Sackville Street Living Lab

Overview

A great example of an existing Living Lab project on the university campus is the Sackville Street Living Lab. This experimental space was established as a teaching facility by Senior Electrical and Electronic Engineering Lecturer Peter Green, in collaboration with university Estates and lab technicians.

The project is an ambitious attempt to hand over control of the lab to students for experimentation with electrics, lighting, ventilation, and ambient temperature. 50 students are actively involved in the Electronics Club which convenes in the lab.

Outcomes and Implications

Although the project was initially framed as a student engagement activity, the findings relating to thermal loading, lighting and ambient temperature have the potential to feed back to university energy policy. Moreover, PhD candidate Luke Pitt is currently engaged in related research on ambient temperature within the Sackville Building, which provides another possible avenue for applied research from the Sackville Buildings to impact and inform the university’s energy policy.

Key Contacts

Peter Green, Senior Lecturer, School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering: p.r.green@manchester.ac.uk

Michael Billington, Head of Faculty Estates, Faculty of Engineering and Physical Science: michael.billington@manchester.ac.uk