

*Environmental Citizenship*  
*Trans-disciplinary Conversations on*  
*Transitions to Sustainability*

*UCC 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> September 2013*

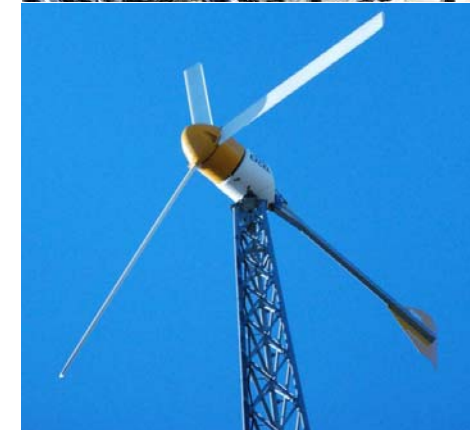
**Feedback towards Research**

# **The Practitioners' Perspective from Work on the Ground**

**Topics arising from UCC's Green Campus Strategy**

**Mark Poland**  
Director

**Stephan Koch**



**Buildings and Estates**  
**UCC Green Campus**



**University College Cork**  
World's First Green Campus



**UCC**

Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh, Éire  
University College Cork, Ireland

UCC – The world's first University  
being awarded the  
**Green Campus Flag** (2010)

By FEE / An Taisce

First status renewal  
achieved in April 2013



Mark Poland / Stephan Koch  
UCC Buildings and Estates

Fields covered:

**Energy, Waste, Food,**  
**Water, Travel,**  
**Biodiversity**

UCC's approach is

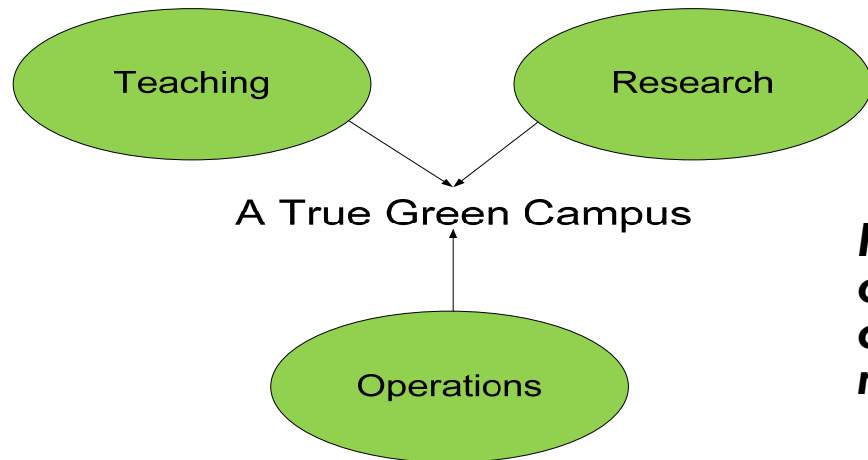
- ✓ Student led
- ✓ Research informed
- ✓ Practice oriented

## **Green Campus Committee / Green Campus Forum**

- Faculty Staff (Teaching / Research)
- UCC Management (mostly Buildings and Estates) and
- Students (UCCSU, EnviroSoc, others...)



## ***What Does A Green Campus mean to UCC?***



***For being a truly **Green University** all three of the above functions feed into each other creating a synergy of sustainable activity running through the campus.***

## **Some Projects, Programmes and Achievements**

- Reductions in Electricity, Gas and Water Consumption
- “Switch it OFF” campaign, Energy update emails
- Reduced Waste through much higher Recycling Rate
- Less Car Use, doubling of Cycling share among UCC Staff
- Car Pooling, Car Sharing (GoCar), Tax Saver PT Passes, CampusBike, “Cycle-to-Work”, UCC Park+Ride...
- Polytunnels Community Garden
- Carbon Footprint Study (incl. commuting), ISO 50001 awarded
- UCC 3<sup>rd</sup> in Universities World Green Metrics, Green Award, ...

*Some programmes work well, others could do better.*

***WHY and HOW?***



## Potential topics for Research projects, student projects, etc ...

### Car Sharing, Lift Sharing, Bike Sharing:

Sharing of Mobility services saves money, land use and emissions  
... but include a degree of coordination and dependency

*What are success factors, limitations of acceptance?*

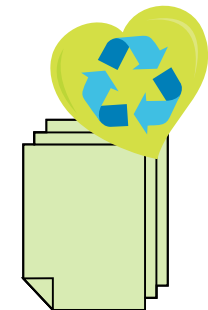
*Are there psychological barriers for Sharing instead of Owning (e.g. a car)?*



### Recycling / Paper consumption

Use of recycled printing paper seems to be rare, notebooks of recycled paper aren't offered in Campus shops.

*What are limiting factors for the use of recycling paper? Where is paper being recycled in Ireland? Would procurement of recycling paper result in longer transport (more emissions)?*



## Potential topics for Research projects, student projects, etc ...

### Energy Supply

“Seems it always rains in southern ...” – really? Potential of solar panel (PV) or wind power generation on Campus and in Homes

*What's the actual potential, can it replace fossil power plants?  
Can e-Car batteries serve as de-centralised storage buffers?*



### Energy Consumption

Landlords are required to provide BER rating for their student houses if listed in UCC.  
*Did it affect students' rental choices? Are houses being retrofitted as a result?*



### Use of Grey Water / Rain Water Harvesting

*What would the cost benefit ratio be e.g. for toilet flushing  
(newly built / retrofit)?*



For **UCC Green Campus** to be further

***Research Informed***