

Goldsmiths

Best Newcomer

Catching the carbon culprits: Energy, lights, heat

Section 1 About the project

Summary

Catching the Carbon Culprits involved identifying across campus where energy was being wasted. Improvements involved insulating pipeworks, replacing old equipment and ensuring new technology worked with existing technology. It also involved raising awareness with staff and students of our carbon management plan.

Project Partners

Cofley GDF SUEZ and Salix.

Section 2 The results

The problem

Goldsmiths energy costs were excessive. Energy was being wasted through the use of old, inefficient boilers and through uninsulated pipework. Lights were being left on unnecessarily and contained old incandescent bulbs. Staff and students seemed ambivalent as to what the energy manager was trying to achieve and so were less inclined to engage with initiatives being implemented.

The approach

To identify the biggest "culprits" of energy waste and therefore unnecessary carbon creation.

Replace old inefficient plant equipment with new energy efficient technology, purchase new technology to work with existing technology.

Create a greater level of awareness of our Carbon Management Plan.

In addition raise the profile of sustainability at Goldsmiths and reduce running costs.

Our goals

To further reduce carbon emissions by 30%

To have 95% of our heating energy generated by sustainable technologies (District Heating and Biomass) and 5% electricity generation (Solar PV)

To reach and/or exceed our carbon targets.



Goldsmiths
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Profile

- Renowned Art and Design College
- 8,770 students
- 877 staff
- Located in outskirts of London City Centre.

Finalist's case study

Obstacles and solutions

Obstacles

Solutions

Old, inefficient plant equipment.	Purchase of new efficient plant equipment.
Non- engagement of staff and students of energy saving projects.	Raise level of awareness of works being carried out and of staff and students role in them.
Limited funds to invest in essential new technology and kit.	Salix financing and calculation of money wasted V's savings before and after investment of new technology.
Heat escaping.	Insulation of pipework etc.

Performance and Results

Goldsmiths have saved in the region of £100,000 - £150,000 (or reduced running costs by 5-15 %) since implementing green initiatives in 2009. We have also reduced our CO₂ emissions by 1,200 t/yr, every year with overall energy efficiency increasing by 25%. We are on track to save in the region of £321,000 each year as a result of the RE:FIT project.

The return on investment of new technologies and equipment is between 2 and 15 years.

Section 3 The future

1. Installation of additional greener technologies (District heating connection to the waste-to-energy facility) as sources of heat and energy.
2. To ensure that staff and students are fully engaged with sustainable projects.
3. Continue saving and investing new technology thereby reducing our carbon footprint.
4. To run new, cleverly themed projects each year that addresses our most pressing environmental concerns

Sharing our project:

Greening Goldsmiths regularly updates staff and students on the College's carbon reduction plans (and the works involved) via the staff newsletter and the Students Union *Leopard* Newspaper. Greening Goldsmiths also use the College's homepage as well as the Greening Goldsmiths webpages, and related social media tools (Facebook and Twitter). For more intrusive works, e-mails are sent to both groups to make them aware of what works are being carried out and why.

Outside of Goldsmith's we have shared our results with the DECC who have recognized it as a project of exemplar and with the RE:FIT Program.

Effect: Because we notified staff and students in advance, this allowed them to plan ahead, made them feel included so accepted that small inconveniences were part of the course for a better campus. This ultimately resulted in fewer complaints and greater participation from everyone.

Outside of Goldsmiths it raised our profile and the College was recognized as being energy efficient.

What has it meant to your institution to be a Green Gown Award finalist?

Being a finalist has given us the boost we needed to keep going and the incentive to apply for more awards and recognition.



AWARDING SUSTAINABILITY EXCELLENCE FOR 10 YEARS

Finalist's case study



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