



Green IT News for Universities and Colleges

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Data Centre Energy Monitoring

Better monitoring of data centre energy consumption can create environmental, financial and computing benefits. That was the message of our recent workshop on the topic, which featured [presentations](#) on the University of Leicester's new HPC facility, the University of London Computing Centre (which pays its own energy bills - see our [RECSO/SusteIT case](#)) and a Carbon Trust backed software provider, Concurrent.

Best Practice E-Learning

[Slides, summaries](#) and [recordings](#) of the [presentations](#), plus [video interviews](#) with presenters and participants at the Open University/SusteIT workshop on Best Practice E-Learning are now available. The event brainstormed criteria that could cover pedagogic effectiveness, effective use of resources and environmental and social

JISC and Other Green IT Events

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[Cloud and Shared Service Solutions - Creating a Level Playing Field for Business and Environmental Optimisation](#), London, 12/12/11 (see below)

[JISC RSC National Green Conference: Practical Advice for Greening Your Organisation](#), online conference, 5/12/11

[Government ICT](#), London 31/1/12 - insights into Government's evolving ICT strategy

Cloud and Shared Services

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A free London workshop on December 12th has presentations from Janet and its Dutch equivalent, Surfnet, and from three JISC projects on different aspects of cloud and shared IT services in universities and colleges. This topic was highlighted in the recent UUK-led Diamond Report on university modernisation (which specifically mentioned the University of Plymouth led study which is the focus of one of the workshop presentations) and is also a central feature of the Government's IT strategy (see below). The workshop will provide IT and strategic decision-makers (e.g. in Estates, Finance and Procurement) with insights into the outsourcing choices that are currently available, or are likely to be, over the next 5 years; their actual or potential advantages and disadvantages (both business and environmental); and key factors that are likely to influence decisions to adopt them. It has been organised - in collaboration with the Institute of Chartered Accountants - by two JISC funded projects: Responsible Energy Costs (RECSO), led by Forum for the Future, and Green IT for Science, led by the University of Bradford. Both are associated with SusteIT.

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Virtual Meetings and Conferencing

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Our JISC funded project on this topic has already produced many briefing papers and case studies (see below) on the topic - with more on the way - and will publish its final report, and the detailed results of the 11 surveys it has conducted amongst universities, sector travel managers and JANET Videoconferencing users by Feb 2012. We are now planning a workshop to discuss the report findings, and highlight other

sustainability, and also showcased best practice e-learning technologies from the Open University.

Greenpeace Guide to Electronics

The new [Greenpeace Guide to Greener Electronics](#) assesses 15 ICT companies. Up three places, HP is now the top scoring company - strongest on sustainable operations and energy criteria but capable of improvement on green products criteria. The worst performer is RIM, which produces the Blackberry.

Flexible Working Strategy

Government has announced its [Next Steps on Alternatives to Travel](#), as well as responses to a call for evidence on the issue (which SusteIT responded to). Actions include a business-led Anywhere Working initiative which will provide a source of tools, resources, advice and best practice to supplement the existing ways2work toolkit. Organisations and individuals can register their interest via the [ways2work website](#). The organisers will email all those who have expressed an interest when the initiative goes live in January 2012.

Government ICT Strategy

Cloud computing should account for half of central government's new ICT spending by the end of 2015, according to the [Cabinet Office's Government ICT Strategy - Strategic Implementation Plan](#), which provides the detail to follow up the outline document published in March 2011.

About Us

This newsletter is from the [JISC](#) funded SusteIT initiative. Its aim is to publicise the outputs of both our own activities and those of the [JISC Green IT programme](#) as a whole, and to provide brief updates on other developments within the field. See www.goodcampus.org for more details on our work including copies of previous newsletters. You can unsubscribe by clicking on the link at the bottom of this page.

JISC outputs on the topic, at the University of Warwick. The provisional date for the event is March 2cnd.

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Videoconferencing at Swansea

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A new case study on videoconferencing at Swansea University describes how it has been used to enhance teaching and learning and to provide a time and travel efficient method for regional meetings at the university. It supplements previous cases about Aberystwyth, Bangor, Bedfordshire, Bradford, Llandrillo, and the Scottish Universities Physics Alliance (SUPA). Swansea uses include an MA in Lifelong Learning, a Further Mathematics Support Programme, and a Welsh sub-group of the UK wide [Evaluation of Learners Experience of E-Learning Special Interest Group](#)). The case has been produced in collaboration with the [Welsh Video Network \(WVN\)](#), which supports VC across the public sector in Wales and is managed by Swansea. A SusteIT/WVN survey found that around 87% of Swansea respondents had participated in a virtual meeting in 2010/11. Of the nearly 50% for whom a virtual meeting had replaced a face to face meeting, this avoided an average of 206 miles travel and 83 pounds of costs.

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