

Invest in sustainability by empowering your staff through comprehensive bespoke training

## Mighty oaks from little acorns



Can you do your job effectively and efficiently? Do you want training but have been told that there's no money left in the budget? Here's the answer

– having properly trained staff who are up to date with current methods and are 'in the know', means they will work more efficiently, saving time and money, and will be more confident with the decisions they make. Mighty oaks from little acorns grow.

In no area is this truer than in sustainability. Keeping up to date with current legislation can be a daunting task for new staff and old-hands alike. The current government interest in the 'environment' means more legislation, regulations and updates. Knowing how to comply is a must and not something that can easily be learnt by trawling Acts of Parliament! Digestible bite-sized chunks of information, delivered on a need-to-know basis by experts, makes learning and understanding the necessary facts and figures easier – and even enjoyable.

Obviously, receiving fines for non-compliance of regulations would be bad to say the least, however sustainability activities in today's environment must be about more than basic legislation. We know students value a university's green credentials when selecting where to study. With competition in the higher education sector so fierce, having sound sustainability policies and a 'green' view of the world is now a financial issue. To achieve this, changing the way staff and students behave and

think is essential. Getting staff to switch off lights, save water, recycle waste and purchase sustainably is no mean feat, and that's just the beginning.

### SO HOW DO YOU DO IT?

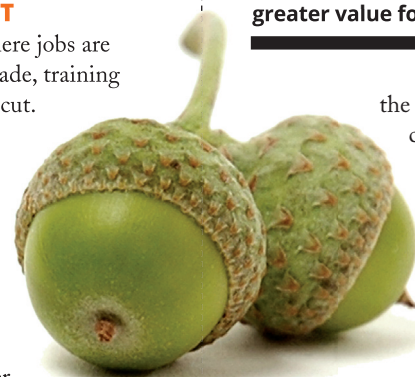
Behaviour change courses were once seen as a 'nice to have', now they're a must. It's not just a question of knowing what needs to change, but also how to communicate it. Many people in roles that used to be extremely focused, such as estates management or finance, are now being expected to take on sustainability. They're asked to develop policies, create campaigns, use social media and other technologies to mobilise staff and students. We must be realistic and accept that this is the way forward, but at the same time accept that this must go hand-in-hand with targeted, sector-specific training.

### WE KNOW MONEY'S TIGHT

In today's economic climate, where jobs are at risk and savings have to be made, training budgets are often the first to be cut. We are all extremely busy, so a day out of the office to attend a course seems like a luxury. But consider this, how much money could be saved in the long term? The economic and time considerations needed for a training course pale into insignificance when you consider

## Courses and Events

The EAUC runs a unique, comprehensive training programme designed for the sector, by the sector, meaning it is tailored specifically to you. With events covering all aspects of sustainability, from waste legislation and Environmental Management Systems to sustainable procurement and Environmental Champion networks, there is something for everyone. Each event offers expert advice, real life best practice and the opportunity to network with like-minded colleagues from around the country. EAUC courses provide training of the highest quality at extremely reasonable rates. As an extra benefit of Membership, EAUC Members receive preferential rates, making the training even greater value for money.



the efficiencies and savings that could benefit your institution in the long term. Money can, and will, be saved by investing in suitable sustainability knowledge and training. After all, sustainability is not about PR or a 'nice to have', it is a valuable money saving tool. ●

For more information on the EAUC's training programme, visit [www.eauc.org.uk/events](http://www.eauc.org.uk/events)