



ROYALS
UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE

**STRICT EMBARGO - Not for publication before
10am - Monday, 5 September 1994**

2 September 1994

DOCKLANDS UNIVERSITY COLLEGE IN BID FOR GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Four London universities are joining the London Docklands Development Corporation (LDDC) to raise £60 million to fund a new university campus in London's Royal Docks. Government funding is being sought to help kick-start the project.

A formal bid for the first £10 million is to be made from the Single Regeneration Budget (SRB) on Wednesday (7 September 1994) to create a new Technology Institute, the cornerstone of the venture. Members of the consortium are the University of East London with Queen Mary & Westfield College (University of London), City University and London Guildhall University. Other members of the innovative partnership, besides the LDDC, are the London Borough of Newham and London East Training and Enterprise Council (LETEC).

The SRB bid will be the consortium's first major funding request and potentially its most critical. If successful, it is hoped that SRB backing will provide a knock-on effect on other funding initiatives. A development manager, John Lock, has been appointed to identify and bid for private and public sector funding both in the UK and mainland Europe, and a development brochure has been launched this week.

The Technology Institute will be the flagship development within the proposed University College. Designed to operate as a "technology transfer" resource with a strong European and international focus, it will serve as a magnet for an adjacent proposed science and technology park as well as a powerful stimulant for economic and social regeneration in the East Thames Corridor.

more/...

Bob Pringle, Executive Director of Community Infrastructure at the LDDC which has earmarked an initial £4.1 million for the project over three years, explained: "The Institute will specialise in industry-related applied science and technology, attracting hi-tech, high value industries which will change the economic profile of this part of Docklands and aid the regeneration of the East Thames Corridor."

The university college, including student residences plus community and leisure facilities, would occupy a 25 acre waterside site by the Royal Albert Dock in Newham, with the science and technology park taking up a further 25 acres. Ultimately the campus would cater for over 5,000 students and, together with the technology and science park, could provide up to 2,000 jobs.

Reflecting the growth sectors in the Docklands area, the College will also provide teaching in other academic disciplines such as Media, Design and Communications, Business Education and Health.

"The challenge of this innovative scheme is to create an institution which is responsive to the needs of students, local residents and employers," says Professor Frank Gould, Vice-Chancellor of the University of East London. "Moreover, with the number of 19 to 25 year-olds in Greater London forecast to grow by the year 2010, there will be tremendous pressure on existing Higher Education places, even if the percentage of young people entering university remains constant. The Royal Docks University College will be well placed to respond to this increased demand."

- ENDS -

more/...

For further information contact:

LDDC Press Office
Thames Quay
191 Marsh Wall
London E14 9TJ

Tel: 071-512 0444 (office hours)
071-512 3000 (after hours)

Fax: 071-512 0222

Christine Hodgson
University of East London
Longbridge Road
Dagenham
Essex RM8 2AS

Tel: 081-849 3530 (direct line)
081-590 7722

Fax: 081-849 3600

NOTES TO EDITORS

* **Consortium Membership**

- * University of East London
- * Queen Mary and Westfield College, University of London
- * City University
- * London Guildhall University
- * London East Training & Enterprise Council
- * Newham Council
- * London Docklands Development Corporation

* **Transport Communications and the Proposed University College Site**

The proposed site for the new University College, with its adjacent science and technology park, can claim better transport connections than any existing British university.

The Royal Docks already boasts a network of four lane highways which opened last year, providing easy access to the motorway network and the Channel ports. The London City Airport offers a 10 minute checking-in time and whisper jet connections to a large and growing number of European and domestic destinations while the Docklands Light Railway extension to Beckton, opened in March this year, provides good local connections.

- * **The Single Regeneration Budget** is the allocation of funding for all London inner city initiatives held by the **Government Office for London**.