

Green Impact Universities and Colleges

Issue 2 - March 2011

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Welcome!

Welcome to our monthly newsletter. Thanks for all your feedback. We will be putting the newsletter on our website soon so you will be able to access it online. Please remember that if you would like any of your good news stories to feature

in this newsletter email Joanna on jromanowicz@nussl.co.uk. Enjoy!

Audits and auditor training sessions

Auditor training sessions are now in full swing. So far we have trained up over 153 students and staff at 10 universities and colleges. In most instances audits were carried straight after the auditor training sessions to ensure that the process was still fresh for the trainee auditors and to reduce the administration required to organise audits. The sessions have been an enjoyable experience for both the trainees and for the Green Impact Project Officers who have been delivering them. The sessions are very interactive and enable students to start thinking critically about environmental impacts of university departments and ways

they could decrease it. One happy auditor at the University of Reading said "the course was really great, informative and offering practical experience. I've enjoyed it a lot :)" If you haven't booked in your session with Charlotte, Bethan or Joanna please make sure that you do so as soon as possible.



Auditor training session at LSE on 23rd of February 2011

Green Impact events at EAUC conference—SAVE THE DATE!

NUS' environment and ethics team will be present at this year's EAUC conference. The workshop is entitled "Behaviour Change in Practice: Outputs, outcomes and future opportunities for projects in FE and HE" and will be held as part of the Inspire People strand on Tuesday 12th April from 14:15-15:15. It will include an update on NUS' environment work from its research work, Degrees Cooler and Green Impact Universities and Colleges, as well as discussion and debate on what makes a successful behavioural change project.

We would also like to use the opportunity of having so many Green Impact participants together to hold a celebration networking event. On Monday 11th April we will be hosting pre-dinner drinks and nibbles to share good practice and showcase the great work you've all been involved in. Full details are still to be confirmed so keep an eye out for your invite coming to an inbox near you!

Tips for a successful awards ceremony

Lots of awards ceremonies have been planned for the coming weeks and months. A couple have even taken place already. An awards ceremony is a great opportunity to thank all the teams for all the hard work that they have been doing and reward them for their efforts. They also act as a great way of inspiring others to get involved. It is therefore important to plan your ceremonies carefully and ensure that the events get the publicity that they deserve. Here are some tips:

- Have the VC and/or senior management present—book their time early!
- Have a master of the ceremony to ensure the event runs smoothly.
- Book a room with elements of grandeur although make sure it's not too big so it doesn't look empty.
- Serve drinks (and food if possible) - we want people to feel like they're at a party not a meeting!
- Arrange some nice awards—they don't have to be expensive to make your teams feel rewarded.
- Book a photographer and make sure they are well briefed. Awards events provide great publicity shots.
- Liaise with your Green Impact Project Officer if you need help at any stage of the event.
- See overleaf for more great ideas taken from the universities involved last year.



Green Impact Universities and colleges is an environmental accreditation scheme with an awards element for departments. It is currently run within universities and colleges in conjunction with NUS. To send us any comments or suggestions, or to remove your name from the mailing list, or please email jromanowicz@nussl.co.uk



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Awards ceremony case studies

All the awards ceremonies that we attended last year were full of positivity and enthusiasm. We are already looking forward to all the ones that will be taking place this year! Here are some snapshot examples to get you inspired:

De Montfort University - The master of the ceremony wore a tuxedo and announced winners from glittery envelopes, bronze, silver and gold respectively. This made the winners feel more special and rewarded.

University of Bradford - The ceremony had a fantastic 'Secret Garden' theme. The room was decorated beautifully adding to the grandeur of the ceremony.

City University, London - For its awards ceremony, the university had a delicious hot buffet from locally sourced food, including little bowls of risotto and other delicacies!

University of Exeter - Holding an event in June doesn't guarantee sunshine but the University of Exeter we lucky enough to be able to take group photographs of all the event participants in their beautiful leafy campus.



University of Exeter awards ceremony 2009/10

University of Reading - Using a bicycle powered PA system to power the microphone used for the event ensured that the event itself had minimal impact on the environment.

Green Impact Universities and Colleges 2011-12

The Defra funding for Degrees Cooler is coming to an end this academic year, however we would like to remind you that Green Impact Universities and Colleges will still be running in 2011-12 and beyond that so would like you to continue being involved. Full details of how to sign up will be made available in April 2011. If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to get in touch with one of the Green Impact project team.

Case study - Southgate College

Southgate College is one of our first Green Impact Colleges. Green Impact auditor training took place on the 2nd March with a group of 15 students attending. The students came as part of their courses in either science or hospitality, as their tutors recognised that the session would provide them with lots of useful information and ideas. The training had to be catered specifically to the college, as the audience there was younger than in most universities—most trainee auditors were between 16-18 years old. Joanna, the Green Impact Project Officer who took the training, thought the session went very well and was pleased to see lots of engagement from the students.

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Green Impact Easter Shutdown

The Green Impact Team will be on annual leave from 22nd April until 2nd May. If you have any urgent queries, please make sure you get in touch before then!

Go Green Week review

People & Planet led a national Go Green Week which took place at the beginning of February. There was lots of exciting activity going on across universities and colleges in the UK including some of those involved in Green Impact Universities and Colleges. To find out more about what took place at your campus please visit www.peopleandplanet.org

Photo competition

Thanks for all your entries in the Do the Green Thing photo competition. The winners have now been announced on www.degreescooler.org.uk



The overall winner — Megan Preston from the University of York loving her bike!

Green Impact Students' Union update

All Green Impact Students' Unions have now been audited and are being sent their final scores. For the first time, a Gold standard has been introduced, and 33 unions have gone for Gold, which has been very encouraging. The awards ceremony will be held at NUS Services annual dinner at the Ramada Manchester Piccadilly on 20th April 2011. Good luck to all who have entered!



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