

滙豐銀行慈善基金學生宿舍
THE HONGKONG BANK FOUNDATION BUILDING

HIGHLIGHTS

HKBU Sustainability

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冒季美牧師紀念禮堂
REV. JAMES MAU MEMORIAL CHA



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"MOONKICK"

GREEN MID-AUTUMN FOOD SAVING PLEDGE

As a sustainability leader among local educational institutions, Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU) signed the Green Mid-Autumn Festival Food Saving Pledge, which formed part of the Green Mid-Autumn Campaign organized by Food Grace. Surplus mooncakes were collected on campus for a third year as part of the campaign to reduce food waste.

Surplus mooncakes have become a serious food waste problem in recent years. A study by Green Power showed that as many as 1.6 million mooncakes were disposed of in landfills in 2016, emitting greenhouse gases estimated to be equivalent to 1,102 tonnes of carbon dioxide. It would take a year for 60,000 trees to absorb and convert that amount of carbon dioxide into oxygen. Another survey showed that 45% of mooncakes produced were given as gifts by companies and shops, and on average each family left 1.08 mooncakes uneaten and wasted. Hong Kong residents have been indulging in a lavish and unsustainable festive celebration.



In response to the problem of festive food waste, Food Grace launched the Green Mid-Autumn Campaign in 2016. Surplus mooncakes were collected before the Mid-Autumn Festival and redistributed to people in need. As part of the campaign, organisations were invited to sign the Green Mid-Autumn Festival Food Saving Pledge, under which they agreed to refrain from receiving and giving out mooncakes as gifts. After experiencing great success in its first year, the campaign was continued in 2017.



"Greening from the inside out"

CLEANING STAFF ENRICHMENT SESSION

To achieve sustainability on campus, HKBU has been continuously improving its management and operations while engaging its stakeholders and members of the University community through different events and workshops, including interactive training sessions for its cleaning staff.



In a training session on 11 September 2017, 17 cleaning staff were provided with information and tips on proper recycling practices. Eliminating waste at source was one of the key themes, and reusable containers, cutlery and towels were given out as prizes as an incentive for the cleaning staff to reduce their consumption of disposable items, thereby reducing waste that must be disposed of in landfills.





No Pollution, Drains to Ocean

GRATE ART PROJECT WITH OCEAN RECOVERY ALLIANCE

“Only rain fits this drain!”

Did you know that the drains on the street are meant solely for rainwater drainage and lead directly to the ocean? To raise public awareness of drainage pollution and the need to protect the ocean, HKBU took part in Ocean Recovery Alliance’s public art installation project called “Grate Art” and invited Ms. Ling Lin, an alumna of the Academy of Visual Arts (AVA), to create three attractive designs for ceramic tiles to promote the green message. HKBU was the only participating organisation in the Grate Art project to design its own ceramic tiles for that purpose. About 50 tiles were installed next to the grates around campus to remind the University community about the detrimental consequences of drainage pollution.

These ceramic tiles were produced by “Useless Studio”, a workshop operated by AVA alumni that uses clay left over from the creation of ceramic works. Upcycling the clay waste helps to reduce the consumption of raw materials and reflects the University’s ambition to truly embrace the culture of sustainability.





Thought awakening

PHASING OUT PLASTIC-BOTTLED WATER



With the aim of further reducing plastic waste, HKBU is planning to phase out plastic-bottled water on campus. New water dispensers have been installed to encourage students and staff to abandon plastic-bottled water and to develop the habit of carrying a reusable water bottle with them.



Recycling symbols, which were developed to indicate the predominant plastic material used in the manufacturing and packaging of a product, have been used for 40 years to facilitate recycling of plastics. However, only half of the polyethylene terephthalate (PET) commonly used to make plastic bottles is collected for recycling. In Hong Kong, plastics constitute only 5% of recycled and recovered materials.



A report by the World Economic Forum says there will be more plastic than fish in the ocean in 30 years if no major action is taken to reduce plastic waste.

HKBU has been exploring ways to reduce plastic waste and has implemented various policies to that end. For instance, discounts are given for take-away orders at food outlets if customers bring their own containers. It is expected that by eliminating the use of plastic-bottled water on campus, more than a million plastic bottles can be saved from landfills each year.



Waste No More

FINDING USED ITEMS A NEW HOME



Waste reduction at source is one of the sustainability focuses of HKBU, and the key is to maximise the use of resources. At the end of every semester, when students check out from their residence halls, large quantities of waste are generated. However, most of the items thrown away (hangers, blankets, pillows, kitchen utensils etc.) are still usable. To encourage sustainable behaviour and consumption habits among students, the Student Residence Halls Check-out Materials Collection and Redistribution programme was launched in 2016.

In May 2017, the materials to be discarded were collected during the residence check-out period. Clean items that could be reused were redistributed to residents through a “Free Market” during the residence check-in period in August. The programme was a great success and was reported on by the media.

香港基督大學
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Student Residence Halls Check-out Materials Collection

#Quithall唔做大嘍鬼
#Don't be a Big Waster

Here comes the chance to give a second life to the unwanted items by sharing them with your peers in Autumn Semester!

Date : 8-12 May (Mon - Fri),
24-25 May (Wed- Thur)
Time : 12pm - 4pm
Venue : North Tower Entrance

Materials for collection :

- Beddings and pillows (washed)
- Non-frozen food (Expires at least until Oct 2017)
- Electrical appliances (workable)
- Kitchen utensils (washed)
- Stationery

To know more:
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The Drive For Change

GREEN CAMPUS TOUR ON SCIENCE OPEN DAY

To make a place more sustainable and livable, it requires behavioural change and a paradigm shift, which take generations to happen. Hong Kong has been lagging behind its East Asian neighbours, such as Japan, South Korea and Taiwan, in promoting awareness of sustainability, with only a small number of people willing to practise it in their daily lives. This might be due to the late onset of sustainability education in Hong Kong.

Given that a sustainable future hinges on the younger generation, a Green Campus Tour was provided to primary school students on Science Open Day, 6 July 2017. A total of 280 students were given a taste of what it is like to study on a green campus. They were introduced to various green facilities and waste segregation concepts. We hope the students were able to bring home some tips on a low-carbon lifestyle and spark changes in their family.



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To know more :

About HKBU Sustainable campus



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