

**EAUC BOARD PAPER**  
**Title: Scotland Branch Report**  
**Paper: 09.03.07**



**For Information**

**Purpose**

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

**Branch Meeting:** A meeting of the EAUC-Scotland Branch took place by video-conference on 3 February. Five sites were involved, with colleagues attending from Aberdeen, Belfast, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Perth. Full minutes will be available in due course.

Apart from some minor difficulties, the technology worked well and we intend to use this as the default mode for all routine Branch meetings. It remains the Branch's intention, however, to give all Scottish members an opportunity to meet face-to-face at the AGM (currently scheduled for 11 May).

**Board Matters:** I briefed the Branch on issues from the last Board meeting including the continued progress being made on revamping governance and structures and the development of a Member Advisory Council and Communities of Practice. For its part the Branch looked forward to seeing further detail on all these initiatives. I also advised the Branch about the proposed amendments to the EAUC's Articles and asked that all colleagues assure themselves that they are content with the proposed changes.

**SFC Funding:** In recent weeks the EAUC-Scotland team has been successful in securing a three year funding package from the Scottish Funding Council (SFC). The £410,000 funding package is linked to the delivery of the UCCCfS programme and will secure the core aspects of the project through to March 2014. Given the current funding situation and the cuts being experienced across the sector this is a considerable vote of confidence in the role of the EAUC in Scotland and the UCCCfS model in particular.

**Scotland / NI Collaboration:** A successful visit to Northern Ireland (NI) by members of the EAUC-Scotland team in January identified considerable scope for collaborative work and flagged opportunities for NI colleagues to tap into EAUC resources (e.g. TSNs) as well as for EAUC supported CPD and networking in NI. The visit also identified the excellent work being conducted in NI, including cross-border, and highlighted the [www.carbonzeroni.com](http://www.carbonzeroni.com) project, an exciting initiative where NI colleges are promoting sustainability skills. As part of the development of this relationship a behaviour change workshop is to be held in Belfast on 15 April with Leanne Denby (ACTS), EAUC-Scotland colleagues and Jimmy Brannigan.

**Projects/Events:** Full detail of all Scottish (and national) projects will be included in the report by the Head of UK Programmes & Scotland Manager. However, the following matters are worth highlighting:

- *Universities and Colleges Climate Commitment for Scotland:* the Branch discussed the need to move this process to the next stage, with a reporting framework now required by initial signatories.
- *Universities that Count:* the Branch noted the winding up of the Stakeholder Advisory Panel, the impending establishment of a Project Board and the progress being made with BITC.
- *Net Positive:* in the context of both UTC and UCCCfS reporting, as well as the link to international collaboration, the Branch welcomed the emergence of 'net positive' as a potentially significant EAUC contribution to the development of a concept to embed sustainability in the mainstream of sector thinking, encapsulating as it does the notion of 'impact' in all its forms.
- *EAUC Conference:* the Branch was interested to hear about the proposed change to the format of the UK conference in York and welcomed the enhanced focus on encouraging discussion and exchange. The Branch thanked David Somervell for representing its views in this matter.

**Staffing:** The Branch would like the Board to note that Richard Todd (EAUC-Scotland administrative officer) has left the team to take up a position with the Marie Curie Trust. The Branch wished Richard well and thanked him for his efforts in helping to establish and develop the EAUC-Scotland office.

**Finally:** An EAUC-Scotland (UCCCfS) twitter account has been set up. Follow us @UCCCFS

**Fraser Lovie**  
*EAUC-Scotland Branch Convener*  
8 February 2011