

WINNERS' BROCHURE 2012



AWARDING SUSTAINABILITY EXCELLENCE

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Foreword

Awarding Sustainability Excellence

Now in their 8th year, the Green Gown Awards recognise the exceptional sustainability initiatives being undertaken by tertiary education across the UK. In these changing and challenging times, it is now more important than ever to ensure that sustainability remains on the sector's agenda and becomes recognised as the key element that can transform our institutions and our future students. This year's applications show that through sustainability initiatives, significant efficiencies and savings can be achieved, and the value we bring to society, the economy and the planet can be maximised and recognised.

International presence

Following on from the huge success of the UK Awards, they now have a strong international presence with the introduction of the Australasian Green Gown Awards - now in their 3rd year. Not only that, 2012 sees the introduction of the "International Awards" with the winners of the three international categories from the UK and Australia (Continuous Improvement: Institutional Change, Social Responsibility and Student Initiatives and Campaigns) contesting this prestigious recognition.

Sharing best practice and dissemination of Green Gown Award initiatives

As the ethos of the Green Gown Awards is to ensure the lessons and examples of good practice are shared within the sector, we are working hard with the partners of the Awards to ensure this information is disseminated far and wide. Case studies and videos from not only the 2011 UK winners and highly commended entries but also from the 2011 Australasian winners are available from the EAUC's website. We are working with all the 2012 stage 2 finalists to share and encourage replication of all the great sustainability initiatives and achievements and these will soon be available.

Partners

As well as the strong calibre of the applicants and their enthusiasm to share their sustainability initiatives, the contributions from the partners should not be forgotten. Without the financial support and sponsorship from these partners we would not be able to continue with the Awards and for this we thank you. We thank the judges for their time and commitment and valuable contributions. It is their substantial experience in the sector and as representatives of the sector that truly make the Green Gown Awards sector owned.

We congratulate all winners, highly commended entries and finalists and thank you all for sharing your inspiring initiatives.

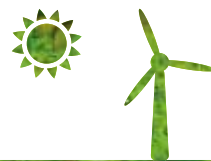
Iain Patton

CEO
Environmental Association for
Universities and Colleges (EAUC)

Peter James

Chair, Green Gown Awards Steering Group
Higher Education Environment
Performance Improvement (HEEPI)

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About the Awards



The Green Gown Awards recognise exceptional environmental and sustainability initiatives being undertaken by universities, colleges and the learning and skills sector across the UK.

With the UK Green Gown Awards in their 8th year and the Australasian Green Gown Awards in their 3rd year, 2012 sees the introduction of the International Awards. This achievement underlines the value and recognition that winning offers, and highlights the continued importance of sustainability within the international tertiary educational sector.

The Green Gown Awards are administered by the Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC) and are governed by a cross agency steering group made up of:

- Association of Colleges (AoC)
- Association of University Directors of Estates (AUDE)
- British Universities Finance Directors Group (BUFDG)
- Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC)

- Guild HE
- Higher Education Environmental Performance Improvement (HEEPI)
- Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE)
- Higher Education Funding Council for Wales (HEFCW)
- Learning and Skills Improvement Service (LSIS)
- National Institute of Adult Continuing Education (NIACE)
- NUS Services Limited (NUS)
- Skills Funding Agency (SFA)
- Scottish Funding Council (SFC)
- The Higher Education Academy (HEA)
- Universities UK (UUK)

The Awards have been supported and sponsored by a number of organisations during its lifetime and huge thanks go to past and present sponsors (see front cover) and supporters (below).



Green Gown Awards 2012 Categories



Best Newcomer – NEW FOR 2012: Recognising those institutions that are starting their sustainability journey and is only open to those who have not applied for a Green Gown Award previously.

Carbon Reduction: Recognising initiatives which have achieved significant reductions in the carbon footprint of a university or college.

Colleges and Smaller Institutions: (open to those with a maximum of 3,000 students FTE). Recognising the difficulties which smaller Further and Higher Education institutions have, relative to larger institutions, in taking action in many areas. It encompasses any environment-related initiatives which contribute to sustainable development.

Construction and Refurbishment: Recognising new or refurbished buildings, campuses or student residences in Further or Higher Education which have good energy and environmental performance.

Continuous Improvement: Institutional Change*: Recognising sustained and successful activities to improve the performance of Further and Higher Education institutions, campuses, faculties and buildings over a number of years.

Courses: Recognising innovative actions with regard to sustainability in academic (e.g. undergraduate or postgraduate) courses in Further and Higher Education institutions.

Green ICT: Recognising the growing environmental importance of ICT within the sector and more generally.

Learning and Skills: Recognising achievement in the development of skills and capabilities relevant to sustainability. These can be vocational or related to wider purposes such as community involvement, global or environmental awareness or to support lifestyle changes.

Modernisation: Effectiveness and Efficiency in the Estate - NEW FOR 2012: Recognising the pressure to proactively manage costs and demonstrate value for money but seeks applications which demonstrate that this can be done in ways that enhance sustainability.

Promoting Positive Behaviour: Recognising innovative approaches to promoting changes in behaviour within an institution or through an institution's activities, i.e. through community and/or industry/business interface.

Research and Development: Recognising a variety of research-based and knowledge-transfer activities within universities and colleges which have had tangible effects on practice with regard to sustainability.

Social Responsibility*: Recognising initiatives by Further or Higher Education institutions which create significant benefits for local communities, disadvantaged groups and/or society as a whole in either the UK or developing countries.

Student Initiatives and Campaigns*: Recognising initiatives which have been developed and/or substantially influenced by students.

* These category winners go forward to the Green Gown International Awards (see pages 41–44).

WINNER



BEST NEWCOMER

South Thames College

Education for Sustainable Development – community engagement and the curriculum

This project provides a practical demonstration of 'stakeholder engagement'. It illustrates how South Thames College (STC) is forging alliances with low carbon community organisations, trade unions and campaign groups. Creating a partnership, the Furzedown Low Carbon Zone, (FLCZ) was established to demonstrate the link between curriculum and community engagement.

A range of measures on energy efficiency, renewable energy and environmental awareness have been introduced. This has been linked to the curriculum by involving students from the Engineering and Building Services School. Furzedown residents have benefited and the institution has been able to showcase a practical example of out-facing community work.

The project has now moved into the next phase - the selection of a primary school in the low carbon zone to introduce a sustainability initiative during 2012-13. Parallel to this will be student work experience placements to integrate it into the College curriculum.

What it means to win

"Winning this Award provides us with a huge impetus to the next phase of the project. It has already received profile in trade union publications. We think that it has considerable significance for the sector. The Award will help to embed the work and contribute to the integration of education for sustainable development."

Graham Petersen,
Education for Sustainable
Development Co-ordinator,
South Thames College



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

This is a very distinctive project, with challenging ambitions, and with strategic level support within the College. An excellent example of building a local sustainability alliance; working with and learning from other organisations and sectors.

HIGHLY COMMENDED



BEST NEWCOMER

Belfast Metropolitan College

Sustainability at the heart of Belfast Metropolitan College

Belfast Metropolitan College's EnviroMET project was established as a response to staff and student feedback during the Change Management Review process in 2009/10. It has enabled Belfast Met to capture its existing corporate, curriculum and estates sustainability practices and also develop new approaches to embed them into College processes and activities through the active engagement of staff and students.

EnviroMET, working on a cross College basis, has become the recognised vehicle to drive sustainability as a key objective in terms of strategic planning and operational implementation. New buildings, energy and paper savings monitoring, the development of sustainability courses to meet the needs of local employers, roll-out of travel initiatives and the use of "sustainability challenge weeks" have all been employed to encourage staff, student and external stakeholders including local businesses to take sustainability seriously. This has fostered a sense of responsible citizenship with additional personal and business income/savings also being generated.

What it means to win

"This Award enables Belfast Met to celebrate its commitment to sustainability and showcase to its stakeholders and the wider Education sector what can be achieved in a short time and become a model to other providers on how to commence the embedding of sustainability into college processes and the curriculum."

Lorraine Lavery, EDS
Manager and EnviroMET
Co-ordinator, Belfast
Metropolitan College



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

The College has developed a significant number of projects in a range of areas of their business, and a strong internal learning network is in place. The project is a positive example of the power of volunteering to drive change and the College has achieved a lot in a relatively small time.

HIGHLY COMMENDED



BEST NEWCOMER

Bloomsbury Colleges

Greening - shared environmental management system implementation

A project to employ a shared Environmental post, implement a certified Environmental Management System (EMS), and initiate activities in staff and student engagement as well as supporting carbon management objectives and targets. Initially a 3 year project, its success has led to the commitment to a permanent role and continued projects for improvement.

The EMS will be maintained across the colleges in future years, providing a structure for shared working and governance for projects, at a much reduced cost to embarking on this independently.

Staff and students have really got behind the project and engagement has increased through having a dedicated role. Staff and students see this as evidence that their College is committed to action and feel that they want to be a part of it, as well as making contacts across the colleges.

What it means to win

"This Award enables us to encourage more institutions to embark on similar roles to help them achieve similar benefits. It provides recognition of the project and for the colleges to support their drive towards environmental improvement and show students and staff the level of commitment."

Stephanie Chesters,
Environmental Manager,
Bloomsbury Colleges



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

This is a very strong example of how institutions can collaborate effectively both generally and in the area of sustainability. The group has overcome significant challenges in building relationships with each other and establishing a partnership of this kind. It is a very good example of a collaborative approach to EMS, which offers much learning for others in both further and higher education.

HIGHLY COMMENDED



BEST NEWCOMER

Redbridge Institute of Adult Education

Greener Future

Redbridge Institute of Adult Education's Greener Future project is a whole organisation approach getting part-time adult learners, staff and the local community fully involved in carbon reduction through a recycling scheme, community engagement and switch off project.

The Institute recruited staff and student envirochampions to champion and campaign on energy reduction and recycling which resulted in a reduced paper consumption and a reduced number of printers, computers and interactive boards left switched on each day when classrooms are empty. Direct carbon emissions have been reduced by 11,500 kg of CO₂ a year making a saving of just over £1,500 annually.

Becoming an envirochampion gave learners a positive addition to their CVs providing them with work experience and volunteering opportunities in Climate Week activities, book swap and other events. By embedding best practice in the classroom, other students have learned ways of saving money and improving efficiency in their home and work lives.



What it means to win

"Winning a Green Gown Award recognises and celebrates the achievements of staff and students alike and inspires others to get involved and contribute in the future. The Award enhances our reputation in the local community confirming that the Institute is a great place to learn."

Joni Cunningham, Principal,
Redbridge Institute of Adult
Education



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

The Institute has developed a multi-faceted, whole-organisation approach to addressing sustainability, which is led from the top and comprises of a range of activities which extend not just to estates and resource management, but into teaching and learning and community engagement. The level of learner engagement and participation is particularly noteworthy given that the vast majority of learners are part-time.

WINNER



CARBON REDUCTION

Sponsored by:



University of Cumbria

How to eliminate the need for a large pool car fleet

The University of Cumbria operates from several geographically dispersed sites, the main ones being 70 miles apart. Approximately 70% of our students attend placements as part of their courses. As a result, the University has a significant culture of staff business travel by car. Until 2010 this had been provided for by a combination of pool cars and private car use.

This project has been about implementation of the changes necessary to eliminate or reduce the need to travel and, where travel is needed, to persuade staff to think about alternatives to cars and to reduce the amount of single occupancy car use. This has enabled the University to eliminate the need for all of its 49 pool cars, all of which will have gone by the end of November 2012. For journeys between the main cities of Carlisle and Lancaster, where a good rail service is available, the University has reduced car journeys by 49%.

More widely, its programmes have helped to reduce its financial costs, reduce its use of resources, reduce its carbon emissions and increase staff wellbeing. Support from senior management and long term partners were key to this success. The University has plans and targets in place for the continuation of this work.



What it means to win

"Winning recognises that we have been able to contribute to knowledge about how to reduce carbon emissions and have helped to demonstrate that people are more open to changes in their behaviour than is often thought."

Ian Rodham, Travel Plan Manager, University of Cumbria



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

This excellent project incorporated good environmental benefits tackling a difficult area. What made this project stand out was its key behaviour change elements. The significance for the sector is high.

HIGHLY COMMENDED



CARBON REDUCTION

Sponsored by:



University of Bradford

Using the waste hierarchy – a university toolkit

Since 2007, the University of Bradford has operated a very successful and holistic programme of waste minimisation projects using all of the elements of the waste hierarchy.

They have achieved a 31% reduction in total waste production, a 76% reduction in amount sent to landfill [both per FTE student] and a reduction in absolute Scope 3 Waste Carbon Footprint of 67%. 2011/12 diversion from landfill reached 83%!

Major financial savings have been realised through management and efficiency savings.

Annual costs have been brought down 59% against business as usual and investment paid back in 3.8 years.

Communications/engagement and partnering with external organisations to maximise opportunities are key areas. The final element is using waste minimisation practices as part of the formal and informal curriculum to help educate campus users.

Success in this very visible area of environmental management has allowed the University to engage staff and students in managing its other environmental impacts.



What it means to win

"Winning this accolade really means a lot to us. It is fantastic external recognition for our sustained programme of waste minimisation. Credit goes to our Ancillary Services and Sustainability teams for all the hard work that has gone into it!"

Clive Wilson, Director of Estates and Facilities, University of Bradford



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

The University has taken a methodical approach and the project is very well thought out. We very much liked the integration with the curriculum including the University-wide approach.

HIGHLY COMMENDED



CARBON REDUCTION

Sponsored by:



University of Cambridge

Incentivising power savings

Since its introduction in August 2008, the Electricity Incentivisation Scheme is achieving its aim of encouraging departments to consider the economic implications of their activities, by curbing the unchecked year on year growth in energy usage, against a background of delivering increasing levels of energy intensive research.

It has not only encouraged ways of obtaining energy savings but has inspired and utilised entrepreneurial research. Overall it delivered real efficiency savings and associated financial rewards, with the following year on year results;

- 2008/09 an overall reduction in electricity usage of around 6% and a University-wide saving of £0.82M was reported with attributed savings of 6,714MWh with an environmental benefit of 3,632 Tonnes CO₂.
- 2009/10 all University Schools used less electricity than their target allocation. Overall, electricity usage was around 3% below target and a saving of £0.36M reported with attributed savings of 3,855MWh with an environmental benefit of 2,085 Tonnes CO₂.
- 2010/11 the overall University's electricity usage was 4.4% below target and saving of £0.51M reported with attributed savings of 4,950MWh with an environmental benefit of 2,678 Tonnes CO₂.
- Provisional 2011/12 results show electricity savings 0.6% below target, saving £0.51M with attributed savings of 715MWh with an environmental benefit of 387 Tonnes CO₂.



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE

What it means to win

"The University is very proud of its achievement in winning its first Green Gown Award. This achievement will be promoted via the University's Office of External Affairs and Communications and publicised widely throughout the University to encourage on-going energy saving endeavours."

Paul Hasley, Energy
Manager, University
of Cambridge



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

This is a very replicable project tackling the difficult behaviour change area.

Sharing Green Gown Awards excellence



The Green Gown Awards are firmly established as prestigious recognition of sustainability excellence in the tertiary education sector. A key part of the EAUC's role is to ensure that the Green Gown Awards continue to grow from strength to strength and to encourage the dissemination of good practice.

The EAUC has put together the Green Gown Awards resource bank. The main focus is on dissemination of the great achievements of the Green Gown Award finalists and it serves as encouragement to others to replicate the projects in their own institutions.

With a wealth of information at your finger tips, brought to you in case studies and short videos, we encourage you all to delve into the pot and share and replicate these fantastic achievements.



Supporting the dissemination of the Awards



Visit www.greengownawards.org.uk



**Proud supporter of Modernisation:
Effectiveness and Efficiency in the
Estate category 2012**

AUDE would like to congratulate all the winners, highly commended and finalists of the Green Gown Awards 2012.

AUDE (the Association of University Directors of Estates) promotes excellence in the strategic planning, management, operation and development of higher education estates and facilities. AUDE's members are the universities and higher education institutions of the United Kingdom.

www.aude.ac.uk

WINNER



COLLEGES AND SMALLER INSTITUTIONS

Walsall Adult and Community College

A sustainable institution and an excellent institution are one and the same. We are trying to prove it!

Since its formation in 2009, Walsall Adult and Community College (WACC) has embedded sustainability into Leadership and Governance, Estates, Teaching and Learning and Partnership and Community Engagement. At its very first Senior Management Team (SMT) meeting it took the decision to incorporate sustainability into every aspect of its activities, with a particular focus on the core business of teaching and learning.

The SMT acknowledged that sustainability was simply business excellence and that by taking a sustainable approach to everything WACC did, it could take two underperforming colleges and create one excellent one. By including sustainability in every decision it made and more importantly embedding sustainability into the systems and processes that make the College work, has made sustainability business as usual. This has required absolute commitment from the SMT along with clear communication of the importance of sustainability in all that it does.



What it means to win

"Winning a Green Gown Award will help us collectively celebrate the work of the staff and students. Not only will it help us share our story but also help us to help other institutions take their sustainability journey forward. It will provide us with the credibility to continue trying to influence stakeholders nationally and through the LiFE Index internationally. But most of all it will provide us with another opportunity to say thank you to the staff in a very visible way."

Maria Gilling, Principal,
Walsall Adult and
Community College



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

There were great strengths in the holistic approach and strategic leadership in this project. It is addressing the challenge of what it means to embed sustainability to achieve excellence, in the context of adult learning. We encourage WACC to disseminate this practice within and beyond this sector and to tease out the different elements to support replication.

HIGHLY COMMENDED



COLLEGES AND SMALLER INSTITUTIONS

Circus Space

Circus Space Energy Awareness Campaign

Circus Space ran an Energy Awareness Campaign (EAC) in an effort to reduce its overall energy consumption by 5% over a three month period from October 2011– January 2012. The campaign had four key aims:

- To introduce a culture amongst staff and users of more efficient, intelligent use of energy in the building and at home
- To achieve the carbon and energy reduction targets set out in its environmental policy
- To reduce costs to the organisation
- To inspire other organisations to deliver their own energy awareness campaigns and reduce energy consumption and carbon emissions right across its industry sector.

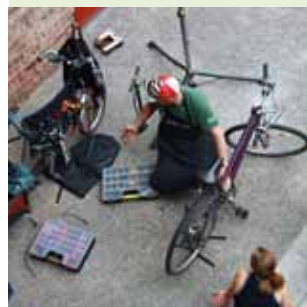
The EAC engaged with staff, students and stakeholder's right across the organisation. The result being that the campaign achieved a 10% reduction in its electricity use over the three months. The monitoring, measuring and managing of its energy during the campaign led directly to Circus Space applying for and being awarded Carbon Trust certification.



What it means to win

"Winning this Award is recognition of the on-going success of our sustainability journey. Acknowledging the work we put into the campaign helps us aim for an even more energy efficient workplace and it will inspire fellow affiliates of the Conservatoire of Dance and Drama and other colleges to do likewise."

Terry O'Dwyer, Building Manager, Circus Space



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

This is a quirky, energetic project that has grabbed the imagination of the organisation to raise consciousness of energy issues and achieve savings of 10% in a relatively short time. It also has an admirable dissemination strategy. A next stage for Circus Space would be to develop into teaching and learning and to gather evidence of changed attitudes and behaviour as a result of the intervention.

WINNER



CONSTRUCTION AND REFURBISHMENT

Sponsored by:



University of Bradford

The Green – a large scale sustainable student village

How do we create real change in the way we live and think about sustainability?

Built for the same cost as traditional student accommodation, The Green is an environmentally sustainable student village at the heart of the University of Bradford. It contains no “Eco Bling” and concentrates on good design, social engineering and outstanding building physics to deliver its final built BREEAM score of 94.11%. This is the highest scoring multi residential building in the world, which truly makes this development one in a million.

The real joy of the development is in allowing the residents to experience, and be educated in, living a sustainable lifestyle. This, coupled with sustainable modules embedded throughout the curriculum, will truly make the University’s students unique. The University of Bradford believes that this unique immersed combination of living and learning about sustainability will equip its students to influence change to the sustainable agenda in the future.

What it means to win

“Our new student residences are a proven green construction having achieved BREEAM outstanding with one of the highest ever scores. Winning this Award however shows that we are going beyond BREEAM and turning the building into a living learning device, teaching the residences what it is to live sustainably.”

Clive Wilson, Director
of Estates and Facilities,
University of Bradford



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

This was an outstanding project with lessons that can be rolled out to the sector.

HIGHLY COMMENDED



CONSTRUCTION AND REFURBISHMENT

Sponsored by:



Aston University

Historic Woodcock Sports Centre refurbishment

The Woodcock Street Sports Centre was built in 1902; Aston University purchased the centre in 1980 and it was registered as a Grade II listed building two years later.

In recent years, the building had developed serious structural and other defects, and it was estimated that the building had only a further 5-10 years before closure. A multi-million pound refurbishment project was undertaken to extend the life of the building and improve the facilities provided and the new centre was reopened in August 2011.

As Birmingham's oldest working swimming pool, the refurbishment took the opportunity to capitalise on the best of the centre and its history and mould the building to meet the requirements of a 21st century sports facility. The centre is now more energy efficient, more water efficient and will provide an important facility for Aston University staff, students and the general public for years to come.

What it means to win

"Aston University is committed to improving its environmental performance. A Green Gown Award demonstrates that sustainability is truly embedded in everything we do, and provides recognition for all those whose hard work and determination went into making this particular project a success."

Victoria Johnsen,
Environment and
Sustainability Officer,
Aston University



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

The constraints of a Grade II listed building and the increased space used are commendable. Energy reduction and successful linking to CHP (Combined Heating and Power) installation, all combine to make this a very worthy highly commended entry.



CUBO is a proud sponsor of the **Construction and Refurbishment** category 2012

Congratulations to the winners and to all entrants who have submitted innovative and inspiring work in this sector



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Park Lane Press is currently celebrating its 20th Anniversary year and what a year it has been with 6 awards to date!

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2012 Winner

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2012 Winner

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Federation
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WINNER



CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT: INSTITUTIONAL CHANGE

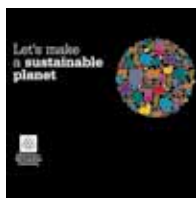
Manchester Metropolitan University

Let's make a sustainable planet - Manchester Metropolitan University's campus-wide commitment to creating a sustainable future

Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU) has a powerful sustainability story to tell. It's a tale of carbon reduction, behavioural change and investment in environmental improvements.

In 2006, MMU was ranked a lowly 91st in the People and Planet Green League table. Campus-wide commitments and passionate programme leaders have seen it rise to 10th in 2012. To date, it has reduced carbon emissions by 18.5% (4,576 tonnes annually) and offset rising energy prices.

Crucially, almost 94% of students regard MMU as an 'eco-friendly university', it is lauded across the city and beyond as a leader on sustainability and its approach to change has been embraced across the entire staff and student population.



What it means to win

"To win means a lot to the MMU Team. Firstly, recognition of our continuous improvement since 2006, and secondly, helping strengthen and enhance the visibility of sustainability, as a tool for our students to become 'stand out' sustainably literate graduates."

John Hindley, Head of Environmental Strategy, Manchester Metropolitan University



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

At Manchester Metropolitan University, the whole institution from students to governors and the wider community united together under their sustainability identity 'let's make a sustainable planet'. The judges felt that their submission covering a wide application of sustainability measures was an extremely powerful journey, full of passion and pride - a deserving winner.

HIGHLY COMMENDED



CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT: INSTITUTIONAL CHANGE

Harper Adams University College

The four-times carbon neutral campus

The introduction of an anaerobic system is the biggest, but only the latest, step to improve Harper Adams's approach to environmental sustainability. Over eight years a range of initiatives have been put in place, including "green" building design, local food sourcing and research on students' attitudes to campus energy use. Individual departments have introduced their own green schemes, and the college community has been united in reducing and offsetting its carbon footprint, and advising others on how they have done it.

Benefits include being 75% self-sufficient for its electricity needs, saving thousands of pounds across all departments and its ability to directly engage the wider community in thinking about how it uses finite resources and handles waste.

Harper Adams has received numerous national awards for its work in environmental sustainability, and is engaging in new projects all the time thanks to the success of projects to date.



Harper Adams
University College

What it means to win

"Winning this Award is a great honour. Continuous improvement is exactly what we have been trying to achieve, with the institution going through a lengthy period of change during which sustainability has been ingrained in everything we do. My thanks go to everyone who has helped us get to where we are now."

Dr David Llewellyn,
Principal, Harper Adams
University College



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

The Harper Adams submission was well thought through and demonstrated the impact that can be made on sustainability across the institution. Although not a winner on this occasion the judges felt their commitment should be highly commended.

WINNER



COURSES

Sponsored by:



University of Manchester

Sustainable Consumption Institute Centre for Doctoral Training (SCI CDT)

An innovative international multidisciplinary PhD training programme supporting the development of a new generation of top flight early career researchers capable of working across disciplinary, cultural and international boundaries in pivotal areas of environmental sustainability.

To date, the SCI CDT has raised funding from a variety of sources to support 35 PhD students. This student community has published 23 papers in peer reviewed academic journals and 3 book chapters; and presented papers and posters at 89 national and international conferences. The students have helped develop and deliver level 1 and 2 undergraduate courses to more than 200 undergraduates, and organised 2 museum-based public engagement events involving family learning activities with hundreds of adults and children from local communities.



What it means to win

"A Green Gown Award helps us to raise our profile, nationally and internationally, as an effective and transferable professional development and research training model for bringing together cross-disciplinary communities of PhD students to address pivotal environmental challenges. It also helps us promote our programme to future students and sponsors."

Lynda McIntosh,
Communications and
Marketing Manager,
University of Manchester



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

An outstanding example of an imaginative, holistic approach to sustainability in post graduate teaching with circular benefits back to the undergraduate curriculum, onwards to employment, and to local and green communities.

HIGHLY COMMENDED



COURSES

Sponsored by:



Nottingham Trent University

Nottingham Trent University Student 'Eco Videos'

The Nottingham Trent University (NTU) Student Eco Video project is a work-based learning initiative that enables undergraduates and staff to engage with and promote the university's commitment to ecology and sustainability.

By making short videos, Level 2 media students learn about reducing their carbon footprint in an exciting and dynamic way.

It is an educational project that has far-reaching effects: the resulting videos not only have benefits for the students and staff involved in the projects, but also future students on the module, prospective NTU students, and the wider community who can view the videos on NTU's YouTube channel.

The main idea behind the project is to learn how to spread a *positive* message about sustainability: If everyone makes small measures to save energy on campus and in the home, this will ripple out and create far-reaching effects for the good of the planet.



What it means to win

"This Award is a wonderful way of recognising the good will and hard work of all students, external organisations, and the wider community who have contributed to this project over the past 3 years, and will encourage future students to promote sustainability through the use of media."

Matthew Kerry, Lecturer in Media, Nottingham Trent University



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

Strong use of technologies and social media to disseminate an impressively wide range of sustainability materials in a subject not normally associated with sustainable development. Excellent impact through linking into the NTU ecoweb.

Celebrating and supporting innovation in sustainability

Universities and colleges are increasingly looking at how well their degree programmes equip students with the knowledge, values and skills for 21st Century citizenship and employment. This includes how to live and work sustainably.

As the national body for learning and teaching in higher education in the UK, we are pleased to support the **Green Gown Award for Courses**, which recognises new and exciting ways that universities and colleges are embedding sustainability into their courses.

Supporting innovation in sustainability in higher education is part of our commitment to bringing about change which improves the experience for students and supports and develops those who teach them.

To find out more and read recent publications such as our 'Green Academy evaluation report and HEI case studies', 'Student attitudes towards skills for sustainable development' report with the NUS, and the results of our policy think-tank: 'Universities and the green economy' visit <http://bit.ly/SLNDVh>.

Or register for our **Green Academy** – a year-long change programme supporting institutions seeking to embed sustainable development into the student experience in strategic and holistic ways at <http://bit.ly/R72zNz>. Calls close on **Tuesday 27 November 2012**.



Carbon Reduction Commitment

Wondering how you'll meet your targets?

From the smallest server room to the largest data centre, if your power and cooling systems are more than about 3 years old the chances are you're using far more energy than you need to.

To find out how your data centre can help reduce your carbon emission contact info@future-tech.co.uk

Data Centre infrastructure – it's not a cost, it's an investment



Future-Tech

www.future-tech.co.uk

WINNER



GREEN ICT

Sponsored by:



De Montfort University

Greenview – seeing energy differently

Greenview is a new approach to energy visualisation - an iPhone app allowing De Montfort University (DMU) staff and students to see the live electrical consumption of their buildings in a creative and innovative way. Avoiding commonplace charts and graphs it aims to connect users to their energy consumption and the wider environmental impacts of their behaviour through the creative animation of endangered species mascots, which respond to the live electrical data from the buildings.

It has contributed to the management of energy and staff and student engagement in DMU, it has resulted in:

- The creation of an accurate methodology for quantifying actual comparative savings based on sound building science and analysis
- Increased understanding on the impact of energy dashboards
- The methodology and approach of Greenview is now part of the Smartspaces project: an EU CiP project (EU/297273) enabling public authorities across Europe to improve the management of energy in their buildings by exploiting ICT.



What it means to win

“DMU aims to make a significant contribution to society’s efforts to achieve sustainability – this Award is a great reward and encouragement for 3 years of ‘real world research’ exploring new and creative ways of engaging staff and students in sustainability initiatives.”

Dr Richard Bull, Senior Research Fellow, De Montfort University



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

The visualisation of energy use for individual buildings in a simple app raised awareness of energy usage among DMU’s community. This approach could be applied to every university and college and other public authorities.

HIGHLY COMMENDED



GREEN ICT

Sponsored by:



Nottingham Trent University

Sunny spells keeping servers cool

Nottingham Trent University (NTU) has delivered an impressive new data centre on one of its largest campuses. The new centre will consolidate many smaller units on campus to one, very efficient unit. It has already significantly reduced the energy consumption of the data storage and this will increase once it is used to its full capacity. NTU's engineers and Celsius Design Ltd installed a super-efficient 'evaporative cooling system' into the data centre and provided innovation by linking it to a new photovoltaic solar system on the roof. This renewable source of energy has further reduced the energy requirements by an additional 26% to date.

This project is part of NTU's 'Carbon Elephant' programme, which aims to cut the University's carbon footprint by 48% by 2020. It also compliments other major ICT energy efficiency projects including server virtualisation, a project to cut 17 terabytes of unnecessarily stored data and automatic PC shutdown software.

What it means to win

"The Award recognises the dedication of NTU's engineers and our IS team. Their work usually takes place behind the scenes and they rarely get recognition for their excellent work. It showcases the innovation of the scheme and hopefully encourage others to replicate it elsewhere."

Gillian Moczarski,
Environmental Assistant,
Nottingham Trent University



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

The judges liked the co-ordinated approach adopted, particularly the combination of a photovoltaic system with the cooling system. The judges commended the clarity of the submission and the good practice embedded within it.

WINNER



LEARNING AND SKILLS

Lewisham College incorporating Southwark College

Eco-skills to influence communities

This project shows the success of partnership working – employers, trade unions, councils, labour agencies and community groups, providing a 'joined up' approach to tackling environmental sustainability. They provide venues, learning resources, work placement and job opportunities to widen participation from vulnerable and hard to reach people in the community and at work. The Discussion Leader model has been incorporated into multi-million pound building projects in London.

It demonstrates innovative methods to engage with hard to reach and vulnerable people from local estates and implements sustainable development principles as part of 'bottom up' development. Fifty four people have been trained as Discussion Leaders who would never have had the opportunity or confidence to attend a College.

It has led to community sustainability through empowering local community groups to set up further projects by involving them in developing their own progression pathways. A website has been created to blog all the developments of the initiative. <http://ecoskills.blogspot.com>

What it means to win

"This win reflects our passion for educating vulnerable and hard to reach people to develop their knowledge and confidence to have a greater say and influence in how their communities, workplaces and living standards can benefit from environmental sustainability."

Rossina Harris, Head of Trade Union Studies, Lewisham College incorporating Southwark



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

This is an example of a learning and skills network with strong community engagement. It represents an outstanding contribution, innovatively providing skills training for hard to reach individuals. The employability aspects are portable across the sectors and will be sustained through community and employer networks and The Green Skills Partnership.

HIGHLY COMMENDED



LEARNING AND SKILLS

The University of Nottingham

The Nottingham Advantage Award: sustainability grand challenge

The University of Nottingham has been working on a 'Sustainability Grand Challenge' to increase the knowledge of its students and staff and help them understand the impact of their values and actions.

The University's most significant output has been a group of new modules for the Nottingham Advantage Award (its student employability and skills award) which include sustainability in the Arts and Humanities, in Geography, Engineering and Business, but also in aspects of 'social' sustainability such as Global Citizenship and Peer Mentoring. These modules are freely available beyond Nottingham by being turned into open educational resources and ibooks.

The project has helped Nottingham shift the sustainability agenda from its estates and its research into its teaching and learning. It has explored what sustainability means for academic disciplines, and what it means for learning technologies and pedagogies. Nottingham's next challenge is to move this learning inside the mainstream academic curriculum.



What it means to win

"Nottingham believes that sustainability must be at the heart of the student experience, central to teaching and learning, and integral to graduate employability. Winning a Green Gown Award in this category provides authoritative external validation of this and is invaluable for the internal journey."

Dr. Sarah Speight, Academic Director, Nottingham Advantage Award, The University of Nottingham



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

This project makes an outstanding contribution to the development of multi-media, open source, copyright safe materials. There is strong portability across the sectors and a strong international cultural dimension to the project development.

WINNER



MODERNISATION: EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY IN THE ESTATE

University of the West of Scotland

University of the West of Scotland and SRUC (Scotland's Rural College), Ayr Campus, Ayr, South Ayrshire

The University of the West of Scotland and SRUC staff and students enjoy superior facilities made possible through successful collaboration resulting in the creation of BREEAM excellent shared campus. Located in a woodland setting the campus utilises the natural environment as well as a responding built environment to maximise the space and create an excellent experience for building users. The impressive space utilisation and resource efficiency figures that have been realised in the first year of occupancy demonstrate the success of this joint venture.

The project has allowed two very distinct higher education institutions to demonstrate through partnership working that significant efficiencies in space and cost can be delivered. The University fully expects, that through time, this collaborative approach can be used as a model for other higher education institutions to explore and put into practice shared resources across the sector.



Sponsored by:



What it means to win

"The University of the West of Scotland and SRUC have strived to achieve what we feel is an excellent facility for staff and students, our collaborative approach is a model for others and winning this Award showcases the success of Ayr campus and recognises the efforts of those involved."

Alasdair Tweedie, Assistant Head of Estates and Buildings, University of the West of Scotland



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

A truly exemplary project where the university and college sectors have joined together and combined with complete affiliations. It is an ambitious project that has delivered significant benefits to both partners and learners, while each maintains their own individual identity.

HIGHLY COMMENDED



MODERNISATION: EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY IN THE ESTATE

Sponsored by:



University of Worcester

Joined-up thinking: How 'The Hive' delivers a shared vision between a University and County Council for the benefit of the wider community

The Hive is a sustainability exemplar building evolving from a groundbreaking partnership to create a fully integrated university and public library, which is completely new to the UK and highly innovative internationally.

The first of its kind, The Hive highlights the major benefits gained from public sector bodies working together in partnership to create a unique experience for the communities they serve, as well as generating efficiency and savings through better use of public sector assets. Above all, the project proves that a University and a County Council can share a single vision and serve a single community and is a prime example of estate rationalisation for universities and cities across the United Kingdom.

The Hive is a cultural, learning and information centre of excellence, promoting lifelong learning, engendering social inclusion and raising aspirations in the broadest sense for the whole community.



TheHive



What it means to win

"As a forward-thinking establishment, winning a Green Gown Award provides independent recognition of our commitment to delivering innovative and sustainable projects and solutions benefiting not only our students and staff but also the wider community."

Katy Boom, Director of Environmental Sustainability, University of Worcester



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

An excellent example of the higher education and local government sectors working together to deliver cost savings and superior services, for both learners and the local community. Achievement of BREEAM Outstanding is to be commended.

WINNER



PROMOTING POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

University of Leeds

'Italladdsup' energy reduction campaign

With a target of a 35% reduction in CO2 emissions by 2020, 'italladdsup' was designed to grab attention, increase the importance of energy reduction and communicate the idea that with such a large community individual actions combine to make a big impact.

Key figures from the campaign include:

- Up to £42,000 of electricity was saved in holiday shutdown periods alone
- The amount of staff very likely to take action to save energy moved from 54% pre-campaign to 90% post campaign
- Pay-back of three years (not including benefits that were difficult to measure)
- Campaign reached a large audience e.g. over 21,000 visits to website
- Increased awareness of all campus sustainability
- Improved links between operational sustainability and University research and teaching.

The campaign has developed a strong basis for future carbon reduction work and will continue to evolve starting with a re-launch in November.



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

What it means to win

"'Italladdsup' involved a wide cross-section of University staff. Winning gives us the final seal of approval for the campaign, external recognition from the sector and helps re-invigorate everyone involved for next year's work!"

James Dixon-Gough,
Sustainable Development
Officer, University of Leeds



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

It took an innovative approach to an old idea. Judges liked their critical evaluation of the project and embedding energy as a university rather than an estate target.

HIGHLY COMMENDED



PROMOTING POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

University of Salford

New Life for Old Pants

New Life for Old Pants is a successful textile waste reduction and recycling programme at the University of Salford. Run with support from University of Salford Students Union, Salford City Council, TRAID and Recycle for Greater Manchester, the programme, which uses style, fashion and flair to promote and facilitate reduction, reuse and recycling of textile waste, has had a positive impact on behaviour and attitudes of students and staff to old clothes.

So far it has resulted in 2.5 tonnes of textile waste being diverted from landfill, saving the equivalent of over 33 tonnes of carbon. This is in addition to clothing being reused as a result of the Sew Good workshops and Swishing parties.

The programme is an excellent example of partnership working between University professional services and academic departments as well as external organisations. Both students and staff were involved and there were links to the wider community.

What it means to win

"Winning a Green Gown Award is excellent recognition for our project and enables significant promotion within and external to the University to support future work. The success of the project was mainly due to the effort of the individuals involved so the Award helps to go some way to recognising their efforts".

Rebecca Bennett,
Environment and
Sustainability Officer,
University of Salford



University of
Salford
MANCHESTER

WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

It was a very innovative idea to tackling an area of social and ethical responsibility. There is potential to replicate the project in other institutions.

WINNER



RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Scotland's Rural College

GreenCow

GreenCow is a world-class, innovative facility designed to support world-leading research programmes to combat climate change. It measures GHG emissions in ruminants and is designed and managed to bring together scientists from all over the world to build expertise and stimulate innovation.

GreenCow has become a hub for research collaborations and education opportunities. Scotland's Rural College (SRUC) is working with leading climate change scientists from New Zealand, Australia, Canada, USA, China, France, Germany, Switzerland, Argentina and Brazil. It supports SRUC's own courses and has hosted students from other higher education institutions.

SRUC has become the new benchmark for this type of facility, combining high welfare standards with technical innovations and inspiring the construction of similar facilities in Brazil, Malaysia, New Zealand, Australia and India.

Initial research results indicate that relatively simple changes to livestock breeding and nutrition can make significant improvements to the carbon-efficiency of the sector.



What it means to win

"A Green Gown Award is fantastic recognition for the hard work of many people who have brought this project to fruition. It raises GreenCow's profile and, further energises collaboration across a wider range of organisations and helps the UK make a real contribution to a global challenge."

Jane Smernicki, Head of Communications, SRUC



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

This is a tremendous collaborative project tackling one of the world's most intractable problems, and with immense significance for world agriculture. The teaching and learning opportunities from the project are a welcome inclusion.

HIGHLY COMMENDED



RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Aston University

The European Bioenergy Research Institute (EBRI) Pyroformer – a new sustainable energy solution

Aston University's researchers have created an innovative bioenergy solution - a 'Pyroformer' - that uses waste products to generate cost-effective heat and power and could reduce the world's reliance on fossil fuels. The Pyroformer offers the solution to many of the problems other renewable energy solutions have generated. The Pyroformer has no negative environmental or food security impacts; its use of multiple feedstocks means it does not require the destruction of rainforests or the much debated use of agricultural land for the growth of specialist bioenergy crops which in turn can push up food prices.

EBRI is showcasing the Pyroformer to industry and demonstrating how real-life solutions for tackling waste can be achieved, with environmental and financial benefits for households, businesses and local authorities. For those looking for a clean energy source that can ensure energy security and market growth without damaging people or planet, EBRI has the solution.

What it means to win

"This is an amazing achievement that gives this significant break-through in sustainable energy provision the recognition it so rightly deserves and demonstrates the role universities play in developing the solutions for mankind's future. The EBRI team are also over the moon with the recognition!"

Louise Russell, EBRI
Marketing and
Communications Officer,
Aston University



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

This is an excellent technological development that has the potential to make a major impact on a wide range of stakeholders in and beyond this sector.

WINNER



SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Sponsored by:



De Montfort University

Square Mile

The Square Mile Project is an innovative and unique initiative led by De Montfort University (DMU) which is facilitating positive changes to a deprived area of Leicester.

The initiative is a clear demonstration of how institutions can use their experience, knowledge and enthusiasm to facilitate real change in their communities and demonstrate their commitment to the principles of sustainable development.

The initiative proactively engages with local residents, the local authority, public bodies and staff and students at DMU to respond to the needs and challenges faced by an area adjacent to the University campus.

This community partnership initiative is underpinned by the DMU Vice Chancellor's commitment to position universities as a 'public good': vital contributors to the social, political and economic wellbeing of the communities in which they are based.

What it means to win

"Winning a Green Gown Award is clear recognition of DMU's commitment to sustainability and its commitment to playing a key role in improving the well being of the community in which it's based."

Mark Charlton, Square Mile Manager, De Montfort University



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

This is an innovative project that tackles deprivation through a wide range of disparate projects. The project demonstrates what can be achieved through a true understanding of community need across generations and cultures.

HIGHLY COMMENDED



SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Sponsored by:



Hull College

East Hull Voids Project

The Voids Project offers students the chance to gain hands-on experience, whilst ensuring that neglected properties are improved to recognised 'Decent Homes' standards thus improving the quality of residents life. The aim is to get the homes, in East Hull, back into circulation, while providing hands-on training in all aspects of property refurbishment, including stripping out, plastering, bricklaying and decorating.

The project has significantly contributed to the sustainability agenda, assisting local communities to benefit from attractive and risk-free surroundings, in addition to supporting jobs for local people.

The project has enabled relationships to be developed with a wide range of complementary partners, including a range of local contractors and suppliers.

Initial response from the community has been extremely positive, stating great improvements in the living environment, reduced anti-social behaviours, and in addition has also extended to small additional housing improvements to other local residents outside of the initial project scope.

What it means to win

"Winning a Green Gown Award gives us external recognition of the achievements of students, staff and partners and highlights the work done to improve local communities. We are proud to win such a prestigious Award which endorses our commitment and dedication to sustainability and supporting sustainable communities."

Paul Grayson, Head of School – Construction and the Build Environment and Matthew Lilley, Marketing Manager, Hull College



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

The judges were impressed with how the College worked with the local community to bring about positive outcomes rather than follow the norm of working within college workshops. This is a project that can be replicated by any college that teaches construction skills.

HIGHLY COMMENDED



SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Sponsored by:



Nottingham Trent University

NTU Astronomy Placements: a place in time

Seeing is believing! Nottingham Trent University's (NTU) placement students explore for themselves how landscapes, the skies above us, and human society interact and shape each other now and in the past. They put their learning into practice together with members of staff and local communities through week long placements. These include mini projects linked to topics of recent archaeo-astronomy research.

The project has already successfully established light pollution exploration sites promoted by the BBC, interactive online tools informing and creating awe and wonder in the community, as well as raise light pollution awareness through community projects described by participants as "magical".

Through their work light pollution becomes relevant for the community within which NTU is placed as well as developing key skills essential for Education for Sustainable Development e.g. emotional response and moral obligation. The outcomes are already informing current teacher training at NTU, UK, EU and beyond.



What it means to win

"The Award gives recognition to the student's work, achievements and supporting staff within NTU. It will help spark further interest in implementing placement programmes in the sector as well as spreading the word of the potential of the outdoor classroom for education for sustainable development."

Dr. Daniel Brown, Lecturer (Astronomy), Nottingham Trent University



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY


We liked the enthusiasm that was generated by this project and the efforts made to promote it. Although small scale, the project has demonstrated the importance of the natural environment and its intrinsic value which is rarely recognised.




sodexo

Contact **Peter Taylor** on...

 01793 512112

 07785 901616

 peter.taylor@sodexo.com

 www.sodexo.com

Avebury House ■ Stonehill Green
Westlea ■ Swindon ■ Wiltshire ■ SN5 7HB

HIGHLY COMMENDED



STUDENT INITIATIVES AND CAMPAIGNS

Sponsored by:



London School of Economics and Political Science

LSE Sustainable Projects Fund

London School of Economics and Political Science's (LSE) Sustainable Projects Fund included a rolling prize fund to support staff and student-led sustainability projects on campus and was managed and promoted by the student Sustainable Futures Society. It was financed by a 10p 'tax' on bottled water sold at LSE catering outlets with proceeds from sale of re-usable items donated by students moving out of residences and rebates from book donations to the charity "Better World Books".

The results: 2010/11 Fund has yielded two completed student-led projects; £7k for a green roof, installed Spring 2012 and £3k for a beehive installed Spring 2012. £17k was available in the 2011/12 Fund; £1,500 awarded to a team of students for an innovative communications campaign, displaying sustainability messages on canteen trays: currently in early stages.

The benefits of this project include practical, visible improvements to the LSE campus, student and staff engagement, valuable experience for students applying to and administering the Fund as well as a 'compromised' approach to mitigating the environmental harm of bottled water.



What it means to win

"Recognition from the sector's premier sustainability awards is a huge honour and reward for LSE, and the students and staff implementing the project. LSE has a dedicated sustainability trophy cabinet opposite its main lecture theatre - The Green Gown Award will be given pride of place, and prominently featured in School publicity."

Jon Emmett, Sustainability Projects Officer, London School of Economics and Political Science



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

This is an innovative and well administered funding model turning a negative to a positive. The successful student applicants to the Fund gain a wide range of experience through managing the implementation of their ideas. It will be good to see how this grows to involve a wider number of students at this in-depth level.

HIGHLY COMMENDED



STUDENT INITIATIVES AND CAMPAIGNS

Sponsored by:



University of Southampton

Southampton blackout: a night out with the lights out

On the evening of 27 April 2012, 255 students and staff at the University of Southampton completed the first campus-wide energy audit. The aims were to deliver carbon savings from behaviour interventions, empower students in sustainability actions, and raise the profile of sustainability issues across the University led by the Students' Union. In less than four hours and across 34 buildings, student and staff groups audited and switched off all non-essential office equipment left on for the weekend, including computers, printers and lights.

This saved 7 tonnes of carbon and over £1,600 in electricity cost over that one weekend. It is believed to be the biggest single night student and staff event of its kind in the higher education sector. The Blackout management team received a Vice Chancellor's Award for their outstanding contribution to the University.

UNIVERSITY OF
Southampton



What it means to win

"Winning a Green Gown Award is sector-wide recognition of the collaborative relationship between the Students' Union and the University on a fun project, raising sustainability awareness amongst students and staff across all faculties. Such recognition provides the impetus to hold a national event in 2013."

Dr Neil Smith, Environment Manager, University of Southampton



WHAT THE JUDGES SAY

This was a great scheme with lots of potential to engage staff and students and it gave knock-on energy saving effects. It will be interesting to see how it develops in the future at Southampton and on a national level.



Scottish Funding Council

Promoting further and higher education



Supporting sustainability
in Scottish colleges and
universities



Green Gown Awards International



For the first time ever the Green Gown Awards UK and Australasia are going head to head for three coveted International Awards. The winners of the following categories from each country have been judged on the wider dissemination and learning gained from their entries. We encourage you all to embrace their inspiring initiatives and ask yourself if any of these ideas can be replicated in your own institution?



The EAUC are pleased to announce the first year of the Green Gown International Awards, combining the excellence from the UK and Australasia. At the very heart of the Green Gown

Awards is sharing and learning plus promoting and inspiring excellence in sustainability. For the sector to do this across both territories strengthens this further.

In the UK we are ensuring that the learning goes beyond the Awards with winners' videos and case studies. The quality and diversity of the applications demonstrate that sustainability has the power to improve the performance of our institutions and our learners.

We look forward to working together with ACTS and the Green Gown Awards Australasia in the future to ensure that our sector stands up and leads on the challenges facing our sector, our society and our shared planet.

Iain Patton, CEO, Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC)



ACTS is delighted to announce the next step in the Green Gown Awards Australasia through the inaugural Green Gown International Awards.

Recognising and rewarding the excellent work occurring in the sector is so important as it shows that tertiary education is committed to sharing examples of best practice both internationally and at home. More than this, internationalising the Awards provides further opportunity to share learning and experience to ensure that as a sector we continue to improve and progress.

All applicants to the Green Gown Awards are to be commended for their efforts, regardless of whether they are deemed 'winner' or not. We look forward to working even more closely with the EAUC in delivering these international awards.

Leanne Denby, President, Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability (ACTS)



Green Gown
Awards



Green Gown Awards
Australasia

INTERNATIONAL WINNER



CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT: INSTITUTIONAL CHANGE

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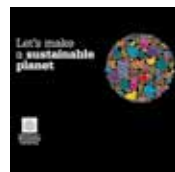
Manchester Metropolitan University

Let's make a sustainable planet - Manchester Metropolitan University's campus-wide commitment to creating a sustainable future

Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU) has a powerful sustainability story to tell. It's a tale of carbon reduction, behavioural change and investment in environmental improvements.

In 2006, MMU was ranked a lowly 91st in the People and Planet Green League tables. Campus-wide commitments and passionate programme leaders have seen it rise to 10th in 2012. To date, it has reduced carbon emissions by 18.5% (4,576 tonnes annually) and offset rising energy prices.

Crucially, almost 94% of students regard MMU as an 'eco-friendly university', it is lauded across the city and beyond as a leader on sustainability and its approach to change has been embraced across the entire staff and student population.



WHAT THE INTERNATIONAL JUDGES SAY

Manchester Metropolitan University has been very creative in its approach to managing its environment. It has demonstrated numerous excellent initiatives to engage staff and students to address not only environmental performance but also its capacity to engage its staff and students to influence behaviour change.

The deciding winning factor is its very impressive broad scope of student projects and the huge scale of dissemination, driven with a passion and a spark which has had great impact.

INTERNATIONAL WINNER



SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Sponsored by:



De Montfort University

Square Mile

The Square Mile Project is an innovative and unique initiative led by De Montfort University (DMU) which is facilitating positive changes to a deprived area of Leicester.

The initiative is a clear demonstration of how institutions can use their experience, knowledge and enthusiasm to facilitate real change in their communities and demonstrate their commitment to the principles of sustainable development.

The initiative proactively engages with local residents, the local authority, public bodies and staff and students at DMU to respond to the needs and challenges faced by an area adjacent to the University campus.

This community partnership initiative is underpinned by the DMU Vice Chancellor's commitment to position universities as a 'public good': vital contributors to the social, political and economic wellbeing of the communities in which they are based.



WHAT THE INTERNATIONAL JUDGES SAY

The programme was very innovative and challenging demonstrating the impact a University can have on its city and local community. This application was loved for its breadth and variety, engaging academics and support staff from across the University and working with so many different members of the community and its range of diverse outcomes. This programme is a great example of how dissemination can positively shape so many projects.

The scale of this initiative is extremely large with the potential impact and replication in other institutions very high. Judges were clearly impressed with what De Montfort University has achieved for both University and the city.

INTERNATIONAL WINNER



STUDENT INITIATIVES AND CAMPAIGNS

Sponsored by:



University of Technology, Sydney - Students' Association

Bluebird Brekkie: free sustainable pop-up café by students, for students

Everyone knows that breakfast is the most important meal of the day, especially when it comes to concentration and academic performance. The Students' Association at the University of Technology, Sydney (UTS) recognises that students are skipping breakfast before early lectures, or sometimes cannot afford sustaining and nutritious foods, so they created the Bluebird Brekkie Bar.

Made by students for students, Bluebird is a large-scale pop-up café providing a free, sustainable, delicious and nutritious breakfast once a week - all in an inclusive community setting with chilled-out indie music.

The aim is to improve student welfare whilst laying the foundation for positive long-term habits around nutrition and sustainable lifestyle choices.



WHAT THE INTERNATIONAL JUDGES SAY

An excellent example of an initiative run by students for students and not driven by compliance, this acorn project was highly innovative and original. UTS has incorporated all aspects of sustainability - social, environmental and economic which makes this an outstanding programme. It demonstrates the importance of good design, participation and team work as well as sustainable food production and preparation. It also is an avenue to influence and educate others about the broader sustainability message.

If it is possible to transfer the success of this initiative, including the educational angle, then it has a huge global potential!



The judging panel are representatives of sector organisations and/or specialists in a particular area. It is their substantial experience in the sector that truly makes the Green Gown Awards sector owned. We thank the judges for their time, commitment and valuable contributions.

APUC – Advanced Procurement for Universities and Colleges

ARMA – Association for Research Managers and Administrators

AoC – Association of Colleges

AUDE – Association of University Directors of Estates

ACTS – Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability

British Computer Society

BUFDG – British Universities Finance Directors Group

BUFDG PPG – British Universities Finance Directors Group Procurement Professionals Group

Carbon Trust

Change Agents

CUBO – Association of Colleges and University Business Officers

EAUC – Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges, incorporating Regional Groups, Community of Practice Groups and the Chair of the Board

KTN – Environmental Sustainability Knowledge Transfer Network

Guild HE

HEEPI – Higher Education Environmental Performance Improvement

HEFCE – Higher Education Funding Council for England

HEFCW – Higher Education Funding Council for Wales

HEA – Higher Education Academy

IEMA – Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment

JISC – Joint Information Systems Committee

LSIS – Learning and Skills Improvement Service

LUEG – London Universities Environmental Group

NIACE – National Institute of Adult Continuing Education

NUS – National Union of Students

Ofsted – Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills

Salix Finance Ltd

SFC – Scottish Funding Council

Second Nature

Sodexo

SDRN – Sustainable Development Research Network

SPCE – Sustainable Procurement Centre of Excellence

TDA – Training and Further Education (TAFE) Directors Australia

UCISA – Universities and Colleges Information Systems Association

UCU – University and College Union

UUK – Universities UK

Founded by HEEPI, the Green Gown Awards are administered by the EAUC. For more information please visit www.greengownawards.org.uk.

Disclaimer: The information provided within this publication has been provided solely by the applicant as defined by the Awards through the two stage process. No member of the Green Gown Awards team or steering group will be liable for any misrepresentation.

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