

Campus experience

The University continued to ensure that the impact of the CMP on students and staff was minimal. The UTS community was informed of all construction works, particularly throughout periods of peak construction noise. This resulted in a reduction in the number of noise complaints and hazard and incident reports.

Regular reports on the progress of the planning and delivery of the CMP were also given to the University's senior executive and relevant UTS committees throughout the year.

The CMP and other campus enhancements are all designed to create a university that will attract students and staff through state-of-the-art infrastructure and facilities. As well as the physical infrastructure, UTS also worked this year to ensure a safe and attractive campus environment, particularly in light of the construction work being undertaken.

A 24-hour security service was provided through building patrols, night-time bike patrols and a night shuttle bus service for student housing. Security also upgraded the emergency help points located around the campus, with new intercoms, CCTV and easily identifiable signage. The new smart card access system will be implemented in 2014.

The University's retail choices were reviewed this year, with future changes identified to meet student and staff needs.

The University worked to improve space efficiency this year. With the arrival of new buildings and facilities, including teaching and informal learning spaces, it is essential that we manage and utilise our new and existing spaces. A dedicated space manager role was created to manage and review how the University uses its current spaces in order to inform how its future spaces will be used; and a comprehensive space database, which records the functional use and allocation of spaces, allowed us to utilise the University's various spaces. The installation of people counting technology, which will provide live data, is planned for 2014.

Engagement opportunities

The University looked to support its external engagement activities through its new campus facilities. The project management and facilities management offices worked closely with alumni and the external relations and development teams to maximise the University's external engagement activities afforded by the campus development.

A milestone events working group was established to expand external engagement opportunities associated with building milestones and openings. Dr Chau Chak Wing visited the site of the Dr Chau Chak Wing Building in July and hosted a site tour for alumni; and, at the ceremony held in November to celebrate the topping out of the building, Vice-Chancellor Professor Ross Milbourne attended alongside a number of industry partners.

We enhanced our engagement with our precinct neighbours through the formation of media partnerships. The University's CMP is part of a creative and digital precinct, incorporating neighbouring developments Frasers Property Australia's Central Park and the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority's Goods Line (formerly known as the Ultimo Pedestrian Network). Media partnerships were formed this year with these two bodies to promote the work and progress made in the precinct.

UTS worked with the Koori Job Ready program in 2013; a program that provides training, employment and mentoring services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Twenty Indigenous workers have worked on the Broadway Building to date and UTS plans to increase that number as the project nears completion in 2014.

Sustainability

In 2013 UTS Green continued its focus on coordinating sustainability initiatives across the University and promoting sustainable practices and engagement with the UTS community. The Sustainability Steering Committee provided strategic advice, assisting with the integration of sustainability across the four key areas of research, teaching and learning, campus operations and community engagement.

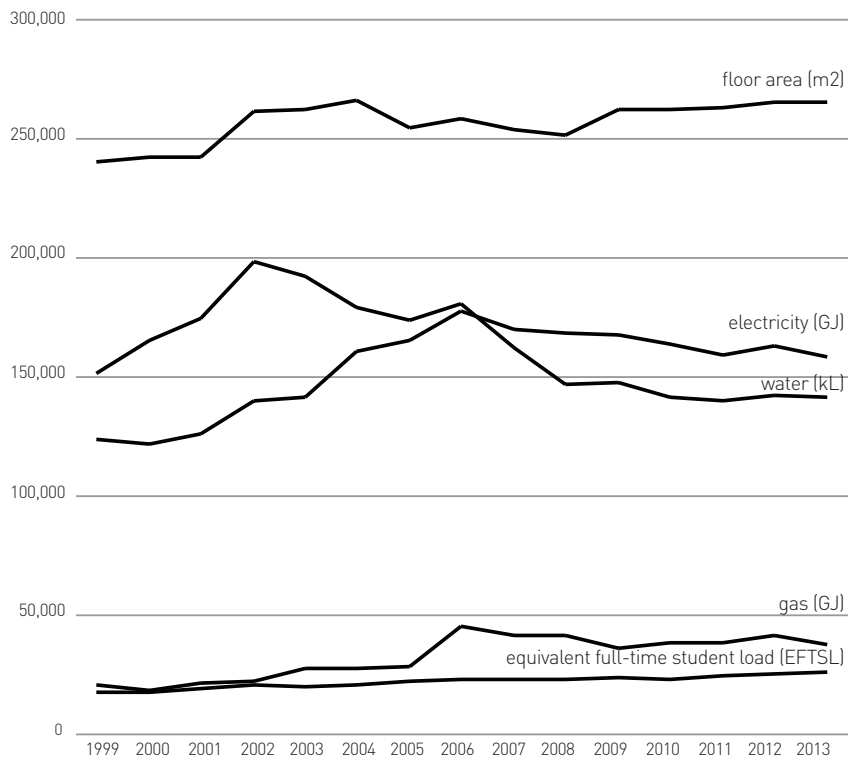
A number of action plans were completed in 2013 to support the implementation of the UTS Sustainability Strategy 2012–2015. These plans set out the University's current activities, recent achievements and committed actions, and included an energy and greenhouse plan, and plans for water management, sustainable transport and waste management.

The integration of sustainability principles into the planning, design and delivery of the CMP is essential to good sustainability performance. UTS Green continued to provide sustainable design and technology advice and input to all project teams of refurbishments, new buildings and campus infrastructure. Our commitment to sustainability was recognised this year with the awarding of a certified 5 Star Green Star rating by the Green Building Council of Australia. The Broadway and Thomas Street buildings also worked towards achieving 5 Star ratings, which represent Australian excellence in sustainable education facilities.

2013 saw the completion of a three-year \$9 million project aimed at improving the energy efficiency of existing buildings and reducing UTS's greenhouse gas emissions by 11 per cent compared to the 2007 baseline. Works included upgrades of lighting, heating, ventilation and airconditioning equipment and associated controls; tuning of building management systems; and building services retro-commissioning.

Around 400 electricity, gas, water and thermal meters were installed in conjunction with a campus energy management system that will enable staff to closely monitor and manage consumption.

Utilities consumption 1999–2013



UTS continued to publicly report its greenhouse gas emissions under the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting scheme. The graph above outlines the University’s energy and water consumption from 1999 to 2013 against changes in floor area and equivalent full-time student load (EFTSL). 2013 saw a decrease in the University’s energy and water consumption despite a minor increase to EFTSL (2.2 per cent). Energy savings were mainly due to the effects of the energy efficiency retrofit project, and a warmer winter that contributed to significantly lower gas consumption.

UTS has achieved ongoing reductions in energy and water use in 2013 compared to the 2007 baseline as follows:

- > 7 per cent reduction in electricity consumption
- > 19.9 per cent reduction in gas consumption
- > 5.3 per cent reduction in water consumption.

The University has made a commitment to achieve a 30 per cent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions based on 2007 levels by 2020–21 and is currently investigating low carbon gas-fired trigeneration technology that will reduce emissions by around two-thirds.

Following a 10-day waste audit in 2013, it was found that 83 per cent of all waste disposed of at UTS is recycled and diverted from landfill (New South Wales Government targets are 67 per cent diversion for residential waste and 76 per cent diversion for commercial waste). Construction material recycling on all CMP sites was monitored this year with most builders achieving 80–95 per cent diversion from landfill. 2013 saw UTS become accredited with the Australian Government’s FluoroCycle scheme, which acknowledges the recycling of fluorescent lights. Several battery recycling cylinders were installed around City and Kuring-gai campuses.

Promoting sustainability in academia, the UTS Business School was responsible for updating the national learning and teaching sustainability website, which lists all of the sustainability-related courses at Australian tertiary institutions, including UTS.

Furthering sustainability research, UTS and the City of Sydney jointly funded a PhD through the University’s Institute for Sustainable Futures aimed at studying the sustainability aspects and performance of the CMP and Central Park.

Sustainable community

2013 saw a deeper level of sustainability engagement within the UTS community. The Green Staff Network was established for staff who have a keen interest in helping drive sustainability and the Flick My Switch campaign to improve energy efficiency was launched.

UTS Green continued to work with groups across campus (such as the UTS Union, UTS Library, Students’ Association and Student Environment Collective) to run or support events throughout the year, including Earth Hour, Fair Trade Fortnight, Threatened Species Day and Ride to UTS Day. Along with the Student Services Unit, UTS Green ran a student competition promoting re-fillable water bottles and stalls were run during staff inductions to promote recycling and waste minimisation.

The University collaborated with precinct neighbours TAFE NSW Ultimo and the Australian Broadcasting Corporation for Green Week 2013. The week incorporated an electric car display, photography exhibition and competition, film screenings, green debate, workshops and guest speakers. Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (Resources) Patrick Woods hosted a World Environment Day morning tea to recognise and celebrate the work of committed individuals helping to position UTS as a leader in sustainability.

The annual UTS Green Hero Awards received an increased number of nominations and went to PhD candidate Vahid Vakiloraya for his groundbreaking research on energy efficient airconditioning. Vahid subsequently went on to win the 2013 Australian Institute of Refrigeration, Airconditioning and Heating Award for his system that uses 52 per cent less energy and produces 60 per cent fewer greenhouse gas emissions than conventional airconditioning.

Other environmental awards in 2013 went to student Natasha Lay who received the individual Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability (ACTS) Green Gown Award of Excellence, and the UTS Business School, whose integration of energy efficiency into the accounting curriculum, received highly commended in both the ACTS Green Gown Learning and Teaching Award, and the New South Wales Government’s Green Globe Award.

To make the UTS community more aware of sustainability news and activities, an improved UTS Green website was launched, including new videos exploring sustainability within each of the University's faculties. Other communications included the UTS Green monthly e-newsletter and regular updates on the UTS Green Facebook page.

The University continued to participate in the City of Sydney's Better Buildings Partnership and to support the Living Future Institute Australia.

2014 will see the opening of three new Green Star buildings, as well as new sustainability initiatives such as digital signage displaying sustainability performance.

Kuring-gai campus

In May it was announced that, as a result of the senior executive working to assess the impact of funding cuts, the UTS Business School student load would be moved from the Kuring-gai campus to the City campus a year earlier than originally planned (ie from the commencement of Autumn semester 2015).

Faculty of Health and Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences staff and students will remain based at Kuring-gai campus until the end of 2015 as previously planned.

Visual identity

The University launched its new public website this year. Now that the main public website is up and running, a mobile version of the site is being devised and implemented. With over 10 per cent of traffic to the UTS website being viewed via mobile devices, the mobile version will give our external audiences and current students better and quicker access to the information relevant to them. The website will automatically be displayed when accessed via a smartphone, displaying appropriately sized navigation, re-formatted content and a mobile-specific user interface.

Work also continued on Staff Connect, the University's new staff intranet, with project, team, committee and local sites being rolled out. Additional features, including an enhanced staff directory and an improved search function, are due to be introduced in 2014.

Finally, a student content migration project was established as the first step towards a UTS current student portal.

The UTS logo underwent a redesign this year, after the existing logo had been in use for well over a decade. The University began its transition to the new-look logo during the year, with complete roll out due in 2014.