

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
UNIVERSITY STEERING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT

Minutes of the 11th Meeting of the University Steering Committee on Environment (USCE)
held on **Friday, February 6, 2004 at 2:30 p.m. in Room 622, Mong Man Wai Building.**

Present : Professor Chan King-ming (Chairman)
 Professor Ho wing-shing John
 Professor Wong Po-keung
 Mr. Louis Heung, representing the Bursar
 Mr. Sam Wong, representing the Director of Administrative Services
 Mr. Norman Yip, representing Director of Campus Development Office
 Mr. Benny Tam, Director of Estates Management Office
 Ms. Connie Chan, representing Director of Student Affairs Office
 Mr. Leung Cheuk Yee (Student Representative)
 Mr. Tynnon Chow (by invitation)
 Ms. Amanda Chan (by invitation)

Apologies: Professor Lim Wan-fung Bernard
 Mr. S.K. Lam, Safety Manager

In Attendance: Mr. Jack Yung (Secretary)

1. Minutes

USCE confirmed the minutes of the 11th meeting held on 17 October 2003.

2. Matters Arising

(a) Energy Survey

Mr. Benny Tam reported 40 completed questionnaires of the Energy Survey were returned. EMO staff will analyze all the responses and the results will be summarized and presented in the next USCE meeting.

Prof. Wong Po-keung suggested window-type air-conditioner with timer could be installed for individual rooms to replace the centralized air-conditioning system for electricity reduction. The Secretary also suggested the window-type air-conditioner with remote control facilitates the staff to adjust the temperature.

Mr. Benny Tam explained that the sensors have been installed in the public area in the Energy Saving Phase III Programme. The electricity supply will be cut off automatically if there is nobody. He also explained that some EMO staffs are currently responsible for switching off the lighting and air-conditioning when the classroom is idle.

(b) Environmental Audit

Air Quality

The Secretary reported that no measurement of fresh air quality has been conducted by the Environmental Science Programme and Centre for Environmental Policy & Resource Management. But Prof. Wong Po-keung suggested that the ambient Fresh Air Quality measured by the consultants during the IAQ studies could be used as an air pollutant indication.

Water

Mr. Benny Tam explained EMO has hired the consultant to conduct water analysis the streams, grease traps and the designated sampling points. Therefore, the water quality of the stream and Weiyuan Lake is already monitored.

3. Progress Reports of Sub-committee

(a) *Task Force to Improve on Environmental Black Spots*

The Secretary reported that the construction materials and wastes are abandoned in the campus e.g. the slope of Residence 10 & Residence 11. He reminded that the ultimate victim of these problems will be CUHK: workmen need to do the extra work for clean-up and the EMO needs to pay for the Collection and Transportation Cost of Construction Wastes. He pleaded CDO, EMO and Security Unit to pay attention to the university contractors and/or outsiders to stop them throw the construction wastes inside CUHK campus. Mr. Benny Tam was also aware of this problem and he suggested penalty e.g. \$500- should be imposed to the illegal waste dumpers.

The Chairman complained that some workmen and drivers turned on the road-side water tap for vehicle or filter washing. The wastewater finally flowed to the stream or lake through the storm drains. He urged the EMO and Security Unit to lock up the tap to stop them polluting the water.

(b) *Canteen Hygiene Action Team*

Ms. Amanda Chan reported that the number of canteen inspection will be increased because of the outbreak of Bird Flu and the coming of SARS season.

Ms. Amanda Chan suggested the environmental guideline for the university canteen operators drafted by the Secretary is useful to help the operators comply with the environmental legislation and enhance their environmental awareness. But the content should be much detailed to help them follow the guideline during the daily operation.

The Secretary suggested the canteen operator can donate the excess food to the local welfare parties to help the poor and the elderly. The Chairman and other members also agreed with the suggestion.

(c) *Air Pollution Action Team*

The Secretary reported that all the school-owned shuttle buses and contractor's shuttle buses were installed with the catalytic converter or in compliance with Euro-emission Standard.

All jobs were completed and the Air Pollution Action Group was dismissed.

4. Environmental Guideline for Contractors

The Secretary has prepared the posters with both English and Chinese simplified version of guidelines for reminding the frontline workers about the environmental compliance. The printed posters will be passed to the CDO and EMO so that they can distribute to their contractors. Mr. Benny Tam added that the environmental guidelines have been uploaded to the departmental web-page for reference.

5. Waste Recycling Scheme & Energy Consumption on Campus

Mr. Benny Tam reported that the winning design of Recycle Bin Design Competition of Shaw College was produced. Due to high production cost (about \$3,000- per set), 15 bins have been ordered and it will be located at the lobby of the main academic buildings.

Mr. Benny Tam also reported that the electricity consumption of January 2004 was reduced by 3% compared with January 2003. He explained the trend is due to the installation of automatic system. He stressed the electricity consumption is user-orientated, e.g. computer needs 365 days and nights ventilation. Therefore further reduction of electricity consumption may face difficulty. Mr. Louis Heung emphasized that the Government Audit stated the efficiency of CUHK Energy Consumption is already quite good.

6. Campus Master Plan

The Chairman introduced the Campus Master Plan and his membership in the Campus

Planning Committee. He also invited Mr. Tynnon Chow of the Architecture Department to explain the latest Campus Master Plan in the meeting.

After the presentation, the Chairman summarized the main development projects of campus. He asked the committee members to give comment and he will later consult Dr. Hu Shiu Ying to identify the location rare plant species and map the Special Areas and Sites of Special Scientific Interests (SSSIs).

7. Progress of the Environmental Protection Week 2003

The Chairman suggested the Environmental Protection Week will still be held in March 2004 to enhance the environmental awareness among the staff and students but no opening ceremony will be launched this year. The Environmental Protection Week Organising Committee will be formed as the past few years. But the activities with low attendance such as debate and forum will be replaced by some outdoor visits.

The Chairman also requested the Secretary to organize an Environmental Ambassador Scheme to train up a group of students to take up the environmental duties within the campus.

8. Any Other Business

There is no AOB.

9. Date of the Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held in mid May 2004.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.