

How UniGreenScheme Regained Space for Goldsmiths by Selling Surplus ICT Equipment



Some of the lecterns had just a DVD player, others had a few pieces of equipment, but some were completely packed with electronics.

UniGreenScheme

The Asset Resale Service For Universities

The Challenge:

Nicola Hogan is the Space, Environmental and Sustainability officer at Goldsmiths. She was faced with the challenge of finding a sustainable way to dispose of the redundant equipment.

Three to five new lecterns were being installed each week and, as with many universities, storage space for unwanted items was extremely limited.

In April 2016, new equipment was being installed at Goldsmiths and over 30 old lecterns and associated ICT equipment needed to be removed.

UniGreenScheme collected and sold the redundant equipment preventing 11,300kg of waste and 36,800kg of CO₂ emissions, simply by repurposing IT equipment that had not yet reached its “end of life” stage.

Goldsmiths received over £3,500 in sale rebates and saved a further £5,000 in waste disposal costs and staff time.



Lecterns as originally set up at Goldsmiths, University of London

11.3t
Waste
Prevented

36.8t
CO₂
equivalent

50
Staff Hours
Saved

£3,500
Received by
Goldsmiths

£5,000
Saved in
Disposal Costs

“ I offered the lecterns, free of charge, to our e-Waste disposal contractor and to other interested parties, but only UniGreenScheme could manage the volume and logistics of the project”

– Nicola Hogan, Space, Environmental and Sustainability Officer



Ben, from the UniGreenScheme team, dismantling a lectern unit

There was nowhere to stockpile the old lecterns and equipment, so they remained in the classroom until a solution could be found.

That solution came in the form of UniGreenScheme.

With teaching ongoing, getting the old equipment **removed quickly** was a very high priority.

Collection of the lecterns would have to be made from multiple buildings, floors and classrooms across the campus, working around teaching schedules and other events.

Nicola contacted Goldsmiths regular e-Waste contractors as well as local charities but none could collect the volume of equipment, or meet the project’s challenging requirements.

Disposal seemed to be the only option but **went against Goldsmiths Environmental and Sustainable Policy.**

The project was also going to be particularly resource intensive.

Physically removing the equipment off campus and loading onto a removal van would have required at least **three porters and help from other staff.**

Nicola was determined to find a solution that didn’t involve a skip or huge disposal costs so researched possible options online. She found UniGreenScheme and decided to give us a call.

How It Works:



How UniGreenScheme helped:

When Nicola called UniGreenScheme there were already 6 lecterns needing immediate clearance.

UniGreenScheme were on site within 24 hours of the call to make the first set of collections.

Over the following six months, UniGreenScheme's collection team came back to the university for 11 further collections of lecterns.

Some of those collections occurred outside of teaching hours (early mornings, evening and weekends) demonstrating UniGreenScheme's fantastic customer service.

Later collections included large clear-outs of ICT equipment which was taking up valuable space within classrooms.

How the equipment was reused / resold:

UniGreenScheme were aware of the low resale value of used lecterns and that that they wouldn't be viable for resale, so the electronics were stripped out of each lectern.

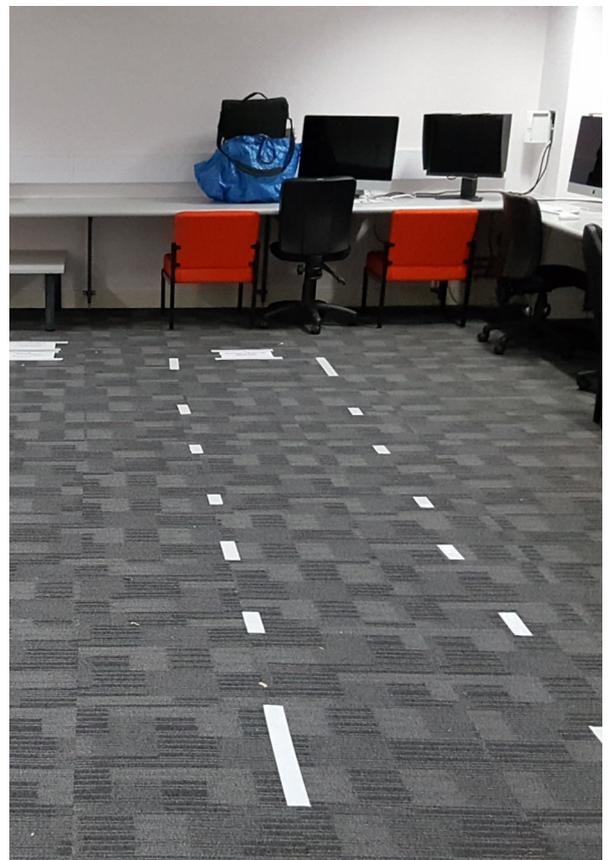
Empty lecterns were then donated to a range of new owners including a college and a craft shop.

The ICT equipment was then sold on for re-use through a number of e-commerce sites.

Wider Economic Benefits:

- Collection, processing and packing of the 1,061 stock items took 1,573 hours, translating to 0.75 Full-Time Equivalent jobs created for this project.

- Buyers of the used equipment from this project are estimated to have saved nearly £32,000 versus buying new equipment.



Before and after photos of one of the later collections at Goldsmiths showing the space that can be created through such projects.

Key Results:

- 11.3t of equipment collected, of which 9.5t sold or donated during the first 6 months from collection.
- 36.8t of supply-chain carbon emissions were avoided through re-use (calculated using the WRAP 2011 BOR2 method for calculating re-use impact).
- Goldsmiths received over £3,500 in payments from UniGreenScheme for the equipment.
- Goldsmiths saved a further £5,000 by avoiding an estimated 5 x 11,000 litre waste disposal skips, and an estimated 50 hours of staff time needed for removal / disposal of the equipment.



Following the initial project the IT department saw the opportunity for UniGreenScheme and sold other surplus equipment through the service such as this laptop charging station

" I was really pleased with how the project went and will use UniGreenScheme again, in fact, I've already recommended them to another institution "

– Nicola Hogan, Space, Environmental and Sustainability Officer

UniGreenScheme can help you realise the value in your surplus equipment, recoup space and boost your environmental credentials.

To find out how contact us using the details below:

UniGreenScheme

The Asset Resale Service For Universities

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