

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
UNIVERSITY STEERING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT

Minutes of the 26th Meeting of the University Steering Committee on Environment (USCE)
held on **Wednesday, 3rd Oct, 2007 at 9:30a.m. in 2/F Conf. Rm. 233, Wong Foo Yuan
Building**

Present : Professor K.C. Lam (Chairman)
Professor Michael Hui, Associate Pro-Vice-Chancellor
Professor L.M. Chu, Teacher Representative
Dr. M.Y. Leung, College Representative
Mr. Benny Tam, Director of Estates Management Office
Mr. Andy Cheung, representing Estates Management Office
Mr. Tom Fong, representing Director of Office of Student Affairs
Mr. Arthur Ma, representing Director of Campus Development Office
Mr. W.T. Yu, Student Representative
Mr. S.K. Lam (Secretary)
Mr. Jack Yung (Under-Secretary)
Mr. Patrick Chan (by Invitation)

Apologies: Professor K.C. Chau, Teacher Representative
Mr. Terence Chan, Bursar
Mr. C.P. Wong, Student Representative

Action

1. Minutes

The minutes of the 25th meeting was confirmed.

2. Comment on Preliminary Campus Master Plan Proposals

Before the meeting, most of the members had attended the presentation on the four proposals and/or had viewed the exhibition and related video in <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/cmp/en/>. The Chairman thanked Mr. Patrick Chan of

CDO to brief the committee on the consultation process in this meeting.

The views on the proposals were summarized as follows:

Campus Mobility

- Most members supported the concept of building a pedestrian friendly campus. They envisaged that a conveying system with covered escalators, travellers and walkways could reduce walking time within campus. It will reduce the over-reliance on shuttle buses and can help reduce demand for campus transport and vehicular air emission.
- Some members also observed that during the rush hours, the mechanized escalator system might not be sufficient to meet the peak demand. Hence, such system should be augmented by the university shuttle services. The shuttle buses and escalators and/or elevators should be integral part of a well conceived university transit system.
- Members felt that some areas of the university campus should be designated vehicle-free. Cycle tracks could be provided to facilitate students riding bicycles around the campus to reduce the use of school bus.
- It was suggested the University should closely monitor any plan to relocate the existing University Station and/or to build a new one at Pak Shek Railway. The campus plan should be revised to cope with possible changes and uncertainty.

Environmental Protection

- The master plan should be devised having regard to the distribution of various habitats and ecological sensitive areas on campus. Any future major development should avoid these areas as far as possible.
- Some members opined that the information given in these four proposals was not detailed. Some broad-brush assessment should be undertaken to assess the type of habitat that may be disturbed and number of trees felled in each proposal.

Social Interaction

- It was proposed and members agreed that more open space should be planned and integrated with the buildings to facilitate interaction between

various campus users.

Axial Concept

- Some members favoured the “Axis” concept which forms the central axis as well as providing a focal point.

Green Building Measures

- Members strongly urged that green building designs should be adopted, giving emphasis to components such as roof garden and BEAM design measures. Buildings should also be designed to achieve greater energy efficiency and to reduce electricity consumption. Furthermore, the renewable energy devices such as solar energy panel should also be installed as far as possible in new campus buildings.

The Chairman would forward the views to the related parties for consideration.

3. Matters Arising

Progress of the SD Indicator Study & Preparation of the SD Report (M3)

The Secretary reported HKPC had submitted all data collected in mid-September. As the SD indicators would be one of the topics in the exhibition of Environmental Protection Week 2007, the Chairman suggested discussing this issue in item (4.).

Pollution of Chung Chi Stream (M2)

The Under-Secretary reported that the USEO monitored the water quality monthly and the quotation was obtained from an external laboratory hired by EMO currently to monitor the water quality of Chung Chi Stream and Weiyuan Lake bimonthly for two years. It was estimated about \$120,000 would be used in this project. He suggested the EMO / USEO should write to the management to apply for extra budget.

EMO
USEO

Promotion of the Engagement Process on Better Air Quality (M5)

The Under-Secretary reported that about 20 student helpers, most of them from

USEO

Green World and Green Post, were recruited to help promoting the BAQ on campus. Besides, on-site survey was conducted in the BAQ Exhibition held in Chung Chi Esther Lee Building G/G Lobby organized by the Council on 18 – 20 September and in the Sixth Former Orientation Day on 29th September.

From August to October, about 15,000 pamphlets were distributed to the students in the college assembly, student hostels, classes, staff residences, Cultural Square, University Mall and canteens. Until this moment, the USEO had collected about 2,000 questionnaires completed by CUHK staff and students and these questionnaires would be submitted to the Council.

4. Environmental Protection Week 2007

The Chairman reminded the members that the Environmental Protection Week would come two weeks later. Therefore, he would like to finalize all details in this meeting:

- Theme – After a discussion, all members agreed that “Sustainable Campus 可持續發展校園” would be adopted.
- Invitation – The Secretary would urge the CPR Office to issue the invitation card to the guests as soon as possible. Besides, the members found there was discrepancy between the wordings of Chinese and English version of invitation. The Secretary would contact the CPR for amendment. He reminded the members should pass him a list within this week if they would like to invite any guest,
- Publication – The Secretary would issue a mass email to the staff and students to promote the week. Besides, the web-banner would be uploaded through ITSC on the University main webpage. Posters would be printed and distributed by USEO and posted by EMO in different buildings.
- Speech – The Secretary would be responsible for drafting a 5 minutes speech for VC and a pamphlet for the ceremony.
- Officiating Guests: The Secretary confirmed that both VC and Mr. Edward Yau, the Secretary for the Environment would be available to officiate the Opening Ceremony from 2:30pm to 3:45pm. He had arranged VC to greet Mr. Yau about 10 minutes before the ceremony.
- Opening Ceremony & Kicking Off of Solar Heating System – The Chairman suggested all issues about the ceremonies, decorations and arrangement should be handled by CPR Office.

- Green Exhibition – The Secretary reported that the CUHK Sustainability Indicators would be released in the exhibition. The Green World, Green Post, CDO and EMO had submitted the materials for preparing the exhibition panels. Besides, Prof. Xu of Department of Engineering agreed to display and operate the Eco-Hybrid Car in the exhibition with the presence of an experienced technician. Mr. Benny Tam agreed to display the latest model of electrical scooters purchased by EMO.
- Movie Show – The Secretary reported the movie “An Inconvenient Truth” is available in the library. The Chairman had invited Prof. Alex English and Prof. David Chen of Department of Geography & Resource Management (GRM) as facilitators in the show to commentate the movie and give a discussion session with the audiences. The Secretary would write to invite the students of GRM and Environmental Science to attend.
- Energy Reduction Prize – It was proposed to present a prize to the hostel representative nominated by each college in the ceremony. Mr. Andy Cheung would write to inform each college about the prize presentation.
- Community Tree Planting – Mr. Benny Tam reported that EMO Landscape Section had a trial walk to find the easiest path for the planting. Due to the time limitation, the buffet lunch was replaced by a light meal such as sandwich and fruit. All planting tools, seedlings, meals, logistics and transport would be arranged by EMO. The Secretary thanked the assistance of EMO and Alumni Affairs Office. He reported that the number of enrollment was more than 150 and Prof. P.W. Liu would be the officiating guest in the tree planting ceremony. He would prepare a short speech for Prof. Liu.
- Walking Campaign (Phase 2) – The Chairman reported that the Walking Campaign (Phase 2) on 2 November 2007, organized by the Committee on Health Promotion & Protection would be included as a programme of the Week.

The Chairman would not follow every single item in this meeting and he asked the Secretary to co-ordinate the programmes with various parties.

5. Any Other Business

Mr. Benny Tam would like to seek for the committee’s endorsement for applying \$15M AAI to implement green roof project for 20 existing buildings. He estimated it would increase from green roof area from 7,000 m² to about 300,000

m². All members agreed to endorse this proposal.

6. Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting would be determined in due course.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.