UNIVERSITY OF WAIKATO
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT 10 AM ON 23 FEBRUARY 2012
AT FMD MEETING ROOM

1. ATTENDEES AND APOLOGIES

Attendees: Rachael Goddard (RG), Chris Eames (CE), Eva Collins (EC), Priya Kurian (PK), Mark Thompson (MT), Hine-iti Greensill (HG), John Cameron (JC)

Apologies: David Hamilton (DH)

Invitee: Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Crawford

2. WELCOME TO THE VICE CHANCELLOR

PK welcomed the Vice Chancellor to the meeting.

3. REPORT FROM THE EPC TO THE VICE CHANCELLOR

The EPC presented its report, “Leveraging Our Sustainability Distinctiveness to Achieve Excellence”. The report identified the important steps taken by the University to foster sustainability, including the employment of an Environmental and Sustainability Coordinator; the solid foundation of sustainability expertise for research, teaching and operations; having the EPC report to the VC, which enables maximum strategic input and therefore leveraging of distinctiveness; and the brand opportunity for the university. The EPC also reported on the results from the recent environmental scan undertaken by RG, which had identified several potential steps to be taken that would also result in cost saving; planned initiatives for the next year; and the strategic importance of placing the University's Sustainability Plan above the Academic and Operations plan so that sustainability filters through to every aspect of the University.

- The VC expressed his support for sustainability as a key aspect of the University’s distinctiveness. He recommended that the EPC speak urgently to the DVC who was in the process of developing recommendations for the future direction of the University. (Action: PK to write to the DVC’s office and to Lisa Finucane to set up a meeting.)

- The VC agreed that the campus lake restoration initiative was important and he was willing to approach Tainui to see if there was iwi interest in financially supporting this initiative. (Action: RG to follow-up with Hine and Tom Roa.)

4. CONFIRMATION OF EPC MEMBERSHIP

The VC approved the proposed membership of the EPC:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Years</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David Hamilton</td>
<td>Department of Biological Sciences</td>
<td>2012-2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priya Kurian</td>
<td>Political Science &amp; Public Policy</td>
<td>2012-2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eva Collins</td>
<td>Department of Strategic Policy</td>
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(Act chairpersons, 2012-2014)
In addition, Mark Thompson (Grounds Manager) and Rachael Goddard, the Environmental and Sustainability Coordinator, will serve as coopted members.

5. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
Minutes of the meeting of 2 December 2011 were accepted as correct.

6. ENVIRO AWARDS
RG asked if the University would be prepared to reinstate Enviro Awards, such as the ICE Awards. JC said that the VC would be requested to make $20,000.00 available from the capital works allocation budget.

- JC also said that particular EPC proposals could be fed into Capital Works Plan to get them actioned.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- EC reported that the TDU session on ‘sustainability’ was well-attended with positive feedback from participants. Suggestions from participants included having a session focused on pedagogy and another on socio-cultural aspects of sustainability. Dorothy would like to meet EC to discuss continuing ‘sustainability conversations’ in future.

8. NEXT MEETING
Next meeting will be scheduled for March to prepare for the meeting with the DVC.

Meeting closed at 12 noon.