



McDonnell International  
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Energy and Environment  
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# Sustainability Reporting at the University of Hong Kong: Concept and Practice

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Vice-Chancellor



Mount Gough

Xiang

High West

Sha Wan

Stanley Ho Sports Field

Sassoon Road Campus

Pokfulam Road

Main Campus

JC Student Village II

Flora Ho sports Centre

JC Student Village I

Shan Teng

Dentistry

# The University of Hong Kong

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# The Challenge of Sustainability

- Education central in processes of sustainable development
- Active contributions to the design, dissemination and implementation of sustainability agenda
- Sustainability principles should be reflected in our strategic planning and day-to-day operations, through:
  - Curriculum and scholarly activities
  - Institutional mission, structure and operations
  - Staff development
  - Outreach and services
  - Student opportunities
- Significant action in areas such as:
  - Social responsibility and cultural inclusivity
  - Development of partnerships
  - Sustainable institutional operations
  - Effective monitoring and reporting



# Sustainability Goals and Policy

- Sustainable development is a part of HKU's Vision and Mission

- *Sustainability Goals*

To promote the development of a sustainable campus and through our teaching, research and engagement with relevant stakeholders to promote sustainable development, locally and internationally. In pursuit of these goals, The University of Hong Kong is committed to developing and managing its activities in a manner that, in so far as possible, protects the environment, reduces its ecological footprint and supports the transition to sustainable development.



# Comprehensive Sustainability Policy

## Examples:

- Minimizing avoidable waste and pollution in all its forms
- Reducing the use of non-renewable energy sources through energy conservation measures and through the increased use of renewable energy sources
- Basing the development, design and construction of buildings and the surrounding landscape on sound environmentally conscious principles
- Selecting and using substances, articles and processes which cause least damage to the environment
- Expanding and further developing waste management and recycling systems and using, wherever possible, only goods and services from sustainable and recycled sources



The HKU Campus occupies a small site in Hong Kong's densely developed high-rise environment





The Old Halls - Conserved as part of our commitment to heritage conservation



The Kadoorie  
Biological Sciences  
Building - winner  
of an energy  
efficiency award





# Energy Saving Initiatives

- Energy Saving Working Group (from 2002), a sub-committee of the University's Safety, Health and Environment Committee
- Technical measures:
  - Upgrading of air conditioning plant
  - Energy management systems for individual buildings
  - Energy efficient lighting systems
  - Extensive deployment of motion sensors in offices and labs linked to air con and lighting
  - Centralized access control to classrooms linked with air con and lighting controls - auto switch-off at specified time
  - Energy auditing of individual buildings where high use levels identified and remedial measures (e.g., calibration of fresh air flows into a/c systems)
- Promote energy-saving behaviour
  - Restricted hours of air conditioning availability at weekends and during vacations particularly in July and August
  - Restricted elevator availability, hallway lighting at night and at weekends/holidays
  - Following Government Advisory measure to set air conditioning thermostat at 25.5 C in summer

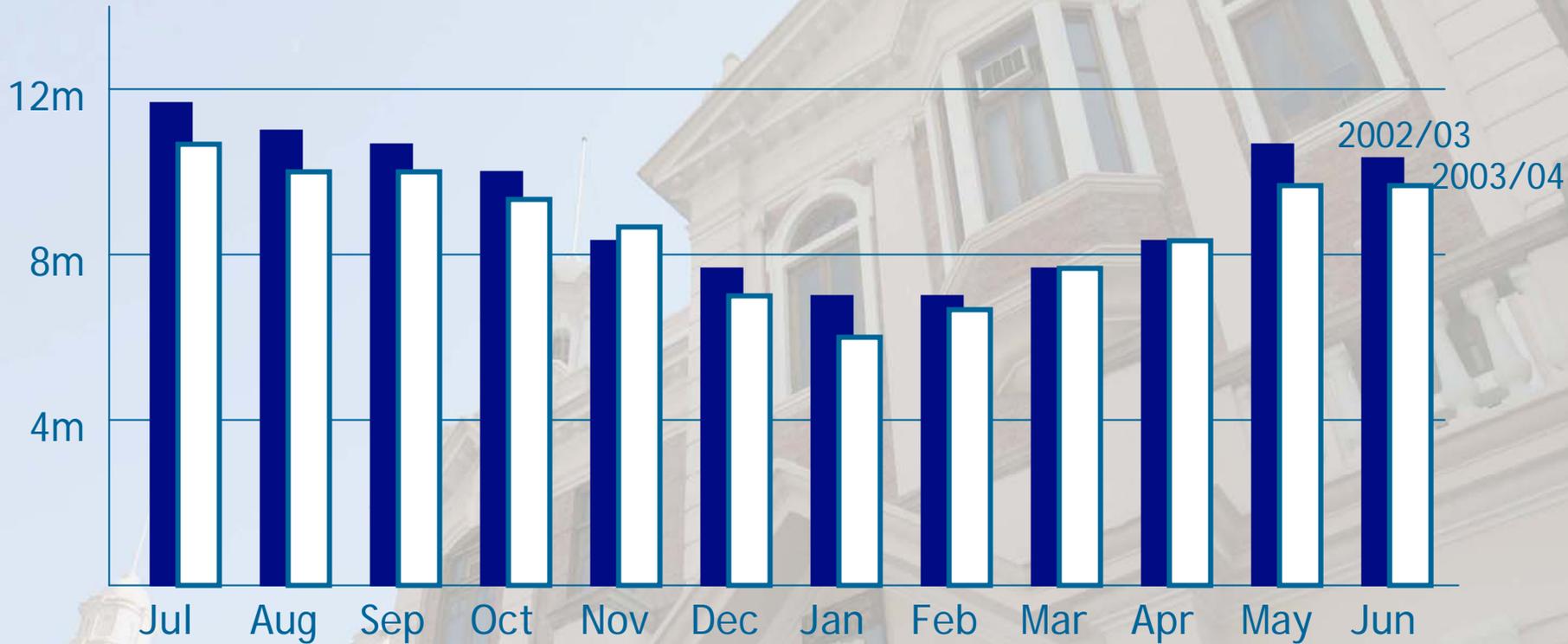


# Electricity consumption at HKU





# Electricity consumption by month



QuickTime™ and a  
TIFF (LZW) decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.

QuickTime™ and a  
TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.

are needed to see this picture.





# Student Activities

- *No Plastic Bag Day*
  - The HKU Students' Union and its subsidiary body Greenwoods are the co-sponsors of the campaign, organized by the Green Student Council
- *Greenwoods*
  - Green Life Education and Organic Lunch*
  - A HKU student society for environmental protection and promoting a harmonious relationship between man and nature
  - Regular activities include eco-tours, publication of newsletters and campaigns to appeal to students not to use one-off food utensils and placed re-cycle boxes in the campus
- *Climate Change Coalition*
  - A new student body to promote students' understanding and awareness of the problem of climate change and organize students to take actions to reduce green house gas emissions
  - Activities include film education, survey on students' attitudes and knowledge and exhibitions to familiarize students with the causes of climate change
- *Inter-Hall Energy Saving Campaign*
- *Recycling in Student Halls*
- *Green Life Education and Organic Lunch*
  - Jointly organized by the Center of Development and Resources for Students and the Office of International Student Exchange

# Environmental & Sustainability Reporting

- Commenced in 2002
- Annual Sustainability Report circulated throughout the University and in the wider community, locally and internationally
- Follow best practice in the field
- Since 2004 we have worked with the reporting framework for public sector bodies promoted through the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)





# Concluding remarks

- We at HKU believe in openness and transparency in reporting on the sustainability implications of all our activities
- We are committed to effective reporting and management of sustainability issues
- In late 2006 we appointed a Sustainability Officer to lead and coordinate these initiatives across the University
- Our new Centennial Campus will highlight the importance of sustainability and energy efficiency issues in campus development and will we hope set an internationally-recognized performance benchmark

Thank You





The University's  
Main Building - a  
key symbol of  
our heritage





# The University of Hong Kong

- Founded in 1911 - comprehensive, 'research-led'
- 10 Faculties: Architecture, Arts, Business & Economics, Dentistry, Education, Engineering, Law, Medicine, Science, and Social Sciences; academic & language centres
- ~9,000 undergraduates; ~4,000 postgraduates (Taught & Research); 1,300 non-local students
- ~1,100 teaching staff; ~3,400 research and support staff
- Annual income HK\$4.5 billion (US\$570m)
- Total land 49.1 hectares - Gross covered floor area 576,319 m<sup>2</sup>
- Main campus adjoins protected country park area - Contains a number of historic/heritage buildings
- HKU School of Professional and Continued Education (SPACE, including Community College)