

**GOLDSMITHS  
University of London**

**ESTATES COMMITTEE**

**ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY SUB-COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of the meeting held on 22 January 2013**

**Present:** Professor Kay Stables (in the Chair), Ms Catriona Boulton, Ms Patsy Carter, Ms Erica Drew, Mr Richard Groves; Ms Jacqueline McNee; Dr Noortje Marres; Ms Craigie-lee Paterson.

**Apologies:** Ms Sarah Charter; Ms Liz Hutchinson; Ms Rachael Johnson; Ms Melanie Rimmer; Mr Danny O'Sullivan; Professor Tim Valentine.

**In attendance:** Ms Nicola Hogan; Mr Andrew Lantry.

**OPEN BUSINESS**

**1 MEMBERSHIP UPDATES**

**Noted:**

- (i) that Ms Rachael Johnson, Dr Noortje Marres and Ms Melanie Rimmer were the new Environment and Sustainability Sub-committee members;
- (ii) that Mr Andrew Lantry was to attend the ESSC instead of the Director of Finance and Ms Jacqueline McNee was to attend the ESSC instead of the Chief Executive of the Students' Union.

**2 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

**Resolved:**

that minutes of the last meeting held on 9 October 2012 be approved.

In discussion the Sub-committee noted the following points:

- (i) The Barclays Cycle Superhighways contract had been signed between the College and Transport of London, entitling the College to £9k funding for running bike shops, building bike sheds and promoting the cycling to work scheme.

- (ii) Full funding of £15k would be available if 30 percent of College staff completed the Staff Travel Survey that was sent out to all Green Impact team members and Departmental Administrators. The Project Officer advised that the Staff Travel survey would be advertised in the next Staff News email and that the Warden would mention the survey in his next Open Meeting.
- (iii) The Photovoltaics installed on Richard Hoggart Building had generated electricity income of £2,500.00 from July to December 2013, which the College was to receive as a credit to electricity budget.
- (iv) The bees had died and would not be replaced.
- (v) The Switch-off competition to encourage students to save energy had been on-going in the College's Halls since October 2012. More students had signed to participate this academic year than last, which might re-set the expenses of running the competition.

### **3 GREEN IMPACT**

The Project Officer informed the Sub-Committee of the following points:

- (i) The College was participating in the National Union of Students' Green Impact scheme for the first time. The Student Union had participated in the scheme before and received the gold award for implementing several different initiatives.
- (ii) The College participation had been launched in November 2012 by the Estates and Facilities Project Officer, and so far 15 teams (comprising 24 staff members) from various different departments had registered.
- (iii) Each team would have a team leader responsible for completion and submission of the on-line workbook, comprised of 32 initiatives, and depending on how successful a team was when rolling out different initiatives, they would receive bronze, silver or gold award.
- (iv) The scheme had been designed specifically for staff, but students would participate by being trained to become auditors.
- (v) The issue of communication had been raised, as not all ESSC members were aware if their department was participating in the scheme. The Project Officer would re-advertise the scheme in the Staff News again and encourage team leaders to advertise the scheme across their departments.

## **4 POLICIES REVIEWS**

### **Received:**

the Waste Strategy and Action Plan Draft 2 by the Energy and Environment Manager (13-10 B).

In discussion of the above policy the Sub-committee noted the following points:

- (i) The main part of College's waste was sent, via our waste contractor, to a Waste-to-Energy plant where it was dried out and burnt to create low carbon electricity. The College would like to move to a more re-usable recycling scheme.
- (ii) There was no fixed contract in place that would stipulate how the College should dispose of its waste.
- (iii) The Policy needed to have clear targets. The Energy and Environment Manager would review the targets and propose the new targets for the next ESSC meeting.
- (iv) There were several successful recycling schemes across the College such as: books recycling in the Library and WEEE recycling for electrical appliances.
- (v) Fluorescent tube recycling should be added to the policy.
- (vi) A new stationery recycling scheme would be rolled out soon by the Project Officer.
- (vii) It was suggested that all classrooms should have recycling bins.

### **Resolved:**

that the final draft of the policy would be submitted to the next ESSC meeting for recommendation to the Estates Committee.

### **Received:**

the Food Policy draft by the Project Officer (13-11 C).

In discussion of the above policy the Sub-committee noted the following points:

- (i) The Policy was based on the template from the Sustain website.
- (ii) Chartwells and Compass followed their own food policies which the Project Officer had reviewed and discussed at a meeting with the managers of both companies.
- (iii) The College needed to raise food awareness by launching a more vigorous campaign including meat-free Monday and tuna-free Tuesday.

- (iv) Lewisham Council would be giving a “no food, no waste” workshop for students to promote cooking and reduce food waste.
- (v) The new café going into Library would have Fairtrade status.

**Resolved:**

that the final draft of the policy would be submitted to the next ESSC meeting for recommendation to Estates Committee.

**Received:**

the Bio-diversity Action Plan by the Environment Officer (13-12 D).

In discussion of the above policy the Sub-committee noted the following points:

- (i) The Environment Officer would retire at the end of the 2012-13 academic year.
- (ii) It was suggested that the College should explore the possibility of implementing Woodland Trust and Green Fingers Gardens charities initiatives, and that a wildlife garden behind the Estates offices would be added to the Bio-diversity Action Plan Policy.

**Resolved:**

that the final draft of the Policy would be submitted to the next ESSC meeting for recommendation to the Estates Committee.

**Noted:**

that all the policies were listed on greening webpages and that chart-matrix would be produced for the next ESSC by the Environment and Energy Manager explaining the connection of these policies to various other committees.

## **5 FAIRTRADE STEERING GROUP**

**Received:**

an oral update from the Environment Officer.

The Environment Officer informed the Sub-Committee of the following points:

- (i) The group had met in October 2012 and would meet next in February 2013. Minutes of the meeting held in October 2012 were given out to the ESSC members for reference.

- (ii) The Environment Officer suggested that a Fairtrade Tea Party should be organised to raise Fairtrade profile across the College. The Environment Officer advised that Social Justice Lecture would be held at the College, in which Fairtrade Divine chocolate would be promoted.

## **6 RECYCLING**

### **Received:**

an oral update from the Energy and Environment Manager.

The energy & Environment Officer informed the Sub-Committee of the following points:

- (i) Blue cardboard bins had been put across the College for paper recycling.
- (ii) General recycling bins would be put in the Rutherford Building and Library shortly.

## **7 GENERAL UPDATES**

The Sub-committee noted the following points:

- (i) The College was required to include a public benefit statement, preferably including some reference to environment sustainability, in its annual accounts, and that the first draft of this needed to be considered by the Senior Management Team (SMT) in October 2013.
- (ii) The smoke free campus proposal would be put on the agenda for the next ESSC meeting.

MP  
January 2013