

# GO GREEN CAMPAIGN

Passed 29/01/2009

Proposer: Leejiah Dorward, PhotoSoc  
Seconder: Anna Thomlinson, Amnesty

## Union Notes

1. That the government has recently committed to cutting UK carbon emissions by 42% by 2020 and 80% by 2050.
2. That despite its high flying environmental science department and various influential associated environmental organisations UEA recently came 64<sup>th</sup> in the People and Planet Green League.
3. That UEA currently has no dedicated full time environmental manager or a targeted strategy for reducing its carbon emissions in line with government targets.
4. That in other universities strong and co-ordinated student action has led to significant change in the universities attitude in tackling environmental issues.

## Union Believes

1. That climate change is an issue that will affect our generation far more than that of previous generations and is too important to be ignored or sidelined, and so we should do all in our power to tackle its causes and effects.
2. That with support from its managerial staff UEA has the potential to be a leading institution in environmental good practice.

## Union Resolves

1. To formally support the Go Green campaign, with the following aims and objectives:

### Aim:

For UEA to become a model environmentally sustainable, low-carbon institution.

### Objective:

1. To create and implement a carbon reduction strategy within 3 years to cut UEA's total<sup>1</sup> carbon emissions by levels significantly ahead of government targets (currently at least 42% by 2020 and 80% by 2050 compared to 1990 levels).
2. To carry out a comprehensive environmental audit by the end of 2009, to establish significant time-bound targets for the reduction of specific environmental impacts.

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<sup>1</sup> 'total carbon emissions' indicating both direct emissions (e.g. from gas heating) as well as indirect emissions (e.g. staff travel, student transport, and purchasing)

3.To employ by September 2009 at least one dedicated full-time member of staff to be responsible for coordinating the reduction of the university's environmental impact.

2. To mandate the Executive Committee to supply an appropriate level of funding and other resources to the campaign, and to raise these aims as appropriate on University Committees.

Noted:	Chair ruled that Item 833 would be moved down the agenda to allow time for an amendment to be transferred to the Wiki.
<b>835</b>	<u>RESOLUTION ON THE GO GREEN CAMPAIGN</u>
Received:	A Resolution from L Dorward and A Thomlinson (copy placed in minute book).
Noted:	That the proposers of the resolution accepted amendments to the resolution prior to the meeting. These were in Union Notes: to add "That the University has an energy bill of over £1 million," to add "reductions in CO2 emissions relates heavily to reduction in use of energy". In Union Believes to add "that money spent on energy would be much better spent on improving the student experience" and "that many students feel so passionately about the environment that their student experience suffers as a result.
Noted:	L Dorward, proposing the resolution, noted that the University talked a lot about environmental policy but in actually doing things was way behind other universities, ranking 64 <sup>th</sup> in one league table. UEA had no environmental manager, energy audit or integrated system for targeting CO2 emissions. The University is doing some good things but needs to be prodded into action by a lobbying campaign. The resolution was asking for a little funding for publicity and the formal support of Council. A questioner from the floor asked that the Executive in furtherance of Union Resolves 2 make use of all the petitions gathered for the older campaign.
Resolved:	To adopt the resolution, with 3 abstentions and no votes against.