. In addition to finding out how well you are doing there is support on an institutional journey for continuous improvement. Is it perfect? No but it is developing with the support of the Sector.

Perhaps the answer is for the Green League to concentrate on those institutions not engaging in this positive way with the sector benchmarking processes now available. Or perhaps it is time to focus on the FE Sector? Maybe a single issue should take centre stage? Whatever the outcome I am confident student-led organisations will continue to challenge us – and so they should! I do though think it is time we made it clear that we have mechanisms in place allowing us to benchmark our own performance and that we are concerned that a less robust instrument is beginning to show signs of doing more harm than good.

Written by Sheri-Leigh Miles, Chair of the EAUC Board,
info@eauc.org.uk

News from the Board

Following my last update outlining plans to review governance, we have been making a start on this important and challenging task. We have begun the process of identifying what a strong and energizing Board for an organisation as vibrant as the EAUC would look like. We are looking to similarly functioning charities for examples of best practice but as always are keen to find a way to evolve that suits our particular needs as a member-focused, responsive and dynamic organisation. We are looking beyond the immediate FHE sector for examples of good governance that might provide insights as to how our Board should evolve and as always we will be continuing to seek member views. An audit of the current skills and expertise of the Board as it stands is also underway, as we future-proof the governance of the EAUC the considerable skills and expertise of the present Board are as vital as ever. If you have insights or experiences you think might be of value we would as always be delighted to hear from you.

Written by Sheri-Leigh Miles, Chair of the EAUC Board,
info@eauc.org.uk

Handbook of Sustainability Literacy – Now Available!

The Handbook of Sustainability Literacy: skills for a changing world' has now been published in paperback. The book arose from a larger project, Soundings in Sustainability Literacy which was coordinated by the EAUC in partnership with a number of other organisations. A multimedia version of the book containing extended chapters and video interviews with authors is available from www.sustainability-literacy.org.

In this ground-breaking book, leading sustainability educators are joined by literary critics, permaculturalists, ecologists, artists, journalists, engineers, mathematicians and philosophers in a deep reflection on the skills people need to survive and thrive in the challenging conditions of the 21st century. Responding to the threats of climate change, peak oil, resource depletion, economic uncertainty and energy insecurity demands the utmost in creativity, ingenuity and new ways of thinking in order to reinvent both self and society. The book covers a wide range of skills and attributes from technology appraisal to ecological intelligence, and includes active learning exercises to help develop those skills.

The EAUC has a limited number of hard copies available for its members. One copy will be available per institution free of charge. These will be allocated on a first come first serve basis. Should you wish to have more than one copy, there will be a charge for postage. To order a copy, please email info@eauc.org.uk.



Green Paper Choices

A Printer's Perspective

Developing a paper policy can be a minefield, but here is a guide to get you started.

Recycled papers represent the most sustainable choice. Recycled paper mills source most or all of their recycled paper fibre from printed waste collected from commercial printers or consumers. This material produces recovered fibre classified as genuine post-consumer waste and needs only to be de-inked to achieve high quality white recycled paper.

Over recent years, and reflecting growing environmental awareness, the demand for recycled paper has increased hugely. The market, wary of traditional reservations, demanded recycled papers that could match virgin fibre grades in whiteness and print quality, thus satisfying marketing and environmental commitments.

This kick-started other paper mills to produce papers with between 50 & 80% recycled fibre content. The mixture of fibres enabled mills to produce genuinely recycled papers with the characteristics and performance of traditional virgin fibre grades. The industry has also developed 100% recycled fibre coated grades offering the same high quality as virgin, such as the Cocoon 100 range from Antalis & McNaughton or the Revive 100 Silk or Gloss from Robert Horne.

As the environmental benefits of recycled papers developed, increasing attention was placed on the green credentials of virgin papers, particularly the legal and sustainable sourcing of virgin fibre pulp. To address the fear that some pulp came from illegal logging, the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) extended their forest certification to include the paper industries. The FSC certification scheme is a detailed and demanding global forestry management standard, which ensures sustainable forest management and paper production, enabling full traceability from tree to customer.

The FSC scheme now not only applies to virgin paper but also the source of waste fibre within recycled papers e.g. Cocoon Offset is a FSC 100% recycled paper allowing customers to use the FSC and recycled logos.

Another interesting paper, being used increasingly, is made of 60% sugar cane fibre mixed with FSC certified new fibre. It produces paper made from recovered material, which is one of the best value available. Made in a poor part of South Africa, it uses a waste product with no other value, helping the local economy.



When choosing paper, establish whether you wish to use one made from recycled waste fibres. This is nearly always the best environmental option as recycled papers typically need 50% less energy to manufacture and each tonne produces a positive CO2 benefit of 1.32 tonnes (Source: WRAP www.wrap.org.uk).

If you choose recycled paper, the next step to consider is if you want it uncoated? 100% uncoated papers are now just as white as virgin grades. They produce a pleasing effect when printed in 4 colour process and are suitable for most marketing print requirements.

If you choose coated recycled paper, the range of weights and finishes suggests the use of 50, 75 or 80% recycled silk or gloss, typically available from 100 to 350gsm. 100% coated papers offer the ultimate green paper choice, but are slightly more expensive than mixed fibre grades.

If the paper you select is FSC certified, use this to your advantage – many false claims are made about the recycled content of paper. If your printer is FSC certified, ask them to print the FSC logo and chain of custody number on your item – it provides valuable information for the consumer and supports the FSC's mission.

If you avoid recycled papers on grounds of cost, look carefully at the sugar cane fibre paper – this meets many environmental concerns. If you still choose a new paper, selecting an FSC paper would support any claims made by the paper mill for the paper's sustainability.



For more information, contact David Pealing,
Sales Director, Severnprint Ltd,
davidp@severnprint.co.uk

earth bite 14th Annual EAUC Conference – Dates for your Diary!

The EAUC has now announced the date and venue of the 14th Annual EAUC Conference. The conference, which is **THE** annual environmental and sustainability event for the UK Further and Higher Education sector, will be held at Bangor University on 22nd

- 24th March 2010. Further information will be added to the EAUC website shortly so keep watching for further details! To discuss any aspect of the conference, including possible workshops, please contact Sarah Lee slee@eauc.org.uk.

Staffing Developments at the EAUC

Since establishing a permanent office and staff in Cheltenham almost four years ago the EAUC has seen an explosion of activity. In addition to our member discussion networks, newsletters, annual conference, training programme and web resource bank, the EAUC is now responsible for leading on the delivery of a wide range of innovative projects, events and communications across the UK. These include:

- SORTED
- Campus Sustainability Programme
- Green Gown Awards
- ICT Energy and Carbon Management Programme
- Promoting Poverty Aware Procurement on Campus
- Universities and Colleges Climate Commitment for Scotland
- Universities that Count

This is a time of huge need and opportunity so members will be interested to hear that we are currently exploring several project opportunities. These include work on behaviour change management, FE College

CSR, EAUC consultancy services, and sector support resource mapping to name just a few.

As our level of activity has increased, so too has our staff resource. In eight months we have grown from an initial complement of three members of staff based at our Cheltenham office to nine staff, based at two locations, encompassing our new Edinburgh office.

To support this growth a new staff structure has been put in place to facilitate staff working more collaboratively and efficiently, while ensuring we have a strong foundation for future growth. EAUC staff now work as three core teams, which span the two offices. Fiona Goodwin is the Head of Central Services handling our finances and data with new staff members Nicola Hume as Finance Officer and Holly Haines as our Administrator. Helen Exton is Head of Communications and Member Services, working closely with News Editor Abbie Weaver. Helen has a key Member focussed role, ensuring we know what members want and how to provide it. Please contact Helen with your thoughts and ideas.

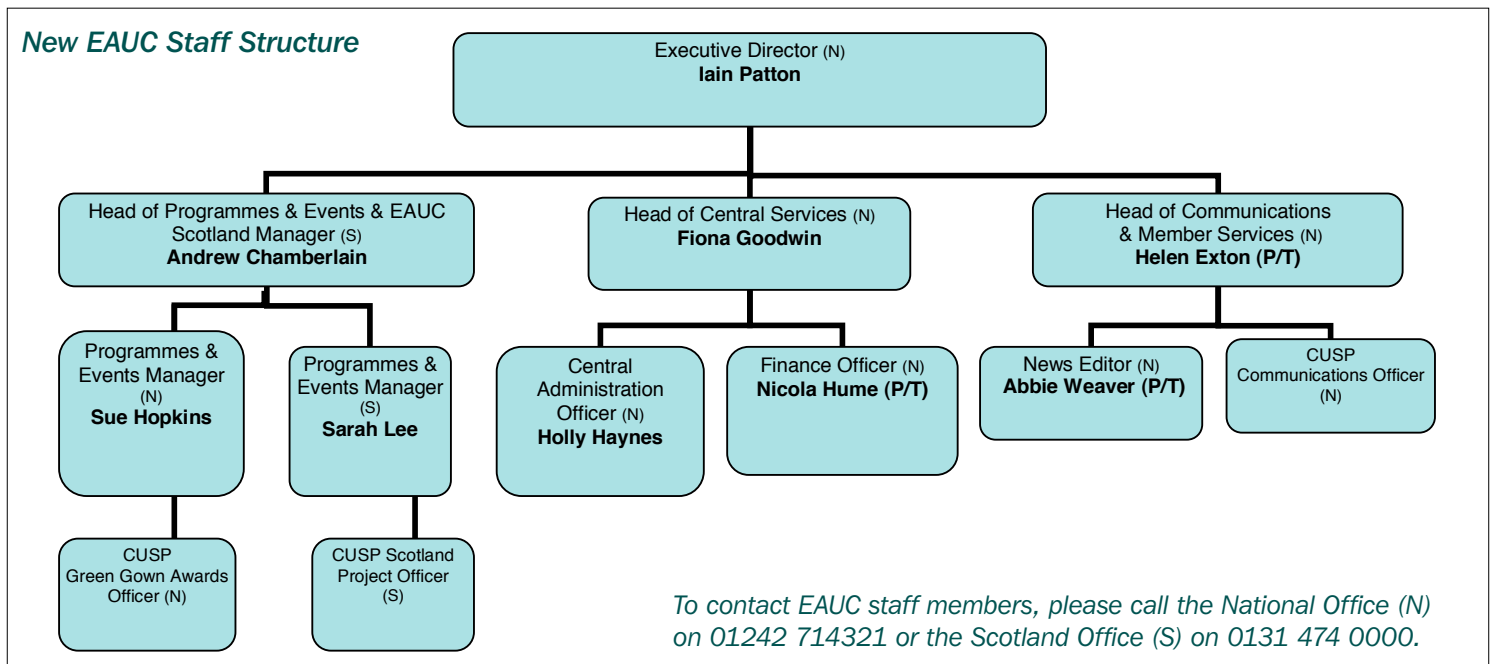
Finally, Andrew Chamberlain has been



appointed as Head of Programmes and Events whilst continuing his important EAUC Scotland Manager role. We are delighted with the progress Andrew and his colleague Sarah Lee have made in Scotland and see this new structure as a means of significantly increasing the staffing resource there. Working with Andrew and Sarah is Sue Hopkins. Along with Sarah, Sue will be responsible for the management of EAUC events and projects. I would like to congratulate these colleagues on their new roles. In addition, we will also be recruiting three College and University Sustainability Placements (CUSP) through our new partnership with StudentForce.

The future is bright for the EAUC. I am confident that together with the input and support of members, this new structure and increased capacity will place us centre stage to maximise opportunities and benefits for our members across the UK.

Written by Iain Patton, Executive Director, EAUC, info@eauc.org.uk



Update on CUSP

With a new academic year upon us, it is a great time to celebrate the successes of last years new sustainability initiatives that promise to grow further in the coming months. For example Bethan Harper, an Environmental Resource Management and Development MSc graduate, has just completed a full-time placement within the University of Bristol's Sustainability Team.

Her College and University Sustainability Placement (CUSP) as Communications Officer allowed her to use her academic credentials on a year-long project encouraging staff and student interaction with sustainability issues. Bethan's post centered on managing and supporting the Green Impact Awards, enabling the scheme to develop beyond its Bristol and NUS roots.

Bethan appreciates the opportunity this year has given her both in personal and professional development. Recognising StudentForce as "the only organisation that provides roles specifically aimed at recent environmental graduates" she applied for her post in their CUSP scheme, and has since "taken them up on the opportunities they have provided for professional development, becoming an Associate Member of IEMA, and undertaking a City and Guild PDA in Communications".

Developing these credentials has paid off, securing her a great new role within OXFAM's campaigns and activism work, broadening the reach of her sustainability knowledge and experiences.

Bethan's presence, commitment and continual development enabled the University of Bristol to develop the Green Impact Awards into a great success. They are now an integral pillar in the exciting new DEFRA-funded Greener Living Project, a scheme through which StudentForce will be working in partnership with People and Planet, the EAUC and LSX.

Bethan's story is a true testament to the ability of recent graduates to affect change within Colleges and Universities, and to develop careers that broaden their impact beyond the Further and Higher Education Sustainability sector!

Roehampton Selected for TFL's New Travel Scheme

Roehampton is the first university to receive a £20,000 funding package as part of Transport for London's new Corporate Travel Plan Scheme.

This government initiative has been developed in response to the impact of transport delays and overcrowding in the capital. To minimise the number of people arriving late for work, missing meetings and, in the case of universities, turning up late for class, the scheme provides funding and expertise to help London's biggest employers develop travel plans.

As part of the scheme, a consultant will advise the University on creating its first travel plan. In addition to improving the University's efficiency and productivity levels, the travel plan will offer staff and students wider travel options and promote active and environmentally sustainable transport options such as walking and cycling.

For more information on how to gain the knowledge, enthusiasm and motivation of a recent graduate in your institution, contact Jo Kemp, CUSP coordinator on 01572 725843 joannakemp@studentforce.org.uk.

Dr Jonathan Horner, Roehampton's new Environmental Manager, explains: "The University must have a travel plan in place to obtain future planning permission for the proposed building developments outlined in the Campus Strategy. It will help us reduce local motor vehicle congestion and pollution, consequently improving air quality and community health. Additionally, it will help shrink our carbon footprint and hence our contribution to global warming."

Funding will also be provided for quick-fix measures (such as bicycle storage, lighting and signage) that will improve overall access to the University for staff, students and visitors. In the coming months, staff and student travel surveys will be conducted to help shape the travel plan.

Written by Dr Jonathan Horner, Environmental Manager, Roehampton University, j.horner@roehampton.ac.uk

IES Sketchup Integration Causes Excitement at Broadway Malyan



Integrated Environmental Solutions (IES), leading provider of environmental building performance analysis software and services, has announced that international architectural practice Broadway Malyan has selected IES <Virtual Environment> suite and pioneering integration with Google SketchUp™ to help embed sustainability into its design process.

The IES VE SketchUp plug-in enhances the capabilities of SketchUp, making the quantitative green design power of IES more accessible. Since its launch in 2008, Broadway Malyan has been piloting the IES SketchUp integration on key projects – including single dwellings, large masterplanning, streetscaping and mixed use developments.

Resource efficient design, informed staff and innovation are key values for Broadway Malyan. Kevin Leahy, main board Director of Broadway Malyan UAE stated: "We're passionate about making sustainability fundamental to design process throughout the practice and believe the IES/SketchUp interface is an innovative way to embed new

approaches and methods of working as part of an integrated team effort."

The pilot has been incredibly successful. The company now plans to roll it out, aiming to have the software used throughout the practice by the end of 2009. The 'good design is sustainable design' ethos promoted by quantitative analysis has already made an impact. Architects get quick environmental

feedback on design iterations and environmental engineers are able to input more. Effective collaboration and cross-discipline understanding has been achieved.

For more information, contact Edwina Cramp, Communications Manager, IES Ltd, edwina.cramp@iesve.com, www.iesve.com

IES Ltd are Associate Members of the EAUC

APUC launches Procurement Manual for Scotland's universities and colleges

Public sector procurement is a regulated and often complex and lengthy process that seeks to achieve best value for money. APUC, in conjunction with a working group of university and college procurement experts, has developed a procurement manual for Scottish universities and colleges. It was launched online at the end of May 2009 and rolled out through a number of interactive workshops around Scotland.

The document suite includes guidance on social, ethical and environmental considerations including small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), fair trade, social clauses and community benefits, environmental, and equality and diversity issues. In addition, the Manual meets the 'responsible procurement of goods and services' objective of the Scottish Universities & Colleges Climate Change Commitment for Scotland.

Before starting a new procurement process, a helpful Decision Tree assesses existing or readily available resources rather than obtaining a new quote or tendering.

Where a new procurement is deemed necessary a corporate social responsibility (CSR) Toolkit is available and the documents include the Buy Sustainable Quick Wins, Sustainable Procurement Risk Assessment Tools (SPRATS), a risk coding analysis tool, a whole life costing approach and sustainability terms and conditions. It also references Scottish Government and EAUC guidance and resource banks.

The entire document and guidance suite was reviewed by representatives, including EAUC, covering a range of relevant areas including sustainability and audit.



For more information see www.apuc-scot.ac.uk/sector.htm or email enquiries@apuc-scot.ac.uk

The EAUC Board provides strategic guidance and has a responsibility for the development of services for members. The EAUC Board is elected annually at the AGM and is made up of volunteering individuals working in the FHE sector.

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Neil Smith, University of Southampton

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