

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

UNIVERSITY STEERING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT

**Minutes of the 5th Meeting of the University Steering Committee on Environment (USCE) held on Tuesday, January 15, 2002 at 2:30 p.m. in Conference Room, Estates and Maintenance Building.**

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- Present :            Professor Chan King-ming (Chairman)  
                  Professor Ho Wing-shing John  
                  Professor Wong Po-keung  
                  Ms. Amelia Chan, representing the Director of Student Affairs  
                  Mr. Benny Tam, Director of Estates Management Office  
                  Mr. Louis Heung, representing the Bursar  
                  Mr. Jonathan H. Amies, Safety Manager  
                  Mr. Samuel Wong, representing the Director of Administrative Services  
                  Mr. Vincent Chen, Director of Campus Development Office  
                  Mr. Ho Yuet Hang (Student Representative)  
                  Ms. Amanda Chan (by invitation)
- Apologies:        Professor Lim Wan-fung Bernard  
                  Professor Jimmy C.M. Yu (by invitation)  
                  Mr. Kwan Siu Kwan (Student Representative)
- In Attendance:    Mr. Jack Yung (Secretary)
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1. Minutes

USCE confirmed the minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 15 October, 2001

2. Matters Arising

(a) *Annual Environmental Report*

Mr. Jack Yung reported the Environmental Reports 2001 were translated to Chinese. Both the Chinese and English versions have been sent to Vice-Chancellor and Pro-Vice-Chancellor for comment.

The USCE members decided to publish 1,000 copies of the report and both the Chinese and English versions will be combined in one booklet.

Prof. Wong Po-keung suggested that the electronic file of Environmental Report 2001 in PDF format should be available in the web for the interested parties to download. Mr. Jack Yung will upload the electronic file of Environmental Report 2001 in the Environmental Web of University Safety & Environmental Office.

(action by University Safety & Environmental Office)

(b) *College Assembly for Students*

The Chairman suggested the EMO and CDO to arrange some talks featured on waste reduction and energy conservation during weekly assemblies. The best duration of the talk should be 25 minutes.

(action by Campus Development Office & Estates Management Office)

(c) *Canteen Waste Collection*

Miss Amanda Chan reported the specialize contractor started to collect the canteen garbage in December and the canteen waste problem was much improved.

### 3. Progress Reports of Sub-committee

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

Mr. Jack Yung reported some findings of the Monthly Black Spot Inspection:

- (i) It was observed that construction and renovation materials were placed in the NA College. USCE showed the concern to the undesirable condition and requested CDO and EMO to post the name of relevant Clerk of Works to the site boundary and designate area for storage.

(action by Campus Development Office & Estates Management Office)

- (ii) It was observed that construction and renovation materials were placed on the grassland in the NA College and the grasses were destroyed. Mr. Jack Yung reminded CDO and EMO to re-vegetate after the work.

(action by Campus Development Office & Estates Management Office)

- (iii) It was observed that concrete pieces and sand were found on the side of pedestrian road after the completion of road relaying work. To prevent dust emission, the CDO and EMO should remind their contractors to remove the concrete pieces and sand when they finished the job.

(action by Campus Development Office & Estates Management Office)

- (iv) It was observed that concrete drainage pipes were abandoned at the roadside of Campus Circuit for a long time. Mr. Jack Yung requested CDO and EMO to check whether the pipes were owed by the university or not. Otherwise, these should be removed from the campus.

(action by Campus Development Office & Estates Management Office)

- (v) It was complained that odour was emitted from the wastewater manhole at the Fong Yun Wah Hall. After investigation, it was found that the wastewater of KCRC's grease trap was conveyed to CUHK's drain. Mr. Jack Yung explained the odour of wastewater not only causes nuisance to the nearby staff and student but also deteriorates the water quality of campus. The Chairman requested EMO to issue a formal letter to KCRC to require them to stop the discharge.

(action by Estates Management Office)

#### (b) *Canteen Hygiene Action Team*

- (i) Miss Amanda Chan reported that EPD is conducting a survey on the composting of canteen garbage. She has arranged the canteens of CUHK to participate in the studies. Prof. Wong Po Keung suggested there is a consultancy company specialized on the composting machine and he will provide the information to Action Team.

(action by Canteen Hygiene Action Team)

- (ii) The Action Team was still pending the Environmental Protection Department's report on the safety of food container. Mr. Benny Tam suggested the canteen operators can offer some benefits such as discount to the customers to encourage them not to use disposal utensil.

(action by Canteen Hygiene Action Team)

- (iii) Mr. Benny Tam reported that the analysis report of the water sampling shows the grease

content of CUHK's effluent (40ppm) exceeds the EPD's requirement (30ppm). He explained the grease trap is currently maintained by the EMO monthly and the non-compliance is due to some canteen operators discharge the food sludge and oil residue into the drain during dish washing. Mr. Louis Heung stressed that the polluters should pay for the pollution and the University should not subsidize the canteen for their environmental cost of operation. Mr. Benny Tam will inform the canteen operator to properly dispose the oil residue and food sludge. Otherwise, EMO will charge the canteen operators for the grease trap maintenance fee.

(action by Canteen Hygiene Action Team and Estates Management Office)

(c) *Air Pollution Action Team*

- (i) The Chairman reported that Professor Jimmy Yu has resigned from the Action Team as he is very busy in the research supported by the Industrial Fund. The USCE committee members agreed to invite Prof. K.C. Lam for replacement. Mr. Jack Yung will temporarily take up the works and draft the Smoke Free Policy for AAC discussion.
- (ii) Mr. Jack Yung will prepare the notice to remind switch-off the engine when the vehicle is idle. But he will discuss with the responsible parties for choosing the appropriate location. The Chairman noted that there are currently many Science Park contractors' vehicles waiting at the rail station in the morning and some heavy vehicles pass through the CUHK campus. Mr. Samuel Wong announced there will be a new arrangement that no vehicles from Science Park will get into the campus in April 2002. Mr. Vincent Chen explained that there is already an access road at Ma Liu Shui so that it is not necessary for the Science Park contractors' vehicles passing through the campus. Mr. Samuel Wong will follow up the case after the meeting.

(action by Air Pollution Action Team)

4. Waste Collection & Recycling Scheme

- (i) Mr. John Ho reported the response of Recycling Bin Design Competition organized by Shaw College is not so good. Therefore, the deadline will be extended. Mr. Benny Tam reported that EMO has ordered a new set of recycle bin with different compartments to facilitate waste separation and reduction in campus. Mr. Ho Yuet Hang suggested these recycle bins can also be adopted in the student hostel. The USCE members all agreed the suggestion.

(action by Estates Management Office)

- (ii) Mr. Jack Yung reported that there were 9 CPUs, 9 monitors, 12 printers and 1 scanner collected in the Computer Collection Programme. All these items were already collected by Green Power. Mr. Jack Yung thanked EMO, SAO, CDO and the Environmental Committee of all colleges for their assistance in the programme.
- (iii) Mr. Jack Yung reported that some departments have received and stored many old envelopes without usage. The Chairman suggested a programme can be run by EMO and USEO to invite volunteers to sort the reusable envelope and distribute these to other departments in need for use and useless envelop will be collected for recycling.

(action by Estates Management Office and University Safety & Environmental Office)

5. Environmental Week 2002

The Chairman reported the first meeting of Environmental Week Organising Committee was held. The date of Environmental Week 2002 was confirmed to be held from 12 to 20 March and Vice-Chancellor will attend the Ceremonies. Mr. Jack Yung introduced the guests and activities to the members.

6. Appointment of Departmental Co-ordinator of Safety & Environmental Issues

Mr. Louis Heung worried that the proposed co-ordinator may be exhausted by workload of his daily work, safety duties and environmental duties. The Chairman suggested the main environmental duties of the co-ordinator will be waste reduction and electricity consumption minimization. Mr. Jonathan Amies will bring the proposal to Safety Committee for discussion.

(action by University Safety & Environmental Office)

7. Any Other Business

There is no AOB.

8. Date of the Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> May 2002.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.