

Campus Sustainability News

Issue 6 - July 2008

Welcome

This CaSPr newsletter marks the beginning of the second phase of the Campus Sustainability Programme (CaSPr) which, with Scottish Funding Council support, will be running until 31 March 2011. This funding is enabling the EAUC to appoint two staff to be based in Scotland who will help the EAUC Scotland Branch to deliver their commitments over the next 3 years. Details of these posts are included below and I encourage you to pass this newsletter on to anyone who might be interested. This is a significant phase for the EAUC and the sector in Scotland and the new appointments will have an important role to play in delivering a programme of support for Scottish universities and colleges. By the beginning of September we hope to have appointed our new staff, finalised our work plan for the next year and developed a prospectus giving details of the support that will be available for colleges and universities and the means of accessing it. The EAUC is the one stop shop for colleges and universities on sustainability and environmental issues across the UK; if you are not a member I encourage you to join by going to www.eauc.org.uk

Roddy Yarr, Convenor EAUC-Scotland, Energy and Environment Officer, University of St Andrews.

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Invitation for applications for EAUC-Scotland Manager

The EAUC is pleased to announce a substantial funding commitment from the Scottish Further and Higher Education Funding Council (SFC) to support the continuation and development of the EAUC Campus Sustainability Programme (CaSPr). The SFC have committed £410K, spread over the next three years up to 2011, to enable Scotland's universities and colleges, governing bodies, staff and students to meet their corporate sustainability responsibilities through the support made available through EAUC CaSPr.

The EAUC are now advertising the position of EAUC-Scotland Manager who will be responsible for the management of the next 3 years of CaSPr across Scotland. Following the appointment of the EAUC-Scotland Manager a second position of Programme Manager will be advertised.

For an application form go to www.eauc.org.uk/jobs

The closing date for applications is Sunday 17 August 2008

31 July 2008 deadline for Scottish Colleges £1.2million energy savings loans

Following on from the launch of the £1.2million energy savings loans by Salix Finance at the EAUC CaSPr Conference on 6 May 2008, Scottish Colleges still have time to submit an application.

Salix held a workshop at the University of Stirling on 17 June with eleven colleges attending. At the workshop, colleges were invited to submit bids for energy saving capital projects. This funding given is to be recycled and will be in the form of interest-free project loans to be repaid to Salix over four years in six monthly instalments.

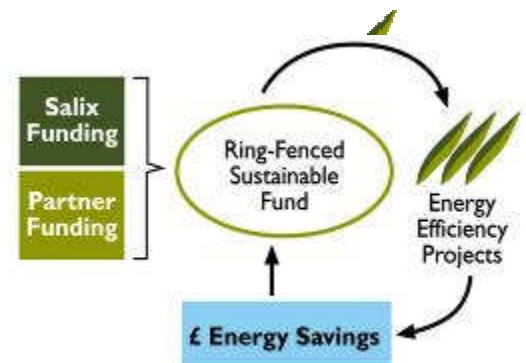
Each project must save carbon emissions and meet three compliance tests:

- Five year or shorter payback
- Be additional to anything that has been planned or is mandatory
- Have a lifetime cost of CO2 of less than £200/tonne.

The programme is continuing to accept applications and details on how to apply, including a copy of the workshop presentation, can be found on the Salix website www.salixfinance.co.uk

Salix have also received funding from the Scottish Government to provide the matched funding for current University clients in Scotland and this funding is now being allocated.

The closing date for applications from Colleges remains the **31 July**.



CaSPr plans 2008-2011

Following the appointment of the EAUC-Scotland positions the next phase of support to the sector in Scotland will begin. In the meantime the EAUC are developing a:

1. **CaSPr Review** which will promote the achievements of the first phase of EAUC CaSPr to individuals, institutions and other organisations, particularly those that have not so far engaged in EAUC CaSPr;
2. **Work Plan** for the period 1 August 08 to 31 July 09 which will be finalised by the EAUC-Scotland Manager once in post; and a
3. **Prospectus** that will map out the EAUC CaSPr plans, delivery vehicles and activities of the first year to all the stakeholders providing a clear picture of the support and events.

Aim of CaSPr 2008-2011

'To enable Scotland's Universities and Colleges, governing bodies, staff and students to meet their sustainability & corporate social responsibility obligations'

Proposed EAUC Scotland CaSPr Objectives for 2008-2011

Enhance sustainability performance of Scottish institutions and provide staff with training, development activities and resources to deliver major changes

Promote Climate Commitment for Scotland's Universities and Colleges as a contribution towards 2050 target

Broaden student experience of the sustainability agenda in their institution

Report on progress on sustainability, environmental and CSR agenda

Climate Commitment Consultation

Scotland's Principals' Climate Commitment is being taken forward as part of the Campus Sustainability Programme (CaSPr), and is led by an Advisory Board¹ on behalf of the Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC). Working to agreed terms of reference, a draft text for the Commitment, for consideration by universities and colleges, has been developed. The Board made a presentation to EAUC-Scotland's Conference in May and delivered a conference workshop. It is now intended that a consultation takes place with the representative bodies for the sector, along with the National Union of Students in Scotland, and the Scottish Trades Union Congress. This consultation is taking place from late-June to mid-September, with the support of Universities Scotland and the Association of Scotland's Colleges.

Later in the year, support for the Commitment will be sought from Scottish Ministers. And, of vital importance, the Board will aim to secure signature of the Commitment by the maximum number of Scotland's universities and colleges. At the same time a plan will be considered for delivering and supporting the Commitment, linked to EAUC CaSPr.

The Commitment process builds on similar work elsewhere, for example in the United States and Canada, and in other sectors, particularly Scottish local government. Principals will be encouraged to sign the Commitment which challenges them to take action on seven linked areas of work.

These include support for the:

- National Climate Change programmes; and the
- Preparation of a five-year climate action plan with targets and timescales, including action on:
 - energy sources and consumption,
 - waste reduction, recycling and responsible disposal,
 - sustainable estate development,
 - commuting and business travel,
 - responsible procurement of goods and services and
 - modules and courses for students.

The Commitment also addresses matters of adaptation, proposing that institutions assess the risks from predicted climate change scenarios and allocate time and resources for greenhouse gas mitigation and climate change adaptation measures.

While the Commitment process is voluntary, it is hoped that the sector will lend its full support to this. Partnership and collaborative working is seen as a key aspect of the Commitment. It is recognised that institutions vary in size, with a consequent range of skills, resources and experience. The hope is that sharing and mentoring opportunities will arise, where one institution may be able to assist others. Similarly there is scope to work in partnership with the Scottish Government, other public and private organisations, to share good practice and pool resources.

Roddy Yarr summed up the Commitment:

“In developing the Commitment, we are posing a challenge to the sector and all its members. We feel, however, that nothing less will do if we are to overcome the climate challenge.”

You can obtain further information about Scotland's Principals' Climate Commitment from David Somervell, Voluntary Secretary, EAUC-Scotland, (email davidso@miscorp.ed.ac.uk) or project consultants Alan Speedie Associates at 01786-472886 (email alan.speedie@hotmail.co.uk)

¹ The Advisory Board is chaired by Dave Gorman, Head of Environmental Strategy at the Scottish Environment Protection Agency. It includes a college and a university Principal along with representatives of Universities Scotland; the SFC; the Scottish Government (both Education and Climate Change); the NUS in Scotland; the STUC; and other advisory bodies with a responsibility for promoting action on climate change in Scotland – the Carbon Trust, the Energy Saving Trust, and the Scotland and Northern Ireland Forum for Environmental Research (SNIFFER)/Scottish Climate Change Impacts Partnership (SCCIP). Alan Speedie Associates Limited provides consultancy support for the project.

Highlights from the EAUC Campus Sustainability Conference

The second EAUC CaSPr conference held at Queen Margaret University provided an opportunity for delegates to share the achievements of the Campus Sustainability Programme, and to help identify how they should take forward their corporate responsibilities for sustainability.

Following the welcome by Vice Principal Rosalyn Marshall of Queen Margaret University, Dr Bill Harvey Depute Director Learning and Teaching, SFC delivered the keynote speech, followed by Dave Gorman, Head of Strategy, SEPA.

Delegates identified a number of challenges that institutions faced, which included:

- Embedding climate change mitigation within core institutional activities and within budget;
- Understanding and acting on the many sustainability-related initiatives that applied to the sector;
- Identifying and managing risks and ensuring compliance with environmental legislation;
- Ensuring that design teams of new capital projects take account of environmental legislation and the implications of future policy;
- Getting corporate commitment to becoming more sustainable institutions;
- Establishing how institutions and the EAUC can lobby for change most effectively; and
- Learning from other sectors, particularly secondary and primary education.

You can view all the presentations and the final report at:

www.eauc.org.uk/eauc-scotland-campus-sustainability-conference1



Inside Queen Margaret University showing open learning environment



Bill Harvey Depute Director of Learning and Teaching at SFC

EAUC CaSPr Contacts

Much of the information about CaSPr and the resources it has generated is on the EAUC website www.eauc.org.uk/campus_sustainability_programme

Your principal contact point for CaSPr is caspr@eauc.org.uk

If you wish, you can contact Iain Patton, the EAUC contact for CaSPr by emailing ipatton@eauc.org.uk

For more information on the TSNs go to <http://www.eauc.org.uk/workshops>

If you would like to join one of the TSNs please email caspr@eauc.org.uk

The contact details for each of the TSN Coordinators are given below.

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