

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

UNIVERSITY STEERING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT

**Minutes of the 6th Meeting of the University Steering Committee on Environment  
(USCE) held on Tuesday, May 7, 2002 at 2:30 p.m. in Room 622, Mong Man Wai  
Building.**

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Present :            Professor Chan King-ming (Chairman)  
                         Professor Ho Wing-shing John  
                         Professor Wong Po-keung  
                         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)  
                         Mr. Leung Cheuk Yee (Student Representative)  
                         Ms. Amanda Chan (by invitation)

Apologies:        Professor Lim Wan-fung Bernard  
                         Mrs. Clara Lee, Director of Student Affairs

In Attendance:    Mr. Jack Yung (Secretary)

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1. Minutes

USCE confirmed the minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 15 January, 2002.

2. Matters Arising

(a) *Annual Environmental Report*

Mr. Jack Yung reported that 1,000 copies of Environmental Report 2001 were published and distributed in February. The cost of report printing was little bit over the planned budget (\$70,000). However, Mr. Jonathan agreed USEO will make up the difference. During the Environmental Week, extra 500 copies were reprinted for the guests and the secondary schools targeted by the IPRO. The cost of these 500 copies was supported by the budget for organising the Environmental Week.

Mr. Louis Heung suggested that both the Chinese and English versions can be edited to avoid the duplication of information and photos so as to reduce the paper usage and printing cost.

Mr. Jack Yung will upload the Environmental Report 2001 to the Environmental Web.

(action by University Safety & Environmental Office)

(b) *College Assembly for Students*

The Chairman suggested the USCE committee members such as Prof. John Ho to arrange some dinner talks featured on special environmental topics for the students in college.

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 oily wastewater with strong odour was discharged from Yuca De lac Restaurant through Chung Chi Campus to Tolo Harbour. However, no action was taken by the EPD to stop the discharge. Mr. Vincent Chen explained that the Yuca De lac discharges to the surface drain as the operator claimed that there is no public sewer nearby. The Chairman suggested to release this environmental issue to the mass media to give pressure to the restaurant and government departments.
- (ii) It was observed that the leakage of the canteen garbage at the refuse collection point (RCP) in Chung Chi College. The Chairman had arranged a meeting with the EMO staff and college representative to discuss the problem. They found that the leakage is due to the staff of Club House pull the rubbish bags along the stair. Mr. Louis Heung requested the canteen operators to clean up the leakage.

Mr. Benny Tam suggested the garbage should be double-bagged to prevent leakage. He also reported a new refuse collection point in Chung Chi College will be built to replace the existing RCP overloaded by the three canteens. However, EMO is still pending for the consent of Chung Chi College Office for the location of the new RCP.

(action by Estates Management Office)

- (iii) It was observed that muddy water was discharged into the surface drain conveyed to the Weiyuan Lake by the slope improvement site behind Hui Yeung Shing Building in Chung Chi College. Mr. Jack Yung had asked the related project person to place some sand bags to filtrate the discharge.

(action by Campus Development Office)

- (iv) It was observed that the contractor of a slope improvement site abandoned the construction material and waste at the backyard of Xuesi Hall in New Asia College. Besides, they placed the generator set and inflammable diesel next to the dangerous LPG storage room. Mr. Jonathan Amies of USEO had informed the related project person to resume the site condition.

(action by Campus Development Office)

(b) *Canteen Hygiene Action Team*

- (i) Miss Amanda Chan reported that the response of the staff and students to the “Less Rice” activities arranged by the Green World in February was good. The volume of canteen waste was significantly reduced.
- (ii) Miss Amanda Chan reported that some canteens do not use the environmental friendly utensil as they claim that the cost is too high. However, the BCF and UC canteen use environmental friendly utensil and charge \$1- for the lunch box and the students are willing to buy without any complaint. Therefore, Miss Amanda Chan urged other canteens to follow the practice.

(action by Canteen Hygiene Action Team)

- (iii) Miss Amanda Chan reported that the canteen garbage problem was much improved since the contracted collectors are employed to collect the wet garbage for each canteen.

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

(c) *Air Pollution Action Team*

- (i) The Chairman will invite Prof. K.C. Lam to replace Prof. Jimmy Yu as the convener of the action team.
- (ii) Mr. Vincent Chen reported that CDO had conducted IAQ studies for 20s buildings within the campus. The result showed that all the samples reached the international standard that means the air quality is very good. Mr. Jonathan Amies reminded the committee members that the IAQ of workplaces will be regulated by the Code of Practice under the amended Factories & Industrial Undertakings Regulations. The Chairman suggested that the IAQ data could be included in the next environmental report.
- (iii) Mr. Sam Wong of the Security Unit reported that a new label system will be implemented in April to control the entry of heavy vehicles from the Science Park construction site to the campus.

(action by Security Unit)

4. Waste Collection & Recycling Scheme

- (i) Mr. Benny Tam reported that the new set of deskside recycle bin with two compartments will facilitate recycling of paper within campus. It is anticipated that 5,000 sets of deskside recycle bin will be used in the coming 5 years.

(action by Estates Management Office)

- (ii) The Chairman received the data from LazerMax and found that the collection rate of printer cartridge was very low. Mr. Jack Yung explained that there are many collectors which directly collect the cartridges from and pay to individual department so that the LazerMax cannot successfully collect large amount of cartridges.

5. Environmental Week 2002

The Chairman thanked for the contribution of each department for organizing the Environmental Week. During the week, different programmes such as Opening Ceremony, Tree-planting Ceremony, Green Campus Exhibition, Flea Market, Debate, Campus Ecotour, Waste Reduction Workshop, Forum Gathering and Photo Contest were arranged. Mr. Jack Yung briefed the content and number of participation of each programme.

The Chairman commented that the topic of Waste Reduction Workshop organized by the Conservancy Association conducted was too broad and general for the staff and students of CUHK. He suggested that the similar workshop can be conducted by the EMO staff responsible for waste management and Professors from Environmental Science Programme to report the waste problems and data to arouse their concern.

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

Mr. Jack Yung reported that the University Safety Committee has no objection with the Safety Co-ordinator taking up the environmental duties at the same time but some departments may wish to make separate appointments. Mr. Louis Heung worried that the proposed co-ordinator may be exhausted by workload of the daily work, safety duties and environmental duties. The Chairman pointed out that the environmental duties will not be too heavy, mainly on waste reduction and electricity consumption minimization. Mr. Benny Tam agreed that the main duties of the co-ordinator is to promote and communicate the environmental issues such as waste reduction and energy management within the workplaces.

The Chairman suggested a letter of appointment will be prepared with the description of duties and appointment period and endorsed by the Vice-Chancellor.

(action by University Safety & Environmental Office)

7. Slope Improvement

Mr. Vincent Chen reported that there are slope improvement work in Chung Chi College, New Asia College, United College, New Engineering Building Site and New Science Building Site. He seconded that trees and appropriate plant species will be replanted after the completion of work.

The Chairman concerned that 200 trees were removed for the construction of New Science Building. Then Mr. Vincent Chen explained that landscape consultant is hired to decide and prepare the tree cutting plan, transplant plan and compensation plan in each project. Mr. Louis Heung suggested USCE would reflect the concern and comment to Campus Development Committee before the project.

Mr. Benny Tam reported that a “Campus Greening Policy” is being drafted and endorsed later. Mr. Vincent Chen also revealed that CDO co-operates with the Kadoorie Farm to study the feasibility to plant the native species in campus.

(action by Campus Development Office & Estates Management Office)

8. Any Other Business

There is no AOB.

9. Date of the Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> October 2002.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.