

**Goldsmiths
University of London**

ESTATES COMMITTEE

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY SUB-COMMITTEE

22 January 2009

- Present:** Mr Hugh Jones (Chair), Michael Dick, Kay Stables, Vicky Annand
Rebecca Watts, Erica Drew, Mary Bright, Graham Gaskell, Ian Wiles, Patsy
Carter (Secretary)
- In attendance:** Pete Moore, SU Environmental Officer, Michael Burke, Head of Procurement
- Apologies:** None

OPEN BUSINESS

1 ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair welcomed the Student Union Ethics and Environmental Officer, Pete Moore.

The Chair drew the Committee's attention to the DIUS grant letter to HEFCE (January 2009) and the Tackling Climate Change statement is extracted as below:

"Last year, I set out our ambition that capital funding for institutions should be linked to performance in reducing emissions. Following your advice to me, I am now confirming that such links should be in place for 2011-12. In May 2008 I asked you to finalise during 2008-09 a strategy for sustainable development in HE, with a realistic target for carbon reductions that would reduce carbon emissions by 60 per cent against 1990 levels by 2050 and at least 26 per cent by 2020. This former target should now be upgraded to 80 per cent, in line with Parliament's decisions in passing the Climate Change Act 2008. I hope that some of the capital expenditure I have asked you to bring forward into 2009-10 will support strategic, long-term action to tackle climate change, but institution-wide strategies to reduce carbon emissions are also needed." *John Denham, Secretary of State for Education.*

Noted:

that it would be difficult for Goldsmiths to measure targets against 1990 levels as there would be a reliance on access to data samples from that time which may not be possible and that the 2006/07 baseline data would be used.

2 MINUTES

Resolved:

that the minutes of the meeting held 30 September 2008 be approved.

3 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Item 3, note (iv) Terms of Reference, Composition and Membership

- (i) that amendments to the TOR would be updated for the next Committee year in accordance with Committee Governance procedures;
- (ii) that membership to the Committee could be expanded to include members of the former Environmental Policy Working Group (EPWG) and the Carbon Champions network (CCN);
- (iii) that consideration should be given to establish where there were gaps in the members of these two groups, and if there were members of the EPWG that were not part of the Carbon Champions Network.

Recommended:

- (i) that the Environmental Adviser would provide the Chair with the EPWG membership list.

4 THE BRIGHT IDEAS INITIATIVE

Received:

A report from the Chair regarding the Bright Ideas Initiative.

Noted:

that responses had been received and actions were being assessed and lead by the Heads of the applicable department and the ideas that had been received to date were:

- (i) Motion sensors to turn lights off in the evenings – especially Warmington and Ben Pimlott;
- (ii) Promoting cycling to work – via tax breaks and also provision of facilities;
- (iii) Stop sending printed invitations to college events – use emails instead;
- (iv) Better signage for St James;
- (v) Better recycling policy and information;
- (vi) Fit thermostatic radiator valves;
- (vii) Academic Departments to have their own credit card;
- (viii) Timers for heaters in St James Hall;
- (ix) Ban smoking outside front doors to Richard Hoggart Building and implement an in and out flow system for doors;

- (x) Introduce thin client technology to replace PCs and Apples;
- (xi) Install a programme to switch off computers at night;
- (xii) Self-closing doors on the Whitehead Building to prevent heat loss caused when they are left open;
- (xiii) Ensure that the new station at New Cross Gate gives access to both sides of the road.

5 ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Received:

the revised policy from the Environmental Adviser (09-26).

Noted:

- (i) that the policy had been produced to endorse the College's commitment to promote environmental issues as a fundamental element of its activities and to demonstrate its resolution to continual improvement in environmental practices;

Recommended:

- (i) that within the introduction to the Policy reference should be made to other environmental policies;
- (ii) that the Policy and its targets should be mapped to other environmental documents to ensure consistency with particular reference to the Energy Policy and Energy Strategy and it was important to ensure that these documents were aligned and reported at the next Committee meeting;
- (iii) that where possible, clear realistic targets should be set and that there should be consistency across all targets;
- (iv) that there should be development of the academic areas within the policy detailing the environmental activities as they relate to curriculum and the integration to course programmes now and in the future;
- (v) that the Policy should be circulated wider than the Committee and include members of the EPWG;
- (vi) that further comments should be sent to the Environmental adviser.

6 ENERGY POLICY AND ENERGY STRATEGY

Received:

the Energy Policy (09-27) and the Energy Strategy (09-28) and an oral report from the Energy Adviser.

Noted:

- (i) that both the Policy and Strategy had been produced in line with the requirements of the Carbon Management Strategy and Implementation Plan and both documents were circulated to the Committee for further commentary;

- (ii) that the purpose of the documents were to detail Goldsmiths objectives for the management of energy and the reduction of its carbon emissions and formed part of Goldsmiths overall Environmental Strategy.

Recommended:

- (i) that the targets set within the Energy Strategy are those that have been set to date, however, further considerations should be given to the targets, especially the non-legislative targets i.e. costs in context to cost of implementation per square meter, impact and any implications;
- (ii) development of the targets should be carried out by the Energy Advisor and circulated to the Committee.

7 CARBON MANAGEMENT FOCUS GROUPS

Campaign Awareness Group

Noted:

- (i) that the meeting of the CCN had taken place 5 December 2008;
- (ii) that it was important to optimise the reporting channel from the group to the Committee and the group expressed an interest in ensuring that matters discussed at the CCN meetings could be added to the Committee agenda;
- (iii) it was important to capture the contributions and views of more students in addition to those in halls and that ways should be found to capture the student's perspective to support and increase the student's involvement with the College wide environmental actions;
- (iv) that learn.gold should be used as a communication tool to provide updates on Environmental matters.

Recommended:

- (i) that agenda items from the CCN would be sent to the Committee Secretary;
- (ii) that the Student Union would appoint a group of students with a focus on environmental issues;
- (iii) that the Chair would invite through learn.gold an academic and support member of staff to attend the Committee;
- (iv) that Internal Communications would meet with SU to discuss the student environmental activities.

Recycling Focus Group

Noted:

- (i) that a review of waste collection services was being undertaken by the Head of procurement with the view of achieving value for money;
- (ii) that the findings and the revised Waste Collection Services following the review would be reported to the Committee;
- (iii) that the Head of RCCS and the Environmental Advisor would contact Lewisham Council about their waste management practices;
- (iv) that the Environment Advisor would arrange for a member of the publicity team to be co-opt to the Recycling group;
- (v) that consideration should be given to how small environmental schemes would be funded and whether these could be funded via the Carbon Management Budget.

Building Energy Management Focus Group

- (i) that the Energy Manager job description was being devised and that the remit of the post would include Environmental management responsibilities;
- (ii) that a range of measures from the Carbon Management Strategic Implementation Plan were being implemented;
that prices were being sought for the Thermostatic Radiator Valves (TRV) and that these would be implemented during the summer vacation as systems needed to be drained down;
- (iii) that prices for the conversion of light fittings college wide to operate at high frequency (30 Kilohertz) instead of mains frequency (50 Hertz) was being sought and this would provide a substantial reduction in energy use as well as increase the life of tubes;
- (iv) that the Lighting Control System in the Ben Pimlott Building would be re-programmed to reduce the lighting hours.

8 STUDENT TRAVEL PLAN

Noted:

- (i) that the Head of Administration, Estates and Facilities Department, reported that the College had received the funding from TFL which would be used to support the improvement of cycling provision as detailed in the plan;
- (ii) that a meeting had been held with the Student Welfare and Education Officer who was involved with promoting health living part of which was to encourage students to choose cycling as an alternate way of travelling into the college;
- (iii) Jesse had suggested additional cycling racks and that these should be located around the Whitehead Building and the Ben Pimlott Building;
- (iv) that consideration should also be given to improving the lighting around the Whitehead Building;
- (v) that the views of students were to be sought more widely regarding the location of the sheltered cycling compound.

9 NEXT MEETING

Noted:

that the next meeting would be held Thursday, 23 April 2009, 2.00pm, Room 110, DTH.

Patsy Carter (Secretary)
March 2009