

**For Information**

**Purpose**

A brief summary paper detailing current issues and activities affecting the EAUC's Scotland Branch.

**EAUC-Scotland Branch AGM**

The Scotland Branch AGM was held on 31 October 2011 at the Royal George Hotel in Perth. Despite a slightly disappointing turnout (notably from Branch members) a very positive AGM was held. The Branch agreed minor amendments to its Terms of Reference to encourage new members to join while also retaining experienced participants. It also approved the addition of four new members. Full details of the Branch membership, its TORs and the minutes are available on request (and will soon be on the website).

Having intimated my intention to stand down as Convener at the AGM, I was persuaded to stay on as no willing replacement could be identified. Paul Sherrington (Principal, Banff & Buchan College) was appointed Vice-Convener, with a view to taking over at a future AGM. David Somervell (University of Edinburgh) and Jamie Pearson (Edinburgh Napier) agreed to act jointly as Branch Secretary.

In reviewing the year, the AGM noted the Scottish FE/HE sector's successes in:

- Securing £410k from the Scottish Funding Council for EAUC-S / UCCCfS activity;
- Securing 100% sign-up to the UCCCfS;
- Strongest showing yet by Scottish institutions in the 2011 Green League (perhaps due to the UCCCfS);
- Strong representation of Scottish institutions across the categories for the 2011 Green Gown Awards;
- Three successful bids by Scottish Universities to the Climate Challenge Fund (UWS, HWU, UoS);
- Establishing, through the Scotland Branch/Office, links to engage colleagues in Northern Ireland.

As always, the sterling efforts of the EAUC-Scotland team at QMU was acknowledged. In particular Andrew Chamberlain was thanked for his considerable contribution to the development of the EAUC in Scotland.

**Access to Online Resources:** The Branch AGM also raised a matter regarding access to online materials. It was noted that the MAC had also discussed this matter. **Branch invited the Board to consider whether the time was right to remove password access to the EAUC's online resources.** This would allow student bodies to use material and make access more accessible for all practitioners. The continued use of passwords was seen as detrimental to use of the resources and counter to the culture of shared endeavour evident throughout the sustainability agenda (see also the ACTS/AASHE/EAUC agreement below).

**EAUC-Scotland Branch: Staffing**

Staffing issues were discussed at the AGM in light of Andrew Chamberlain's departure. Iain Patton explained that Andrew was not to be immediately replaced but that the intention was to have a replacement in place by April 2012. It was further explained that UCCCfS and LiFE would be project managed in Scotland, with international linkages also based in Scotland. The interim cost savings would allow Alexandra Henderson (currently an intern) to be retained in a paid capacity from January-March 2012.

The Branch recorded its clear desire to see arrangements made sooner rather than later to circulate details of the post if an April appointment was to be made.

**EAUC-Scotland: UCCCfS Conference & International Linkages**

A very successful EAUC-Scotland Conference was held at the Perth Concert Hall on 1 November 2011. Colleagues from AASHE, ACTS, the EAUC and others spoke, while parallel sessions included discussion of behaviour change, the characteristics of sustainable campuses and the collaborative input to Rio+20. In the margins of the EAUC-S Scotland conference agreement was also reached between ACTS (LD), AASHE (PR) and the EAUC (IP) to share resources between the three organisations.

Following the conference, I was approached by Leanne Denby (ACTS President) and invited to consider representing the EAUC on the ACTS Advisory Board. I was honoured to accept.

**Fraser Lovie**

*EAUC-Scotland Branch Convener*  
*17 November 2011*