

Student Switch-Off Project

This Union notes:

1. A significant proportion of UEA's carbon emissions come from residences owned by the university.
2. Energy efficient behaviours adopted by students while living in halls will have a beneficial effect when they move into private accommodation.

This Union believes:

1. The university should attempt to reduce carbon emissions especially as UEA is internationally renowned for its climate change research.
2. Energy is a valuable resource and the university should endeavour to use it carefully and set an example.
3. A large amount of energy is wasted in halls of residence.
4. There are substantial financial savings to be made by reducing energy usage e.g. circa £19000 was saved as a result of the Student Switch Off in the academic year 2006/07.
5. The Student Switch Off enhances the student experience by engendering community spirit and the initiative is inclusive of all residents of Halls
6. UEA students participated last year and many supported the initiative, particularly by becoming active figures - 'Eco-Power Rangers'
7. In the absence of financial incentives to use energy carefully, prize incentives may be useful for encouraging energy-efficient behaviours
8. The responsibility of providing incentives – financial or otherwise – does not lie with the Union of UEA Students
9. The project does not require a significant time commitment for the Union's Environment Officer.

This Union resolves:

1. To assist in the co-ordination of University energy-saving schemes such as the Student Switch Off.
2. To raise awareness of such energy-saving initiatives to students at events including Freshers fairs, Socmarts, Green days and via Facebook and e-mail.
3. To liaise with the UEA resident Eco-Power Rangers about progress, sharing stories, offering advice and keeping up morale (again using tools such as Facebook and e-mail).
4. To offer a point of contact from which prizes can be collected.
5. To facilitate links between the coordinator of the energy-saving initiative and the student newspaper and publicity officer throughout the year in order to raise awareness of the initiative amongst new students.

6. To publish resident league tables at the start of the year in order to establish that this is an annual initiative.
7. To investigate whether Mary Chapman Court could be included in this scheme.