

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.

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:



Further information about the Awards Ceremony and ticket sales can be found at www.greengownawards.org.uk.

Further information about the Green Gown Awards Australasia can be found at <http://www.acts.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.

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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

Universities UK

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.

The Sustainability Exchange 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.

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