

Environment and Sustainability special

The path so far

In celebration of World Environment Day on 5 June, this *News&Views* special highlights some

Since January this year, Victoria Hands has been the School's full-time environmental and sustainability manager.

Victoria said: 'Establishing this full-time post is one way the School is demonstrating its commitment to delivering on its Environmental Policy. There are many others. What is important now is for students and staff to maintain the momentum, and to develop our ideas further, so we can really work toward achieving the aims of the Environmental Policy.'

Significant achievements so far include:

- LSE Environmental Policy adopted by Council April 2005
- part-time environmental and sustainability co-ordinator employed September 2005
- first Sustainable LSE Make it Real workshop November 2005
- first LSE Sustainability Audit conducted by students April 2006
- LSE participates in Carbon Trust's Carbon Management project May 2006
- Give and Take Reuse installations as part of Learn for You Week May 2006
- first collaborative Climate Change Conference with Campaign for Climate Change May 2006
- end of term reuse schemes June 2006
- first Living Well course as part of Staff Summer School July-September 2006
- halls of residence and staff sustainability champions recruited October 2006

of the activities taking place at the School to contribute to global sustainability.

- shortlisted at *Times Higher Education Supplement (THES)* awards for end of term reuse scheme November 2006
- full-time environmental and sustainability manager appointed within Estates Department January 2007
- participant in HEFCE's EcoCampus project, bronze award in pipeline January 2007
- HEFCE funding awarded to expand reuse activities in national pilot February 2007
- waste audit of campus for improved recycling facilities, One Bin pilot, March 2007
- LSE Carbon Management Strategy and Implementation Plan April 2007
- Sustainable Landscaping Strategy May 2007
- New Academic Building progressing to schedule and on track for BREEAM Excellent rating.
- for further details and latest updates, see: www.lse.ac.uk/collections/environment



Victoria Hands at the THES awards

London Sustainability Weeks 3-17 June

London is a huge and dynamic city. There's plenty in it to love!

However, London is also a hungry city. Food, fuel, building materials, water and much more pour into London from all over the world.

What we do here has an impact on the whole planet and it's time to make some changes.

Find out how by visiting one of the many events being held all over London during

London Sustainability Weeks

See: <http://lovelondon.london21.org/page/64>



Sustainable landscaping

The Annual Fund has supported a project to write a Sustainable Landscaping Strategy for the LSE campus. Staff are invited to participate in a workshop on 7 June, 12-2pm, S221 (bring your lunch), to get their views on the possible options for sustainably transforming the concrete jungle. This will improve the campus environment, provide more social space and could include rainwater harvesting and sustainable irrigation systems. Roof terraces, living or green roof tops, vertical greenery and planters are all options.

Come to find out more and contribute your ideas at a workshop in early June. For the latest details www.lse.ac.uk/collections/environment



Stationery exchange



L-r: Victoria Hands, Liane Fredericks, Nic Malcolmson and Spyros Panagiotopoulos

MSc programme administrator Kate Brown's winning Bright Ideas suggestion for the development of a virtual stock exchange is now underway in the Economics Department.

Meanwhile, as part of the Change the School market stall event on Adult Learners Day (pictured left), items of unwanted stationery were available for free to raise awareness of their reuse potential. Liane Fredericks, volunteer Sustainability Assistant, said: 'The quality of some of the items was great, yet they would all normally have been sent to landfill. For example, plastic magazine racks cost about £10 each, so reusing also saves money as well as finite resources.'

Some staff donated unwanted files and folders which were like new. I'd encourage everyone to reuse their stationery.'

We are the champions

STUDENT CHAMPIONS

An inconspicuous note on the Accommodation website asked if students applying for a place in halls could help with environmental issues.

It resulted in an overwhelming response. There are now over 60 student sustainability champions living in LSE halls of residence. The first year of the initiative has been a steep learning curve for all involved.

The most successful outcomes for the student champion scheme have been in Rosebery Hall where **Rosa Gil**, front of house manager, established regular meetings with hall champions. She said: 'Since Michaelmas term, the champs have pushed environmental issues to the forefront. They promote recycling through the use of posters and run an end of term reuse scheme donating items to charity. Toner cartridges are recycled too and we are especially proud of the mobile phone recycling scheme, where old mobile phones are donated to women's refuges. The Rosebery garden even boasts a wormery for food scraps.'

'The hall is now lit with energy saving light bulbs and students are encouraged to use heating efficiently – turning radiators off rather than opening the windows. All toilets are fitted with water saving devices. Gas, electricity and water consumption have dropped this year due to the champion's efforts and this means less impact on the environment.'

Sustainability champions **Antonia Strachey** and **George Wetz** live in Rosebery and have a page on the website. Antonia said: 'The

sustainability champions project is very important on a day to day scale in reducing the environmental impact of LSE and

its halls of residence. As successive years of sustainability champions pass through the university and the halls, I hope that the School will become a pioneering institution, well prepared for the future.'

George said: 'If I was to ask people to do one thing to help us, it would be to start simply making yourself aware of the resources you use. Start noticing when you leave a tap on, when you throw cardboard into the landfill bin, when you go to your floor's bathroom and the light has been left on, or when you take the lift up only two floors. If people notice and think about how you could use fewer resources and less energy, then eventually people should begin to stop wasting the things we are so privileged to have.'

See: www.lse.ac.uk/collections/residentialAndCateringServices/rosebery/Roseberyandtheenvironment.htm

Both Bankside and Butlers Wharf halls have also run energy efficiency campaigns again this year, encouraging residents to reduce energy use. Posters with simple ideas on saving energy such as turning the lights off, not leaving equipment on standby, and shutting windows have helped raise awareness.

Jackie Woodley, facilities manager, said: 'Both halls are also committed to waste minimisation and provide recycling facilities in kitchen and communal areas. There is also a permanent TRAIID textiles bank on both sites – the one at Butlers Wharf is the most frequently used in London! At the end of summer term, both halls run reuse schemes making it easy for students to donate unwanted items for reuse.'

'The last year has been a period of great change, with many staff taking



on new roles. The introduction of student sustainability champions in each hall of residence has worked well and for the coming year, we will all be able to work more closely with these champions and the hall committees to increase environmentally responsible behaviour and minimise our impact on the environment.'

STAFF CHAMPIONS

Spyros Panagiotopoulos is sustainability champion in HR (Human Resources). He said: 'I am in charge of stationery ordering so I try to order items made from recycled materials (photocopying paper, pens, scissors etc). I encourage my colleagues to switch off lights in meeting rooms when not in use. I'm often the last to leave the office and take the opportunity to do a quick stroll round all the desks switching off any non-essential electrical equipment (mainly monitors).'

I chat with my colleagues about environmental issues and encourage them to embrace change. I encourage visitors and staff in HR to use the stairs instead of the lift.

I participated in the Living Well course run by the Staff Development Unit and this was really useful for work and for my home life.'



Staff sustainability champions are going from strength to strength, and most departments are represented.

If you are interested please contact **David Scott** on 020 7955 6373 or email: d.scott1@lse.ac.uk



Carbon management strategy

Over the last year the School has developed its Carbon Management Strategy as part of the Carbon Trust's Higher Education Carbon Management programme.

LSE produces CO2 emissions from many of our activities but the greatest element, and the one we prioritised, was our energy consumption. Later we plan to specify the CO2 emissions from our food, transport and waste activities. We produce CO2 both directly (like our electricity consumption in halls and on campus) and indirectly (the flights that students take to attend courses here, for example). We began by prioritising our direct emissions.

Our baseline year (the latest year with complete data) is 2005-06 and the table below identifies our energy consumption by energy type, it also shows how much CO2 this emits and how much money was spent. The total cost is double that of the previous year because of the steep rises in energy prices, which we have all experienced as householders too.

Type of Energy	CO2 Tonnes	CO2 %	Cost	Cost %
Electricity	9,020	66	£1,353,065	66
Gas	4,043	29	£663,529	33
Oil	144	5	£18,580	1
Total	13,207	100	£2,035,174	100

The intention of the Carbon Management Strategy and Implementation Plan is to identify ways of reducing CO2 emissions.

A series of workshops open to LSE staff and students identified hundreds of projects, both technical and social, to minimise energy consumption across the campus and in halls of residence.

Projects were costed and the CO2 savings estimated. In this way projects were prioritised and a first phase of technical energy reduction projects have been funded and will be delivered by the Estates team over the next nine months.

One of the projects identified was the removal of low voltage lighting from Old Building corridors and lift lobbies (1st to 6th floors). Installed about 15 years ago, before energy efficiency was a priority, the corridors were fitted with both low voltage and fluorescent lighting.

Pat Causley, building services manager, said: 'The corridors were over lit. In addition, the transformers required for low voltage lighting also produced heat. The equipment was expensive to run and replace. We decided to remove the low voltage lighting and rely on the fluorescent lighting. The circular fittings were removed and the ceilings made good and redecorated. A second phase of the project will ensure that fluorescent tubes are replaced with energy efficient ones as and when required.'



Back: Pat Causely, Building Services manager, Fayyaz Malik, energy manager
Front: Keith Foot, head of Building Services and Bob Marsh, special projects

Living Well – a course for life

The Living Well course first ran as part of the Staff Summer School from July to September 2006.

A further four week course ran in March 2007 and over 30 staff have now attended the course.

An open access course is now planned for all London University staff, as part of LSE's partnership work across London universities.



The Living Well team in August 2006. L-r: David, Jonathan, Oliver, Suzy, Nic, David and Sam

Positive feedback from Living Well participants include:

'Every time I took part, I left the venue with a smile on my face!'

'What I liked most about the course was the way it made you think about things you can do as an individual.'

'It made me think more about what I do and what is possible.'

'I like the fact that personal development was entwined with environmental issues.'

'I enjoyed looking at the small things which can be changed and how these can help the environment as well as my own well-being.'

'Useful gadgets were provided for home experimenting as well. Great!'

To participate in the next Living Well course, contact Chris Connelley in the Staff Development Unit, email c.connelley@lse.ac.uk

Small changes, big impacts

The Centre for the Study of Global Governance (CsGG) initiated an internship scheme in December 2006. Four interns were recruited to work within the research activities of the CsGG and a fifth was recruited to work to help the Centre implement the LSE Environmental Policy. Andreanne Grimard, sustainability co-ordinator intern in the Centre, said: 'I've enjoyed the experience and been able to contribute my expertise and passion for sustainable development. I've also learned valuable transferable skills which will help me in the job market later on.'

A full review of activities led to the Centre participating in the EcoCampus project. LSE is one of ten members of EcoCampus, a HEFCE funded, three year project to support universities in implementing an Environmental Management System (EMS). Individual departments, centres and divisions can work with Victoria Hands to achieve bronze, silver, gold and platinum awards to demonstrate progress towards a full EMS. The CsGG is on track to obtaining the bronze award, along with the Department of Mathematics and the Academic Registrar's Division.

The Academic Registrar's Division's away day benefited from the input of three keen 'greens' – Pam Rungen, Alison Taylor and Daniel Peel – who ran a Sustainability Quiz. Not only was the subject matter great for raising awareness of environmental issues but minimal resources were used. The quiz was multiple choice and was read out – not printed.

Contestants ran around athletically – sometimes – to line up in front of the correct answer. Each correct answer was rewarded with a paper clip

and the winner was the person who had the longest chain of paperclips at the end. The paperclips were of course collected back up and reused.

Catering Services are 'switching on to being green'. This is the new initiative aimed at all catering staff across the main campus and halls of residence. Signage is being placed next to critical light switches to remind staff to switch off unnecessary lighting.

Staff meetings highlight how each member of the catering team can make a big difference by performing simple, small tasks such as switching off lights and electrical equipment, turning off taps and continuing and expanding the successful recycling activities.

IT Services chose dual core CPU technology when replacing 245 PCs in the Library. This technology is 40 per cent more energy efficient than comparative single core technology while still offering similar levels of performance. A further 300 PCs using this technology will be installed over the summer vacation as part of the replacement cycle. The end of the summer will also see public computer rooms on campus completely free of old CRT monitors which consume more energy than flat panels and contain chemicals hazardous to the environment.

IT Services is looking to make further energy saving measures as it refreshes the public room PC desktop over the summer. For more information about what IT Services are doing for the environment, see: www.lse.ac.uk/itservices/environment.

Greener publications

BY CLAIRE HARRISON, LSE DESIGN UNIT SUSTAINABILITY CHAMPION

Many people are taking steps to make their publications more environmentally friendly. The LSE prospectuses now use 50 per cent recycled paper and no longer has a laminated cover. The LSE Magazine now uses 50 per cent recycled paper and the LSE Annual Accounts use 70-100 per cent recycled paper.

The LSE Design Unit has been working to make sustainable printing cheaper and easier for you. Here are some hints on going green:



PAPER

Use recycled paper. This can be of varying percentages. The percentage of 'post consumer waste' (PCW) shows how much of the paper you recycle has been used to make the new stock.

Alternatively, use chlorine free stock which is FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) accredited – that is, from sustainable sources.

Using virgin paper is no longer necessary. Paper fibres can only be recycled a maximum of six times before they become too short so virgin fibre is often required to replenish the recycled content. It is, therefore, still very important to design your publications to reduce paper usage.

INKS

- Vegetable/soya based inks are kinder to the environment.
- Avoid metallic and fluorescent inks as these are always petroleum based.

FINISHING

- Avoid lamination and spot UV where possible as paper treated in this way cannot be recycled. Ask about water based alternatives.
- Binding: avoid using glue as it is not easy to remove from paper for recycling. Staples are preferable. There is also a staple free stapler which folds paper to attach it together, this is effective for slim publications.

DESIGN

- Consider the size of your publication and how best to use the paper it is printed on. This will also reduce your costs.
- Consider the life of your publication. How will you update it and when? If details change regularly avoid wastage by using weblinks or use inserts.
- Consider paperless alternatives, including your website, PDF documents and e-newsletters.

And remember to promote your green credentials by including the recycle symbol and encouraging your users to reuse and recycle your publication.

