

Summary report 2012



“2012 was the year for collaboration!”

We've created this to give you a flavour of our 2012 achievements and to bring you up to date with what we have planned for 2013. This is only a snapshot so I invite you to read our full Annual Report 2012 'Stronger together' which you can find on our website at www.eauc.org.uk.

We're very proud of our achievements and have continued to be prudent with our finances in this climate which is difficult for us all. Like the full report, this summary has been framed around our 2012 overarching strategic aims and simplified to: Member value, impact, innovation, voice and transparency.

Our Members underpin all that we strive for. We are looking forward to the challenges ahead and will continue to drive for a whole institution approach to sustainability.

Iain Patton, EAUC CEO



Stronger together:



* The number of individuals engaged in Membership within our Member institutions is increasing ** Our 2012 aim was 52% so we have more work to do to fully represent the sector's voice

Member value

We are confident that if all tertiary educational institutions are actively engaged in EAUC Membership, we will make sustainability a key principle in decision making. We do this by delivering vital information, a vibrant network, cutting edge events and services to the staff in these institutions to inspire and lead them to drive the principles of sustainability from within.



Strength in numbers

It is our Members that give us our strength and uniqueness. EAUC Membership gives them the platform to know they have a community and a network of support.

- **12.4** average number of Member contacts per institution
- We are fully national across the UK - our Membership breakdown by region: Scotland **16%** England-Midlands **15%** England-South East **13%** England-North East **12%** England-North West **12%** England-South West **11%** Greater London **11%** Wales **5%** South Central **2%** International **1%** Northern Ireland **1%**
- **702** Community of Practice Members and **1,465** Members actively using the Educational Members' network
- **85%** of Members agree that the EAUC helps them to develop the skills and knowledge they need
- **884** twitter followers
- While our focus is on supporting sustainability professionals we also engage with a raft of other decision makers who need to embed sustainability within their own day to day operations.

Our Member contact breakdown by job type is diverse: Estates staff **22%** Teaching and research staff **22%** Support staff **18%** Sustainability professional **12%** Finance and procurement professional **10%** ICT professional **7%** Senior management/executive **7%** Student facing staff **2%**

2012 highlights

- Member pack and support tool launched to help Members embed EAUC Membership into their institutions
- Introduction to sustainability elearning module launched as a free engagement tool. This is now being used by nearly half of Members
- Free Food for Life consultancy meeting (worth £450) offered to allow Members to take their first steps to creating a sustainable food programme/strategy. 28 institutions have taken up this offer!
- Recommend a Member scheme launched to welcome new Members to the EAUC and give existing Members a discount as a thank you
- Sustainable Solutions (Consultancy) launched to connect Members with a range of experts who can support you, your teams and your institution and receive 10% discount on the standard rates
- Green ICT Community of Practice launched to bring together the research findings of a number of ICT sector projects
- 109% increase in Company Member income allowing us to share more insight, special offers and expertise from this group of sector providers

EAUC Memberships are for your whole institution/organisation to benefit from with no limit on numbers.

The sector says:

"There is extensive work taking place in universities to develop solutions to the challenges of sustainable development, to educate students about these challenges, and as organisations, to manage our own impacts. The EAUC is playing a vital role in this area. Through their invaluable resources and guidance, they are helping to ensure that institutions and institutional leaders are set to meet the challenges of sustainable development." **Universities UK**

Member impact

The value we bring to our Members and the sector is the collective voice we have and the greater impact this brings. With the power of our Members we have a strong impact on consultations, lobbying and the bringing together of organisations with the same aims.



2012 saw our Rio+20 work really take shape, giving Members a powerful international voice.

In November, we brought together sector organisations and the

Government following the strong educational commitments resulting from Rio+20. We were also proud to announce that we have officially endorsed the Higher Education Sustainability Initiative for Rio+20.

Now in their 8th year, the Green Gown Awards are firmly established as the most prestigious recognition of sustainability excellence in tertiary education. The 2012 Awards attracted 173 applications from across the tertiary education sector.



Awards were bestowed across 13 categories and included the inaugural launch of the International Awards. The winners from three of the categories went head-to-head for the coveted "International Award" in each category.

Over 60 case studies and videos of the 2011 and 2012 finalists have been produced for the whole sector to benefit. Visit www.sustainabilityexchange.ac.uk/about/green-gown-awards/about.

Stage one of the 2013 Awards opens on 1 May 2013. Visit www.greengownawards.org.uk

Member innovation

As individuals and institutions, we are powerful. But put this passion, innovation, experience and expertise together and we have created a vibrant network of drivers for change. The EAUC unifies the sector to drive this change where it is most needed.



We will shortly publish our first LiFE Annual Report which demonstrates the success of the participants in 2012. Here are some of the highlights:

- 23 participants
- New support centre created to help participants get the most from LiFE
- New engagement tools developed to help you and your institution see the benefits of LiFE and to build your case for investment

www.thelifeindex.org.uk

Funded by the Scottish Funding Council until March 2014, UCCCFs aims to get institutions to address the challenges of climate change and reduce their carbon footprints.



In 2011, we announced that 100% of the institutions in Scotland had signed the Commitment and 2012 saw us continue to support these institutions to deliver their action plans.

www.eauc.org.uk/ucccfs

In September 2012, we launched the much anticipated Sustainability Exchange, a sector-wide collaboration of 23 top sustainable development and tertiary education organisations.



It is the UK's first centralised information portal and online community for the sector, sharing a wealth of information, experience and resources that are available freely to everyone.

www.sustainabilityexchange.ac.uk

Member voice

We unite the sector under one powerful and meaningful voice to ensure sustainability is high on the sector's agenda. We work closely with other sector agencies and organisations to ensure we all work collaboratively and share good practice. We represent our Members' voice on a variety of groups, both nationally and internationally.

Strategic Partners

We have 85 Strategic Partners from across the sector. We ensure that they are aware of current thinking and activity in the sector and when our interests come together, we are keen to work with them for the benefit of the sector. These partnerships have delivered significant Member value in 2012 - see page 18 of the full report for more.

Member transparency

To promote and inspire a sustainable approach, we must demonstrate that transparency is at the very heart of the way the EAUC and our staff operate. As a charity, we continually review and scrutinise our expenditure, outputs and governance. We will support our Members for the long term and will involve them in how we do this.

5 year Strategic Framework

Throughout 2012, EAUC Members, Staff, Board and other sector stakeholders worked together to build a critical new Strategic Framework. This will guide the direction of the Association until 2017. It can be found at www.eauc.org.uk/strategic_framework_2013-2017.

Representations

The EAUC and its Members are represented on a variety of groups within the sector. Here's a few of the groups the EAUC attended in 2012 (see the list on page 17 of the full report):

- Higher Education Estates Associations Forum (HEEAF)
- Sustainable Development Alliance for the Learning and Skills Sector (SDALS)
- Higher Education Academy (HEA) Sustainable Development Advisory Group
- Association of University Directors of Estates (AUDE) Sustainable Development Group and the Scottish Group (SAUDE)

Member Advisory Council

This group exists to represent our Members' views, needs and requirements. This year the group of 22 active members provided feedback on initiatives such as the communications to Members on the change to the fee structure, the introduction to sustainability elearning module and the recommend a Member scheme (see the list on page 18 of the full report).

Sustainability report

We are pleased to be able to report on our carbon use for the year of 2012. This was our baseline year where we calculated our staff and Board business travel, workstation energy use, home energy use and travel energy use.

In 2012, our average carbon emissions per full time equivalent staff member was 1,359 kgCO₂.

Throughout the full report we have outlined our 'sustainability promises' for each section – these are where we have committed to taking our own steps to improve and think about our actions. Here are a few examples:

- We promote the dissemination of good practice through electronic case studies and videos
- We support our local community by our staff volunteering for local charities
- We run all our events using our sustainable events ethos

Looking to 2013 and beyond

The 2013-2017 Strategic Framework has armed us with many aims and objectives. At the core of this is the delivery of new Member services. Here are some of our key 2013 actions:

- We will work on a sustainability professional skills map for the sector and provide resources and training to support Members within their careers
- We will survey our Members and work with the Member Advisory Council to hear their voices to feed into future developments and provide the support needed
- Through our new EAUC group strategy, we will provide support where it is most needed to Communities of Practice and regions to ensure good practice and resources are shared with the wider Membership
- We will build on our first elearning module and our lunchtime webinars to fully understand the impact of these technologies in sharing new tools and resources
- Following Board approval in 2012, we will design and launch a new level of EAUC Membership for students
- We will be working with our Members and Strategic Partners to find new ways to ensure sustainability is high on the agenda of leaders in the sector and engage senior management in embedding sustainability within their institutions
- We will lead the research and establishment of an English Learning for Sustainability Alliance
- We will lead and facilitate the establishment of an international web platform bringing together sector sustainability assessment tools from around the world to share good practice and explore further collaboration with international partners
- We will manage the Scotland Colleges Education for Sustainable Development project
- We will continue to raise the profile and value of Members' good practice in environmental and sustainability management via the Sustainability Exchange (www.sustainabilityexchange.ac.uk) and will partner with the new UUK-led Efficiency Exchange
- We will establish a think-tank group for senior leaders to look for new models of sustainability leadership and organisational change
- We will establish and influence international links to Climate Commitment/Action Plan activity

A model for the future

In early 2012, we unveiled our 'model for the future' in the form of a jigsaw (see below right) with Membership at the centre. We're confident that if we achieve full engagement across this jigsaw, our Members will achieve the success they have been striving for and will feel the true value of EAUC Membership.

As we move further into 2013 and the next five years, this framework will become more central to the way we work and engage with you.



Thank you for reading our summary report. Please read our full Annual Report 2012 'Stronger together' at www.eauc.org.uk

The EAUC is a not for profit Member based charity run by Members for Members. We are financed by subscriptions and service generated revenue which funds our work of representing and promoting the interests of Members and the provision of support services to drive sustainability to the heart of tertiary education across the UK.

With our help we can bring your values to life and generate real change

- join us today

Your sustainability promise

We are committed to minimising our impact on the environment. By downloading our Summary Report in PDF format, not only do you receive it instantly but you are also doing your part in reducing your carbon footprint. We encourage you to email it to interested colleagues or potential EAUC Members and do not print it. This report was written and designed in-house by the EAUC team.

Delivered by EAUC



Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC)

UK Office, University of Gloucestershire

The Park, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL50 2RH

01242 714321 info@eauc.org.uk

www.eauc.org.uk

