



University of Cambridge

Press Releases

Latest news

[News audio and video](#) 

[News archive](#)

[Media coverage](#)

[Press centre](#)

[Press release archive](#)

[Factsheets](#)

[Find an expert](#)

[Vice-Chancellor](#)

[Events](#)

[Contact us](#)

Search news



Future energy under debate

21
September
2006

Other news links

[University Sources](#)

[Newsletter](#)

[Reporter](#)

[Newsgroups](#)

External Sources

[BBC News](#)

[The Guardian](#)

[The Times](#)

[Daily Telegraph](#)

[The Independent](#)

[Financial Times](#)

[The Observer](#)

[Sunday Times](#)

[Herald](#)

[Scotsman](#)

[International Herald Tribune](#)

Academics and researchers at the early stages of their careers are being invited to attend the inaugural Cambridge Annual Energy Symposium next week.

Chaired by Lord Oxburgh, with keynote speakers from both academia and industry, the symposium aims to motivate delegates to address the challenges of future sustainable energy provision in the UK.

This year, the one-day event will focus on the issue of distributed generation in the UK.

Distributed, or embedded, generation is electricity produced by small-scale plant connected directly to the distribution network, rather than large power plants delivering electricity via the high voltage transmission network.

Small-scale technologies such as small Combined Heat and Power (CHP) plants, hydropower, wind turbines and solar power are particularly suitable.

One technology in particular – domestic CHP – which uses waste heat from a home's central heating boiler to generate electricity, has huge potential for increasing efficiency in our energy use.

The development of distributed generation has an important role in meeting the UK government's long-term environmental targets, as highlighted in its current Energy Review.

The symposium will look at the UK potential for micro-generation technologies, the technical and commercial challenges of domestic CHP, and the difficulties of combining distributed generation with our existing transmission network.

The event is being organised by the Cambridge University Energy Network (CUEN) and Cambridge Environmental Initiative (CEI).

Ronan Kavanagh, CUEN President, said: "We have chosen to focus on the issue of current strategic relevance in the UK energy industry, as a catalyst for discussion among the many disciplines involved in energy research at Cambridge. The event is intended as a networking forum with an emphasis on our post-graduate students and young researchers."

Cambridge Environmental Initiative are particularly keen to encourage academics and researchers from science, technology, social science and policy backgrounds to

attend.

Sally Daultrey from the CEI explained: "Many of the challenges in securing a sustainable energy future for the UK require a multidisciplinary approach. This symposium offers an opportunity to discover the wealth of expertise in energy research at Cambridge."

In addition to the keynote speakers, there will be a poster session featuring the work of students from Cambridge, Imperial College, Queen Mary College, London and the University of East Anglia.

A £500 prize (sponsored by the Cambridge Energy Forum) is on offer for the poster which demonstrates novelty, insight and good presentation.

The inaugural Cambridge Annual Energy Symposium will take place at the Centre for Mathematical Sciences in the University of Cambridge on 28 September 2006.

Those wishing to attend should register their details by email to rk331@cam.ac.uk or cei@cei.group.cam.ac.uk.

Notes for Editors:

The Cambridge Environmental Initiative (CEI) exists to support the University's environmental research community, and to encourage a better understanding of environmental issues across all areas of research within the University.

Cambridge University Energy Network was established to bring together the academic community to share their knowledge and interest in the generation of energy. It also serves to promote a structured, cross disciplinary approach to teaching and research into the generation of energy.

The objectives of the Cambridge University Energy Network are as follows:

- Promote cross disciplinary research and publication by providing a forum and resource to collaborate successfully.
- Bring together diverse academic disciplines to address the social, technical, political, economic, security, geological and environmental challenges in the generation of energy.
- Promote the concept of a holistic and cross disciplinary energy programme in the University.
- Work with academic staff to generate framework for teaching, supervising research and funding a holistic and cross disciplinary energy programme within the University.

For more information, contact:

Sean Connolly, Office of Communications, University
of Cambridge +44 (0)1223 339671
sean.connolly@admin.cam.ac.uk

Sally Daultry, Cambridge Environmental Initiative,
University of Cambridge +44 (0) 1223 333485
sdau01@esc.cam.ac

© University of Cambridge 1998-2007
Information provided by news.online@admin.cam.ac.uk