

## How the University of Cambridge is Preventing Waste Through Equipment Resale

A common problem at the University of Cambridge is that unwanted research equipment is often disposed of as waste.

This redundant equipment is potentially valuable and re-useable, but re-use options can be limited, especially when research departments are short on time and space.

To help tackle this issue, Peter Lumb, the University's Environmental Manager, launched a pilot trial of the UniGreenScheme equipment resale service in February 2018.

UniGreenScheme collect, store and sell surplus equipment for universities, and return a share of the profits from sales to the department.



This surplus benchtop equipment was collected by UniGreenScheme from the Cambridge Institute for Medical Research.

All manner of equipment can be sold and re-used through the scheme, ranging from high value instrumentation to smaller benchtop equipment.

The equipment collected from Cambridge so far includes old incubators, water baths, vacuum pumps, animal transfer stations, physiology and cardiology equipment and much more.



Rather than disposal, these Roche 454 DNA Sequencers were collected from the Biochemistry department for resale by UniGreenScheme.

UniGreenScheme have so far only made three collections across six departments on the campus, but the early results are impressive and the service interest is growing rapidly.

***“UniGreenScheme is providing our departments with a great option for dealing with surplus research equipment. We’re keen to encourage labs to get involved in re-use, and being able to sell surplus equipment is a win-win solution.”***

*- Peter Lumb, Environmental Manager, University of Cambridge*

### Impact So Far:



UniGreenScheme sell surplus equipment for over 25 universities across the UK, distributing this equipment for re-use worldwide. Many of the new owners are universities, schools and research companies within the UK.



UniGreenScheme collected five surplus biosafety cabinets from the Addenbrookes Hospital site. With a little refurbishment they will all be ready for resale.

The University of Cambridge is also engaging in re-use by purchasing second-hand equipment through UniGreenScheme, saving money and avoiding unnecessary new manufacture.



This Leica Inverted Research Microscope was collected as surplus to requirements from another UK university, and purchased second-hand by the University of Cambridge for use in the Cambridge Biomedical Campus.

***“We have had a huge amount of interest in our resale service since the launch of the trial, and so the potential to prevent waste at Cambridge is substantial.”***

- Michael McLeod, Managing Director of UniGreenScheme

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

To find out how, get in touch using the contact details below.

# UniGreenScheme

The Asset Resale Service For Universities

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