

# Green Gown Awards 2013 Finalists announced



## PRESS RELEASE

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With 81 motivational and inspiring sustainability projects representing 53 educational institutions across the UK, the EAUC is delighted and proud to announce the Finalists of the Green Gown Awards 2013 - all vying for the most prestigious recognition of best practice within the tertiary education sector.

*"In the face of tumultuous change, sustainability is revealing its value to the education sector. With Green Gown Award application numbers even higher than last year these sector leaders are finding new ways to build financially viable and resilient organisations which prepare employable graduates who are ready for the challenges ahead."* says Iain Patton, Chief Executive of the EAUC.

2013 has proven to be another excellent year for applications to the Awards. With 216 applications received across 13 categories, there were some clear category favourites! The top 3 categories representing 42% of the overall applications were; Student and Staff Engagement (15%), Sustainability Champion (14%) and Facilities and Services (13%).

The newly introduced “Sustainability Champion” category, open to both staff and students at a tertiary education institution, recognises people at any level who have worked hard at implementing a sustainability project/initiative (or several) and whose involvement has made a positive impact be that on their peers, their institution, their students, their local community or their local workforce. Nominees are put forward by their peers and we are delighted that the Awards can recognise the individual “people” impact as well as those at the institutional level.

Stage one applications for the Awards closed in June and a judging panel, representing the diversity of the tertiary education sector and experts in the various fields, provided a shortlist of entrants – the Finalists. These Finalists are now asked to submit their Stage 2 applications with a deadline in September. The winners of the Green Gown Awards 2013 will be announced at the **Green Gown Awards' Ceremony to be held at The Roundhouse, Derby College on Tuesday 12 November 2013**.

A list of the Green Gown Awards 2013 Finalists can be found at [www.greengownawards.org.uk](http://www.greengownawards.org.uk).

Now in their ninth year, the Green Gown Awards recognise the exceptional sustainability initiatives being undertaken by universities, colleges and the learning and skills sectors across the UK. With sustainable development moving up the global agenda, the Awards are now established as the most prestigious recognition of sustainability excellence within the tertiary education sector, as well as the environmental sector.

The Green Gown Awards provide universities, colleges and the learning and skills sector with benchmarks for excellence and are well respected by governments, funding councils, senior managers, academics and students alike. The on-going popularity of the Green Gown Awards in the UK, which are administered by the EAUC and governed by a cross agency steering group, is further enhanced by its international presence: The Australasian Green Gown Awards have been established since 2010 and are run by Australasia Campuses Towards Sustainability (ACTS). Continuing on from last year's inaugural launch, the International Green Gown Award will see the UK winners from the "Continuous Improvement", "Social Responsibility" and "Student and Staff Engagement" categories going head-to-head with the winners from Australasia.

### **Sharing excellence**

As the ethos of the Green Gown Awards is to ensure the lessons and examples of good practice within the tertiary education sector are shared and replicated in other institutions or can serve as an encouragement to others to initiate new projects, a library of case studies and videos from previous Green Gown Finalists is widely promoted and offers a wealth of motivational resources. To access this please visit:

<http://sustainabilityexchange.ac.uk/about/green-gown-awards/about>.

### **Green Gown Awards' Ceremony 2013 – Tuesday 12 November 2013**

#### **A fitting Awards Ceremony venue**

To celebrate the exceptional sustainability initiatives being undertaken by universities and colleges across the UK, we are pleased to announce that we will be holding the Awards Ceremony in not only a sector venue but also one that holds sustainability at its core and has amassed a string of sustainability awards for its ongoing work across campus – encompassing the ethos of the Awards itself – the sharing of sustainability good practice across the tertiary education sector. This year's venue is The Roundhouse, Derby College.

The Roundhouse, Derby, is a beautiful and magnificent series of truly iconic buildings that have a world-renowned status in railway history. The Roundhouse itself was built in 1839 and is the world's oldest surviving railway turning shed. It is a listed building. Following a £48 million renovation, it has been returned to its former glory with original features restored.

**"We are very much looking forward to hosting the Awards"** says Mandie Stravino, the Chief Executive of Derby College. **"We welcome our EAUC colleagues and Green Gown Awards Finalists to share our inspirational learning environment and their knowledge of best practice".**

And we are delighted to announce that our Green Gown Awards' Ceremony host for the evening is Professor Iain Stewart, MBE

Iain is Professor of Geoscience Communication at the University of Plymouth. He is described as geology's "rock star," and is best known to the public as the presenter of a number of science programmes for the BBC, including the BAFTA nominated Earth: The Power of the Planet. For more information visit <http://www.eauc.org.uk/ceremony>

The Green Gown Awards 2013 are kindly supported by the following organisations:

Category supporters:



Dissemination supporter: Media partner:



Further information about the Awards Ceremony and ticket sales can be found at [www.greengownawards.org.uk](http://www.greengownawards.org.uk).

Further information about the Green Gown Awards Australasia can be found at <http://www.acs.asn.au/index.php/programs-and-initiatives/ggaa/ggaa-2013/>

To learn more about the Green Gown Awards and the Awards Ceremony, contact Helen Exton at [greengown@eauc.org.uk](mailto:greengown@eauc.org.uk).

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**Notes to the Editor**

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**The list of the Green Gown Awards 2013 Finalists:**

**Best Newcomer**

Basingstoke College of Technology  
Falmouth Exeter Plus  
Harrow College  
Manchester Adult Education Service  
Royal Veterinary College  
South Essex College

**Carbon Reduction – sponsored by SALIX**

Blackpool and The Fylde College  
Durham University  
Lancaster University  
University of Essex  
University of Gloucestershire  
University of Surrey  
University of Ulster  
University of York

**Construction and Refurbishment – supported by CUBO**

Belfast Metropolitan College  
Coleg Gwent  
Nottingham Trent University  
The Manchester College  
University of Lincoln

**Continuous Improvement: Institutional Change**

Coleg Gwent  
Cranfield University  
University of Brighton  
University of Bristol

**Courses**

Anglia Ruskin University  
Blackpool and The Fylde College  
Coventry University  
Edge Hill University  
Plymouth University  
The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama  
University of Bristol  
University of Leeds  
University of Southampton  
University of Surrey

**Facilities and Services – sponsored by SODEXO**

Coventry University  
Durham University (Catering for Cultural Change “why bother”?)  
Durham University (Engagement breeds success)  
Nottingham Trent University  
Swansea University  
The University of Manchester  
University of Bradford  
University of East Anglia  
University of Salford  
University of York

**Learning and Skills**

Blackpool and The Fylde College  
Nottingham Trent University  
University of Gloucestershire  
University of Salford  
Walsall Adult and Community College

**Modernisation - Effectiveness and Efficiency in the Estate – supported by AUDE**

Durham University  
Newcastle University  
University of Aberdeen

**Research and Development**

Anglia Ruskin University  
Lancaster University  
University of Salford  
University of the Arts London  
University of York

**Social Responsibility**

Loughborough University  
The University of Manchester  
The University of Sheffield  
University of Leicester  
University of Worcester

**Student and Staff Engagement – supported by SFC**

Anglia Ruskin University  
City College Plymouth  
Durham University  
The University of Nottingham  
University of Brighton  
University of Gloucestershire Student Union  
University of Worcester  
Walsall College Student Union

**Sustainability Champion Award**

Norrie Blackeby, Head of Facilities and Central Services, University of Exeter Students' Guild  
Ian Brown, Building Services Manager, Bradford College  
Maria Gilling, Principal, Walsall Adult and Community College  
Samantha Godden, Sustainability Leader, ifs School of Finance  
Naomi Hicks, Public Communications Manager, London School of Economics and Political Science  
Ivan Hopkins, Executive Chef, Nottingham Trent University  
Dr Zoe Robinson, Senior Lecturer in Environmental Science, Keele University  
Professor Stephen Sterling, Head of Sustainability Education, Plymouth University  
Clive Wilson, Director of Estates and Facilities, University of Bradford

**Technical Innovation for Sustainability – sponsored by SCHOMS**

Nelson & Colne College  
The University of Northampton  
University College London

A list of the organisations represented on the Green Gown Awards 2013 judging panel can be found here: <http://www.eauc.org.uk/judges>

**Green Gown Awards 2013 steering group members are:**

Association of Colleges  
Association of University Directors of Estates  
British Universities Finance Directors Group  
Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges  
Higher Education Environmental Performance Improvement  
Guild HE  
Higher Education Funding Council for England  
Higher Education Funding Council for Wales  
JISC  
Learning and Skills Improvement Service  
National Institute of Adult Continuing Education  
National Union of Students Services Limited  
Scottish Funding Council  
Skills Funding Agency  
The Higher Education Academy

**About the EAUC:**

With a membership of over 300 universities and colleges, the Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC) is THE sustainability champion for universities and colleges in the UK. Run by members, for its members, the EAUC seeks to work with members and partners to drive sustainability to the heart of tertiary education. For more information, visit [www.eauc.org.uk](http://www.eauc.org.uk).

The Sustainability Exchange [www.sustainabilityexchange.ac.uk](http://www.sustainabilityexchange.ac.uk) is just one of a number of projects the EAUC is currently involved in. It offers the UK's first sustainability information portal and online community and has been created with the support of 23 top sector organisations.

The EAUC also delivers LiFE (Learning in Future Environments), a comprehensive performance improvement system developed specifically to help colleges and universities to manage, measure, improve and promote their social responsibility and sustainability performance. For more information on LiFE, visit [www.thelifeindex.org.uk](http://www.thelifeindex.org.uk).

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