



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**Tuesday 7 July 2015**

## **Green Gown Awards 2015 Finalists announced**

**85 finalists                      51 institutions                      877,513 students**

With **85** motivational and inspiring sustainability projects representing **51** educational institutions across the UK – with a combined student population of **877,513 students** - the EAUC is delighted and proud to announce the Green Gown Awards' Finalists 2015 - all vying for the most prestigious recognition of best practice within the tertiary education sector.

Now in their eleventh 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 are a tremendous celebration of significant achievements that improve the quality of life for staff, students and the wider community. These projects really do make things better, improving the student experience and saving money whilst benefiting the environment. The Green Gown Awards is an inspiring enterprise and there is much to learn from what others have achieved."* says Yvonne Hawkins, Director (Universities and Colleges), Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) and support partner for the dissemination of the Awards and the case studies.

2015 has proven to be another excellent year for applications to the Awards. With **157** applications received across **14** categories, there were some clear category favourites. The top 3 categories representing 43% of the overall applications were; Student Engagement (17%), Facilities and Services (14%) and Carbon Reduction (12%). Once again we have seen a large interest from Scotland – representing 13% of the submissions with Wales a close runner up at 12%. 89% of the applications represent Higher Education and 11% represent Further Education.

The individual awards attracted great interest especially with the introduction of the “Sustainability Professional Award” supported by EAUC - open to staff that have the remit for sustainability at a tertiary education institution. It recognises people at any level who have worked hard at pushing boundaries and are doing exemplary work.

*“Every year the Green Gown Awards rewrite what business as usual looks like for UK universities and colleges. Sustainability makes business sense and this year’s inspiring initiatives prove that sustainability benefits staff, students, the wider community and of course the bottom line. Congratulations to all the finalists for their hard work and we look forward to celebrating their successes.”* says Iain Patton, Chief Executive of the Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC).

Stage one applications for the Awards closed in June and a judging panel, consisting of over **90 representatives** from 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 will be announced at the Green Gown Awards Ceremony and we are proud to announce that the Green Gown Awards will be coming to Bristol, the **European Green Capital for 2015**. And not only that, the Awards Ceremony taking place on **26 November**, will be hosted in one of the oldest train stations in the world, at Brunel's Old Station which is now an atmospheric venue which offers a perfect setting for our Awards’ celebrations. Ticket sales are now open.

**END**

**Notes to the Editor**

**Media contact:** Helen Exton, Event Manager, [greengown@eauc.org.uk](mailto:greengown@eauc.org.uk), 07531 244208

**Media pack:** [http://www.eauc.org.uk/gga\\_media\\_pack](http://www.eauc.org.uk/gga_media_pack)

### **Further Information**

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 Green Gown Awards are delivered on a regional basis in Australasia, UK and French speaking Europe and Canada. The winners of each region then go head to head for the coveted International Green Gown Awards: seeing the UK winners from the “Community Innovation”, “Continuous Improvement” and “Student Engagement” categories going head-to-head with the winners from Australasia and French speaking regions. The International winners will be hosted by

the UK this year and announced together with the UK winners at the UK Awards Ceremony on 26 November at Brunel's Old Station, Bristol.

**Sharing excellence with over 360+ inspiring case studies and videos from previous winners** – dissemination kindly supported by HEFCE

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://www.sustainabilityexchange.ac.uk/green\\_gown\\_awards1](http://www.sustainabilityexchange.ac.uk/green_gown_awards1)

### **Green Gown Awards' Ceremony 2015 – Thursday 26 November**

We will be holding the Awards' Ceremony in Brunel's Old Station which is an outstanding Grade 1 listed Victorian building and is one of the largest events venues in the South West of England. In addition to that, it is in an excellent location adjoining Bristol Temple Meads Railway Station in the centre of Bristol.

For more information visit <http://www.eauc.org.uk/ceremony>

**The Green Gown Awards 2015 are kindly supported by the following organisations:**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Category supporters:</b>   | <b>Dissemination supporter:</b>  |
| <br>The Higher Education Academy                                       | <br>HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND    |
| <br>SALIX<br>SOLVING ENERGY EFFICIENCY<br>FINANCE IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR | <br>TUCO<br>Share. Learn. Buy. Grow.                  |
| <br>eauc   | <b>Media partner:</b>  |
| <br>Scottish Funding Council<br>Promoting further and higher education | <br>UNIVERSITY BUSINESS                             |
| <br>TEC<br>POWERING THE PUBLIC SECTOR                                  | <br>sodexo<br>Making every day a better day           |
| <b>Ceremony supporters:</b>   |  |
| <br>University of BRISTOL  | <br>UWE BRISTOL<br>University of the West of England |

Further information about the Awards Ceremony and ticket sales can be found at

[www.greengownawards.org.uk](http://www.greengownawards.org.uk)

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)

### **The list of the Green Gown Awards 2015 Finalists:**

#### **Best Newcomer Finalists**

**Coleg Sir Gâr** - 'Green FE in Green HE' – a dual sector Group approach

**Fife College** - The Green Vented Hairdressing Salon

**Southend Adult Community College** - Southend on 'Seen to be Green'

**South-West College** - Let's Green SWC

**University of Wales Trinity Saint David** - INSPIRE@UWTSD – an institutional approach to delivering sustainability through our culture, curricula, campuses and community

### **Built Environment Finalists**

**Nottingham Trent University** - To be green or not to be green, that is the question

**University of Bradford** - Bright Building - The world's most sustainable building in the education sector

**University of Brighton** - The Brighton Waste House

**University of East Anglia** - Modelling sustainability through intelligent design at UEA

### **Carbon Reduction Finalists – sponsored by SALIX Finance**

**Coventry University** - Carbon Challenge

**Dundee and Angus College** - Reducing Carbon CO<sup>2</sup> – it's in our D&A

**Edinburgh College** - Cracking Carbon at Edinburgh College

**Heriot-Watt University** - Leading Lights! A cost-effective approach to LED street lighting in a campus setting

**London Metropolitan University** - Proud to be EnviroMET – smashing carbon reduction targets at London Metropolitan University

**Oxford Brookes University** - Creating a Low Carbon Oxford

**The University of Nottingham** - NOTT Carbon!

**University of Warwick** - University of Warwick One (Carbon) Step ahead

### **Community Innovation Finalists#**

**De Montfort University** - OASYS South Asia - solar energy providing opportunities to off-grid rural communities

**Manchester Metropolitan University and University of Manchester** - Zero Waste- 'Give it, Don't bin it!'

**Plymouth University** - Restoring Drake's Place as a Community Space

**University of Leeds** - Becoming Positive Partners in Society; Sustainability Service and Leeds University Union Partnership Initiative

**University of the Arts London** - Creative Collaborations//Design+Make

### **Continuous Improvement Finalists#**

**Durham University** - Greenspace – branding the message 'Every small step leads to big change'

**North Warwickshire and Hinckley College** - An all-round approach to sustainability

**University of Brighton** - Institutional 'c-change' for sustainability

**University of Reading** - Reading, Steady, Green

**University of the Arts London** - Building the big picture through collage: London College of Fashion's Learning, Teaching and Research journey

### **Enterprise and Employability Finalists – sponsored by HEA**

**Coventry University** - Innovations in helping staff and students start up and develop social enterprises

**King's College London** - Kings of Commerce: employability for a sustainable Eco-nomy

**London South Bank University** - How Bad are Bananas? The Great Carbon Footprint Game

**The University of Nottingham** - Enactus Nottingham

**University of Brighton** - Green Growth Platform

### **Facilities and Services Finalists – sponsored by SODEXO**

**Edinburgh College** - eCar Project – Taking the plunge with electric pool cars

**Emory University (USA)** - The WaterHub – Emory University's Innovative Leadership in Water Reuse

**The University of Nottingham** - Helium – Lost in Space

**University College London** - Campus Logistics - from Strategy to Service

**University of Dundee** - Greening our F(l)eet  
**University of Edinburgh** - Sustainable laboratories – sharing best practice through peer learning  
**University of Liverpool** - Tackling water scarcity with a tidal wave of efficiencies  
**University of Reading** - Greenlands Clean Conscience  
**University of Wales Trinity Saint David** - Modern Meetings @ UWTSO

### Food and Drink Finalists – sponsored by TUCO

**Aberystwyth University** - O'r Pridd I'r Plât (from Farm to Fork)  
**Lancaster University and Lancaster University Students' Union** - Grow it, eat it, live it!  
- health, sustainability and culture of food at Lancaster University  
**University of Brighton** - 'Love Food Hate Waste': Brighton  
**University of Reading** - Making Beer Green  
**University of the Arts London** - Food for Life, University of the Arts London  
**University of Wales Trinity Saint David** - Food for Thought – Our Sustainable Approach

### Leadership Award Finalists

**Professor Frances Corner**, University of the Arts London  
**Dr Jane Davidson**, University of Wales Trinity Saint David  
**Professor Jeremy Sanders**, University of Cambridge

### Learning and Skills Finalists

**Canterbury Christ Church University** - The Futures Initiative: Our deep-rooted education commitment to the Rio 20+ Global Sustainability Goals: from seeds to roots  
**South Devon College** - South West Energy Centre, providing training and support for a bright future in the Low Carbon Sector  
**University of Leeds** - Joining forces to Create Sustainable Futures  
**University of the West of England** - 'Raising the baseline'  
**University of Wales Trinity Saint David** - Advocacy in the Anthropocene  
**University of Wales Trinity Saint David** - An Inspired Education

### Research and Development Finalists

**Lancaster University** - Centre for Global Eco-Innovation develops eco-innovative products, processes and services  
**The University of Nottingham** - Creative Energy Homes: Low-Energy and Zero-Carbon Housing – a living test-site for energy efficient technologies  
**University of Cambridge** - LEDing the way to greener plant growth  
**University of Salford** - Clever Classrooms in Sustainable Schools  
**University of the Arts London** - Grow a Garment

### Student Engagement Finalists# – sponsored by SFC

**Bristol SU** - Learn Act Engage Create: a four-step approach to embedding sustainability into the student experience  
**Edinburgh College** - Edinburgh College Community Gardens and Orchards  
**Liverpool Guild of Students** - Students Lead with a Buzz  
**The Students' Union of the University of Central Lancashire** - Small Acorns to Large Oaks - Small Scale Student led Sustainability Projects as a Catalyst for Change  
**University of Bradford Union of Students** - Cycling 4 All: The Veg Out Patch  
**University of Bristol and University of the West of England** - Student Capital: Green Capital : Unleashing the power of Bristol Students  
**University of Edinburgh** - Inspiring student-led action in social responsibility and sustainability  
**University of St Andrews** - Transition University of St Andrews  
**University of Stirling & University of Stirling Students' Union** - The Green + Blue Space: The University of Stirling's Environmental Heart

### Sustainability Champion Award - Staff Finalists – sponsored by TEC

**Luci Attala**, University of Wales Trinity Saint David



**Gwenllian Beynon**, University of Wales Trinity Saint David  
**Vincent Montag**, Goldsmiths, University of London

**Sustainability Champion Award - Student Finalists – sponsored by TEC**

**Anja Fischenich**, London South Bank University  
**Charlotte Rebekah Instone**, University of the Arts London  
**Margaret Jennings**, Goldsmiths, University of London

**Sustainability Professional Award Finalists\* – sponsored by EAUC**

**Serena Bacuzzi**, North Warwickshire and Hinckley College  
**Katy Boom**, University of Worcester  
**David Chapman**, University of Warwick  
**Martin Farley**, King's College London  
**Nicola Hogan**, Goldsmiths, University of London  
**Dr Aled Jones**, Anglia Ruskin University  
**Alex Metcalfe**, Canterbury Christ Church University  
**Peter Rands**, Canterbury Christ Church University  
**Dr Rosemary Willatt**, University of the Arts London

*\* New for 2015 # Included in the International Green Gown Awards*

A list of the organisations represented on the Green Gown Awards 2015 judging panel can be found here: <http://www.eauc.org.uk/judges>

**Green Gown Awards 2015 steering group members are:**

Association of Colleges (AoC)  
Association of Heads of University Administration (AHUA)  
Association of University Directors of Estates (AUDE)  
British Universities Finance Directors Group (BUFDG)  
Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC)  
The Education and Training Foundation  
Guild HE  
Higher Education Environmental Performance Improvement (HEEPI)  
Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE)  
Higher Education Funding Council for Wales (HEFCW)  
JISC  
Leadership Foundation for Higher Education (LFHE)  
National Institute of Adult Continuing Education (NIACE)  
National Union of Students (NUS)  
Skills Funding Agency (SFA)  
Scottish Funding Council (SFC)  
The Higher Education Academy (HEA)  
University and College Union (UCU)  
Universities UK (UUK)

**About the EAUC:**

With a membership of over 230 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 further and higher 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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