



Overcoming Barriers to Better Building Performance in Higher Education: Advanced Level Workshop

Over the past 8 years [AHR R&D](#) has led a number of government funded research projects looking to improve the understanding of how design strategies, construction methods, contract types, occupancy patterns and other various factors contribute to the eventual environmental performance of a building. The results suggest that improving occupant satisfaction and indoor environmental quality at reduced energy and maintenance costs has proved challenging despite increasing regulatory pressure.

“£5 billion spent on new buildings each year, these buildings use 2-3x more energy than designed” - 2014 Green Construction Board Report

Building on feedback from the EAUC, numerous building performance evaluations (BPEs) and interviews with HE Environment and Sustainability Managers, AHR's R&D Group will host an advanced level workshop to discuss some of the most common issues encountered on higher education projects with regard to building performance.

With many of the results finalised AHR, along with professional bodies and [Innovate UK](#), is looking to establish how solutions that were successfully deployed on selected projects could be applied to higher education portfolios and ascertain what is required to implement these.

Speakers

The workshop will be facilitated by AHR's Director of Sustainable Architecture and Research Dr Judit Kimpian. Judit has led seven Innovate UK research projects in this field, chairs the Architect's Council of Europe's Sustainability Group and is a member of the RIBA Sustainable Futures and CIBSE Energy Performance Groups.

Also attending will be AHR's Higher Education sector head Gary Overton, UCL's Esfand Burman and CIBSE's Head of Research, Anastasia Mylona.

Findings from the workshop are expected to inform the development of templates relevant to bid questionnaires, consultant scopes of work and contractors prelims. The draft workshop outputs will be circulated to the attendees for comment with the intention for the final results to be presented in a follow-up webinar with the EAUC later in the year as well as at other national and EU forums.

Outcomes

The aims of the workshop are as follows:

- Understand real barriers of improving building performance
- Share ideas and thoughts on the causes of these and possible solutions

- Map the actions, data and information required at different project stages to realise these
- Identify case studies that illustrate lessons learned and best practice

The workshop will offer insights into feedback from building performance evaluations and how lessons learned could be applied to the briefing and procurement of HE projects.

Participants will explore how a focus on operational performance can align capital and operational KPIs.

The intended outcome of the workshop is an agreement on project team deliverables to achieve a more resilient architecture with measurable gains in occupant satisfaction, well-being and health, while reducing operating costs.

Case Study

The award winning Keynsham Civic Centre and One Stop Shop by Bath and NE Somerset Council will serve as the starting point for a discussion on the potential of such an approach in HE estates. This project is one of the first in the UK to include an operational (Display Energy Certificate) rating of A in the project team's KPIs with impressive results. Learn more about the project [here](#). References will also be made to the use of the Passivhaus standard in HE. Read the full case study [here](#).

Booking

The workshop will be limited to a small select group of 15 individuals and we are inviting expressions of interest to attend. You have until Friday 5th March to express your interest and can do so by completing the form [here](#).

We will be in contact week commencing 7th March 2016 to advise if you have secured a place for this workshop and we will provide you with information then to enable you to secure your place and pay your registration fee.

The attendance fee will be £40 for EAUC members and £100 for non-members. This fee includes refreshments and lunch and you will need to notify us at the time of booking if you have any special dietary requirements.

Location: The School of Eastern European and Slavonic Studies (UCL), 16 Taviton Street, London, WC1H 0BW (Room (16) 432)