

Event Report:

Sustainable Design in Education Seminar

Loughborough University, Design and Technology Dept
Friday 16th September 2005

1. Type of Event

Seminar

2. Duration

One day

3. Participants

UK educators in sustainable design, environment, architecture and engineering. Mainly tertiary education with one organisation, "Practical Action" aimed at the secondary school level.

4. Angle of Day

This event was organised by the Loughborough based "Sustainable Design Network" an inter-industry, inter-university, multi-disciplinary research network which will address the issues of Sustainable Design (particularly the methods, tools and techniques to aid its implementation.

The aim was to share and discuss the diverse range of experiences in teaching Sustainable Design across a broad spectrum of design related fields to students ranging in degree from A-level to postgraduate. Thus, the discussions were very pedagogical – discussions of methodologies for teaching sustainable design, sustainability assessments for architecture students, case studies of industry-partnered design projects, techniques for running field trips to assess sustainable urban design.

However, one notable presentation by Emma Dewberry provided a succinct overview of the status of sustainable design education, drawing on the recent report by the UK Design Council, "Scoping Paper"

5. Speeches/Presentations

- Ian Capewell and James Pitt, Practical Action – ["Education for Sustainable Development as a "frame of mind"- lessons from the Sustainable Design Award"](#)
- Lynne Elvins, A420 – ["Practical Techniques for Teaching Sustainable Design to Design Management Students"](#)
- Tom Woolley, Queens University – ["A Practical Example of Sustainability Assessments by Architecture Students"](#)
- Jakki Dehn, Kingston University – ["Material Value within Sustainable Design Education"](#)

- Vicky Lofthouse, Loughborough University – [“Partnering with Industry: Undergraduate Sustainable Design case studies”](#)
- Alina Congreve, UCL – **“The good, the bad and the ugly: The use of field visits in helping students assess the quality of sustainable urban design.”**
- Matthew Simon, Sheffield Hallam University– [“Engineering Design at SHU - development of staff and of case studies”](#)
- Emma Dewberry, Cranfield University – [“Design within and without limits”](#)

6. General observations and conclusions

Although the angle of the seminar was focussed on the pedagogical aspects of sustainable design, it provided an invaluable entrée into this field in the UK (which is one of the leading countries in this area) and was very fruitful in getting contact people for the Symposium as well as information to help with the mapping process.

7. Contacts

- **Lynne Elvins** – independent educator in Sustainable Design, invited to Symposium
- **Emma Dewberry** – Course Director for MSc in Design for Sustainability, invited to Symposium
- **Ben Wren – WWF Education** – provided some information on sustainable design schools in the US.
- **Mark Smith** – provided contacts for mapping exercise in the Netherlands and also for Tim MacAloone, who was invited to the Symposium.