

From: [Paul Younger](#)
To: [David Newall \(Secretary of Court\)](#)
Cc: ["fin.stuart@glasgow.ac.uk"](mailto:fin.stuart@glasgow.ac.uk); [Robert Ellam](#); [Adrian Boyce](#); [Roderick Brown](#); [Colin McInnes](#)
Subject: RE: Draft Statement
Date: 15 October 2014 13:30:04
Attachments: [EnergyResearch-PLY-FS-RB-CMEdits.doc](#)

Dear David

I have now received input from all of the professors that have been most involved in this controversy, and attach an amended version of the proposed statement on the teaching and research dimensions of the university's work relating to fossil fuels for your perusal, and then hopefully for further development to the point it can be posted prominently on-line, as we agreed. We will then at least be able to point to this statement when responding to the growing number of our research sponsors who have asked us to clarify our intentions in relation to present and pending research projects.

I should mention that I had a most constructive and cordial discussion with [REDACTED] yesterday - he kindly came to see me and we discussed this issue for a whole hour, so he is now well-apprised of the range of concerns the academics have been expressing over recent days. I have also kept the relevant VPs and Heads of School informed of developments.

Please let us know a rough timetable for finalising this statement and making it 'live' on the website.

Best wishes

Paul Y

Professor Paul L Younger FEng
Rankine Chair of Engineering and
Professor of Energy Engineering
School of Engineering
Room 623c James Watt Building (South)
x. 5042
Mob. 07711 391 066

Email: paul.younger@glasgow.ac.uk
Web: <http://www.gla.ac.uk/schools/engineering/staff/paulyounger/>

-----Original Message-----

From: David Newall (Secretary of Court)
Sent: 10 October 2014 16:30
To: Paul Younger
Subject: Draft Statement

Paul

Here is a first attempt at a statement.

Let me know what you think. I hope it is a useful start, but please be frank if you don't think so.

Best wishes

David

Glasgow University has a vibrant programme of teaching and research in energy science and engineering, spanning the most efficient and environmentally cleanest uses of fossil fuels as well as the renewables. At a time when it has stated its intention to reduce over time its endowment investment in fossil fuels, the University wants to make clear its continuing commitment to academic work in the field of energy, including with partners currently operating in the fossil fuels sector. Even the most optimistic of the rigorous analyses of future energy use – such as the “Gone Green” scenario for the National Grid – recognise a necessity for substantial continued use of fossil fuels for many decades to come. Decarbonisation must therefore include measures such as maximisation of the efficiency of gas turbines, as the best available technology to balance the variable generation output of wind turbines and other renewable technologies. Moreover, fossil fuels (especially hydrogen-rich gas) are crucial to keeping heating affordable for UK households, and are proving key to alleviating the poverty of those one in six humans who currently lack access to modern energy services.

It is in this context that the University's academic portfolio contributes to advancing society's understanding of how to develop and manage the world's energy resources - which necessarily still includes the use of and exploration for fossil fuels. Undergraduate degree programmes equip our students with skills that are essential in the fossil fuel sector in Scotland and worldwide – such as geological exploration and offshore surveying – and many of our alumni work in those professions. Postgraduate taught programmes include sustainable energy (including responsible use of fossil fuels) and a range of postgraduate research activities address areas such as climate change, emissions minimisation and the progressive decarbonisation of fossil fuels. Research at Glasgow is helping address issues such as: how to make fossil fuels as sustainable as possible; how to harness the skills and facilities of the hydrocarbons sector for effective carbon capture and storage and renewable applications in geothermal; how bioenergy can use technologies from the fossil fuels sector to deliver combined heat and power and transport fuel applications; and how hydrocarbons can be used in new materials that effectively lock CO₂ away in solids with lifetimes of centuries.

The University is committed to sustaining and developing these important areas of its academic work.

From: [The Principal](#)
To: [Paul Younger](#)
Cc: [Sarah Fogarty](#)
Subject: Meeting
Date: 21 October 2014 22:07:51

Dear Paul

I was keen to meet with you to discuss the issue of fossil fuel disinvestment and to reassure you about the University's commitment to supporting research in this area.

I know that you and colleagues have met with David Newall in my absence last week, but nevertheless it would be good to meet to discuss your concerns.

I'll ask Sarah to contact you to see if you are available tomorrow (Wed) or as soon as possible.

Best regards

Anton

Sent from my iPhone

Professor Anton Muscatelli
Principal and Vice-Chancellor
University of Glasgow
Glasgow G12 8QQ
Tel: 0141 330 5995

From: [Paul Younger](#)
To: [The Principal](#)
Subject: Energy Futures initiative
Date: 07 November 2014 08:02:52

Dear Anton

I gather we are now meeting with [REDACTED] on 17th Sept, so I asked him to let me have sight of the suggestion you mentioned he'd made to you regarding an "energy futures" initiative. I have now read that with interest. I think the way [REDACTED] has framed the concepts is attractive and stimulating.

As I think I mentioned when we met, with the encouragement of Miles Padgett I had already been canvassing feelings about a possible campus-wide theme on energy, minimisation of its environmental impact and maximisation of social benefits. We had interest from the Business School and the Dumfries campus as well as the 'usual suspects' in Engineering and Geog & Earth Sci. While there was interest in the concept, the general feeling was that we would be unlikely to get anywhere without resource, so that we could actually work together rather than just talking about it. Hence we had begun the usual process of thinking about how best to access external resources. The lion's share of the early effort was inevitably falling to me, so it inevitably had to join the queue behind other pending proposals, mentoring ECRs and my current teaching commitments.

It seems to me that the now-pressing need to showcase our energy research to the world could do with pump priming if we are to realise our hopes on anything less than a timescale of several years. Bearing in mind that you said you might be able to identify some in-house funds to help with such an initiative. I have been taking soundings on the concept, and we have the following proposition to make. We think it would greatly catalyse things if we could appoint an Energy Futures Fellow, with the remit to work with experienced PIs from the relevant disciplines do three things:

- Undertake inter-disciplinary research at the interface between engineering, environmental studies and economics – especially as regards fuel poverty. The idea would be that they focus on future scenarios at whole-system scale, looking at grid integration challenges and their articulation with socio-economic and environmental issues.
- Engage with the principal sectors in the sector (e.g. resource development companies, generation and distribution companies, regulators and end-users), using Scotland as the paradigmatic 'laboratory' in the first instance: we actually have a particularly acute set of the world's generic issues right here on our doorstep, so can do work with global impact using national-level case-studies.
- Work-up major proposals (such as to the ITN facility of Horizon 2020 and the relevant RCUK Energy Programme calls) to perpetuate and expand the Energy Futures initiative in the longer term.

Given these duties, we would need an experienced postdoc (Grade 7 realistically), and we would propose appointing them for an initial period of four years, to make the post attractive enough to someone to relocate.

If we can find a way of pump-priming this, I think we have a real opportunity to put the recent

ructions behind us and project a positive, future-facing image for our university in the energy space. I look forward to discussing this with you in due course.

Best wishes

Paul Younger

Professor Paul L Younger FREng
Rankine Chair of Engineering
and
Professor of Energy Engineering
School of Engineering
Room 623, James Watt Building (South)
University of Glasgow
Glasgow G12 8QQ
SCOTLAND

Tel. 0141 330 5042

Mob. 07711 391 066

Web: <http://www.gla.ac.uk/schools/engineering/staff/paulyounger/>

Email: xxxx.xxxxxxx@xxxxxxx.xx.xx

From: [Paul Younger](#)
To: [Maggie Cusack](#); [The Principal](#)
Cc: [David Newall \(Secretary of Court\)](#); [Daniel Koehn](#); [Roderick Brown](#); [David Brown](#); [Brian Bell](#); [Martin Lee](#); [John Marsh](#); [Rob Ellam](#); [David Fearn](#)
Subject: RE: Oil & Gas CDT update
Date: 10 November 2014 21:24:22

Thanks Maggie

This is a great relief.

Paul

-----Original Message-----

From: Maggie Cusack
Sent: 10 November 2014 21:23
To: The Principal
Cc: David Newall (Secretary of Court); Daniel Koehn; Roderick Brown; David Brown; Brian Bell; Martin Lee; Paul Younger; John Marsh; Rob Ellam; David Fearn
Subject: Oil & Gas CDT update

Dear Anton (copied to David and O&G CDT folk) I received an email from [REDACTED] in which he stated the following:

I wanted to let you know that the CDT Industry Advisory Board and the CDT Management Board have both now convened and it was agreed that original partnership that won the bid remains in tact.

I am very grateful to you in reacting so promptly and to your Principal in responding in such a clear and positive manner as the letter was an extremely timely and helpful.

This is a good outcome for the CDT and I am grateful to [REDACTED] collegiate approach and determination to make this work with the original partners.

I appreciate that this is not the only issue but wanted to report update to all involved in the CDT.

Maggie

Professor Maggie Cusack, FRSE
Head of School of Geographical & Earth Sciences University of Glasgow Glasgow
G12 8QQ
Scotland, UK

Phone +44 (0)141 330 5491/4224

The University of Glasgow, charity number SC004401

Glasgow University has a vibrant programme of teaching and research in energy science and engineering, spanning the most efficient and environmentally cleanest uses of fossil fuels as well as the renewables. At a time when it has stated its intention to reduce over time its endowment investment in fossil fuels, the University wants to make clear its continuing commitment to academic work in the field of energy, including with partners currently operating in the fossil fuels sector. Even the most optimistic of the rigorous analyses of future energy use – such as the “Gone Green” scenario for the National Grid – recognise a necessity for substantial continued use of fossil fuels for many decades to come. Decarbonisation must therefore include measures such as maximisation of the efficiency of gas turbines, as the best available technology to balance the variable generation output of wind turbines and other renewable technologies. Moreover, fossil fuels (especially hydrogen-rich gas) are crucial to keeping heating affordable for UK households, and are proving key to alleviating the poverty of those one in six humans who currently lack access to modern energy services.

It is in this context that the University's academic portfolio contributes to advancing society's understanding of how to develop and manage the world's energy resources - which necessarily still includes the use of and exploration for fossil fuels. Undergraduate degree programmes equip our students with skills that are essential in the fossil fuel sector in Scotland and worldwide – such as geological exploration and offshore surveying – and many of our alumni work in those professions. Postgraduate taught programmes include sustainable energy (including responsible use of fossil fuels) and a range of postgraduate research activities address areas such as climate change, emissions minimisation and the progressive decarbonisation of fossil fuels. Research at Glasgow is helping address issues such as: how to make fossil fuels as sustainable as possible; how to harness the skills and facilities of the hydrocarbons sector for effective carbon capture and storage and renewable applications in geothermal; how bioenergy can use technologies from the fossil fuels sector to deliver combined heat and power and transport fuel applications; and how hydrocarbons can be used in new materials that effectively lock CO₂ away in solids with lifetimes of centuries.

The University is committed to sustaining and developing these important areas of its academic work.