

## Green Days conference from Oct. 5

A Staff Reporter

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MUSCAT Sixteen experts from various fields will participate in the two-day Muscat Green Days Conference - "Education for a Sustainably Built Environment," to be held in Muscat from October 5.

"Experts will discuss ways to save energy today and for the wellbeing of our future generations," Professor Dr Burkhard Rauhut, Rector at German University of Technology in Oman (GUtech), said while addressing a press conference on Saturday. The Muscat Green Days Conference, which is the first of its kind in Muscat, will be held under the patronage of HE Sayyid Salim Musallam Al Busaidi, Undersecretary for Administrative and Development Affairs at the Ministry of Civil Services.

The event, to be held at Grand Hyatt Hotel, is organised by Sesam Consulting, a German-Emirati Consultancy, in cooperation with GUtech. The conference will be chaired by



**Burkhard Rauhut (right) addresses the media along with Richard Lisker, on Saturday.**

Dr Dieter Fuchs, General Manager of Fraunhofer Middle East and President of the World Association of Applied Research, WAITRO.

"In a typical community, buildings consume more than 45 per cent of the energy. If the energy for traffic, connected travel between residence and work, is included, the ratio rises up to 75 per cent," said Rauhut. Renewable energies integrated in sustainable architecture, urban planning and waste management will be the topics that will be presented by

international experts during the conference.

Architect group Hoehler & Partner will make a presentation about the new GUtech campus in Halban that will have many environmental friendly features. The new campus will be completed by 2014.

"We will include green courtyards that create a microclimate and will reduce the use of air-conditioning. Sustainable building practices go beyond energy and water conservation and incorporate environmentally sensitive site planning,

resource efficient building materials and superior indoor environmental quality," said Richard Lisker, Architect and Project Director of the GUtech project at Hoehler & Partner.

Among the local and international speakers will be Ahmed Al Jahdhami, General Manager Policy & Strategy, Public Authority for Electricity & Water, Dr Saif Bin Rashid Al Shaqsi, Director General, Ministry of Regional Municipalities and Water Resources, Simon Buttery of Carillion Alawi, Mario Seneviratne, LEED Faculty Member & LEED Mentor, US Green Building Council and MD Green Technologies, Hamad Al Gharibi, Head of the Planning Section at the Ministry of Housing in Oman and Mohammed Al Salmi, General Manager of Hoehler and Partner.

The Muscat Green Days Conference will also include a workshop programme that will include a Training Course "US Green Building Council Course in Leadership, Energy and Environmental Design."