

## EAUC's 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

**Engage, Change, Sustain- From planning to practice**

The EAUC's 14th Annual Conference will take place at Bangor University in North Wales from 22nd - 24th March 2010. Engage, Change, Sustain - From planning to practice will focus on the need to engage with staff, students and surrounding communities to change behaviour in order to become sustainable. The event will offer delegates from across the further and higher education, adult learning and environmental sectors the opportunity to network, share best practice and hear from leaders in the field such as Dr Anthony Cortese from AASHI/Second Nature (USA), a Minister from the Welsh Assembly Government, Association of Colleges (AoC), the New Economics Foundation (NEF) and Universities UK (UUK).

This key sector conference will deliver critical insight, tools and contacts to ensure universities and colleges can meet today's challenges. With focus on carbon reduction targets and legislation, reduced funding and space utilisation and accounting for environmental and social impacts this conference aims to engage delegates in the issues surrounding becoming leaders of the sustainability agenda. Engage, Change, Sustain - From planning to practice will be a showcase for what works, and be a critical forum to equip delegates to deliver a more sustainable further and higher education sector. With accountability to stakeholders increasing, the need for this sector wide hands-on conference has never been greater.

Bangor University's reputation for excellence in environmental science and sustainable projects coupled with its sustainable award winning buildings and university-wide Environmental Management System makes the university the ideal location for the 2010 event.

"Engagement" is the first of three key areas which will be addressed at this year's event and will look at how institutions can ensure that they have staff who are environmentally aware and who have the skills to encourage improvement.

The second key area is "Change". While people understand that change is needed, quite often it is seen as someone's job or that it isn't easy to achieve in practice. Examples of best practice will be explored and key speeches given as a means of guiding institutions towards creating and maintaining successful behaviour change initiatives.

The last area is "sustainability". The conference will build on the foundation that engaging with micro and macro communities and changing behaviour is vital if the UK is to become a sustainable nation, and will recognise that no other sector has the opportunity to affect such a large proportion of the population.

**Engage, Change, Sustain** welcomes delegates from a wide variety of backgrounds and experience levels and champions working together as the only way in which the sustainable future will be secured. The conference will offer an exciting opportunity for individuals to network whilst learning and sharing practical examples of best practice.

The conference will see the return of the 'Meet the Exhibitors' and 'Speed Networking' sessions to ensure maximum networking opportunities for all. The Conference Gala dinner will be the platform for announcing the shortlist for the prestigious Green Gown Awards and all entrants are encouraged to attend.

With expert keynote speakers, plenary, exhibition, networking opportunities, case studies and interactive workshops; the



**Engage, Change, Sustain - From planning to practice**

conference will bring together the sector's key thinkers and examples of best practice under one roof.

To book your place as a delegate, become a sponsor or exhibitor or to find out more, please visit [www.eauc.org.uk/annual\\_conference](http://www.eauc.org.uk/annual_conference) or email [info@eauc.org.uk](mailto:info@eauc.org.uk).

See page 10 to find out about Bangor University and the great steps it is making in sustainability.

To find out more about delegate rates and to take advantage of our early bird deal, please visit [www.eauc.org.uk/annual\\_conference](http://www.eauc.org.uk/annual_conference) before 12th February.



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## Legal Spotlight

### Green Energy (Definition and Promotion) Act 2009

This Act has recently received royal assent and defines the term "green energy" and aims to promote its development, installation and usage.

Green energy is defined as:

- energy efficiency measures (measures to improve efficiency in the use by consumers of electricity, gas or any other source of energy); and
- the generation of electricity or heat from renewable or low-carbon sources by the use of any equipment, the capacity of which to generate electricity or heat does not exceed the following capacities:
  - 5 megawatts for electricity generation
  - 5 megawatts thermal for heat generation.

The Secretary of State must prepare and publish a strategy for the promotion of microgeneration in England and amend the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 in relation to England, to allow the grant of planning

permission for microgeneration equipment on domestic accommodation, including wind turbines and air source heat pumps. It must also consider making a similar amendment for non-domestic land.

This means that micro-wind turbines and air-source heat pumps are finally to be made permitted developments – so not needing planning permission – over 18 months after the government promised.

Wind turbines and air source heat pumps will be not require planning permission if they meet certain size thresholds and do not lead to noise above 45 decibels on neighbouring properties

All microrenewables will be made permitted developments on non-domestic buildings, including wind turbines up to 15 metres high.

Charging points for electric vehicles will be made permitted developments subject to size and siting criteria.

### Groundwater (England and Wales) Regulations 2009

These regulations revoke and replace the Groundwater Regulations 1998.

**The regulations require an authorisation for the discharge of any substance to groundwater.** It is an offence to cause or knowingly permit the discharge of any hazardous substance or non-hazardous pollutant in circumstances that might lead to an indirect input of that hazardous substance or non-hazardous pollutant into groundwater unless it is carried out under and in accordance with an authorisation granted by the Agency under this regulation, or under a consent or permit issued under the Water Resources

Act 1991, Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2007, or Radioactive Substance Act 1993.

In the event of an unconsented discharge, the Environment Agency may serve notice in writing on that person prohibiting the carrying on of that activity, or granting an authorisation to carry on the activity subject to such conditions as are specified in the notice.

Environment Agency exemptions include input of a pollutant so small that it presents no present or future danger of groundwater deterioration; and an input that is incapable of being prevented without employing measures that would increase risk to human health or the environment or are disproportionately costly.

The Department shall review all existing disposal licences and vary or revoke them to prevent the disposal of any hazardous substance directly or indirectly into groundwater.

### Climate Change Levy (Solid Fuel) (Revocation) Regulations 2009

This regulation will revoke the Climate Change Levy, CCL, (Solid Fuel) Regulations 2001 which excluded solid fuel from the CCL. From 1 January 2010 supplies of solid fuel valued at no more than £15 per tonne become subject to climate change levy.



Thanks to Waterman Environmental for their support in preparing this Spotlight.



# Green Gown Awards 2010

In a recent EAUC membership survey 92% of members who have applied for an award believe that The Green Gown Awards bring prestige to their institution and that they provide a good platform for learning about new initiatives. The awards continue to play an important role in helping us tackle environmental and social challenges, encouraging changes in behaviour, becoming more efficient and in creating innovative solutions.

There were a record number of applications in 2009, with 33% from the FE sector. 28 winners and highly commended were celebrated at a gala banquet and awards ceremony in London presented by Kate Humble. UK Minister for Higher Education and Intellectual Property, David Lammy MP was among the high profile guests presenting the awards, as well as Baroness Warwick, Chief Executive of Universities UK, Martin Doel, Chief Executive of the Association of Colleges (AoC) and the heads of the UK Higher education funding councils and many more.

The Green Gown Awards is an exciting opportunity for institutions to network with the who's who in university and college sustainability, linking government ministers, vice chancellors and principals, funding council representatives, sector suppliers, sector support agencies, staff and students at the cutting edge of sustainability.

This year's awards were launched in January and the EAUC welcomes applications from all institutions in the FE, HE and Learning and Skills sectors. The deadline for applications is 12 Noon on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

Following last year's phenomenal participation and great success, this year's Green Gown Awards bring 10 established categories plus two brand new ones.

To apply for an Award please visit the Green Gown Awards website at [www.eauc.org.uk](http://www.eauc.org.uk) and download an application form and guidance notes. Short listed applications for stage two will be announced at the EAUC Annual Conference dinner on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2010 at Bangor University. The winners will be announced at a fabulous gala banquet and awards ceremony in London in June 2010.

*"Winning the award for our transport programme acknowledges and rewards the contributions made at all levels by staff and students. It gives recognition to the success of our programmes and will act as a driver for future initiatives."* Keith Pitcher, Sustainability Manager, University of Leeds, the winner of 2009's Continuous Improvement in a Specific Area award.



Green Gown Awards are governed by a Steering Committee and managed by the EAUC.



The categories for 2010 are:

- Carbon Reduction
- Colleges & Smaller Institutions
- Continuous Improvement - Institutional Change
- Continuous Improvement - Specific Area
- Courses
- Green ICT
- Research and Development
- Skills – *NEW!*
- Social Responsibility
- Student Initiatives and Campaigns
- Sustainable Construction & Refurbishment
- Sustainable Procurement – *NEW!*

Many thanks to the sponsors listed below:







## “Opinion” Forwards From Copenhagen - Universities and Colleges Lead the 10:10 Way

On paper, the prospects of a half-decent agreement coming out of Copenhagen were never good. But it was hard to believe that governments would allow this opportunity to pass them by. I held out hope that they would find a way to transcend geopolitics but found the contrary to hold true.

We know that the Accord wasn't up to scratch, but it's worth keeping in mind what that means for global temperatures. At the time of writing, the [Climate Scoreboard](#) indicated that fully implementing current global proposals would lead to a rise of about 3.9°C, which isn't much below what we'd get from business as usual.

World leaders are getting back together in Cancún this December to give it another go. If we're going to avoid COP15 redux, something major will have to happen between now and then. Something powerful enough to jolt governments out of the mistrustful, intransigent mindset that scuppered Copenhagen.

What if we could go to Mexico with evidence that a whole cross-section of British society had already rolled up their collective sleeves and made real progress in tackling their own emissions? Done on a large enough scale, this could make a noticeable dent in the climate pollution produced by the country as a whole and really shake things up on the international stage.

The good news is that this process has already begun, and universities and colleges are leading the way. More than 100 – from Glasgow to Falmouth - have committed to strive for a 10% carbon

cut in 2010 as part of the 10:10 campaign. They join more over 59,000 other people, businesses and organisations, and have been among the campaign's most enthusiastic and innovative participants. The University of Westminster, for example, put 10:10 front and centre during their Freshers' Week, while Newcastle University are launching a switch-off campaign on the back of their 10:10 commitment.

Cutting 10% in one year is an ambitious target, but if there was ever a moment for ambition, this is surely it. Britain led the world into the fossil fuel age; now we can and must show it the way out, with education institutions leading the charge. I can't put it better than this statement, from UCL Provost Professor Malcolm Grant:

“When we were originally approached with an invitation to join, I was reluctant because I did not believe the target to be realistically achievable in one year. 12:12 would be far better for us. Nonetheless, I have been persuaded otherwise, and especially that this is a target worth working towards. If universities, with a community willing to engage with major societal issues such as this, couldn't achieve the target, or at least take major steps towards it, then there is little hope for any other organisation.”

For more information about 10:10, visit [www.1010uk.org](http://www.1010uk.org), e-mail [hello@1010uk.org](mailto:hello@1010uk.org) or call 02073 886688.

*Written by Malachi Chadwick [malachichadwick@gmail.com](mailto:malachichadwick@gmail.com)*



### The EAUC supports 1010 and so do our members including:

Aston University, Bond Bryan Architects, Cornwall College, Eastleigh College, Goldsmiths College, King's College London, Newcastle University, Oxford Brookes, Roehampton University, Staffordshire University, University of Bristol, University of East Anglia, University of Edinburgh, University of Leeds, University of Leicester, University of Liverpool, University of West of England, University of Winchester.

If your institution is not mentioned here and is a supporter of 1010 please let the EAUC know by contacting [info@eauc.org.uk](mailto:info@eauc.org.uk)



## United Nations University Regional Centre of Expertise - Severn



RCE Severn is a Regional Centre of Expertise (RCE) in Sustainability Education. The centre is endorsed by the United Nations University (UNU) and is based in Cheltenham at the University of Gloucestershire.

RCE Severn has been created to provide a

platform for partners from across the West Midlands and South West to work together to develop and implement innovative projects and programmes in sustainability education and practice. Over 90 organisations from across the Severn area are involved in the RCE partnership.

The UNU has acknowledged 66 RCEs throughout the world, 22 of which are in Europe. These have been set up to help achieve the overarching aim of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD, 2005-2014) which is to integrate the principles, values, and practices of sustainable development into all aspects of education and learning. RCEs aim to apply this within the local communities in which they operate.

RCE Severn creates opportunities for its partners to implement changes that address global and local sustainability challenges by:

- Building a consortium of partners, linking stakeholders with expertise in sustainability with those skilled in learning, education, communication, journalism and public engagement
- Facilitating shared learning opportunities among partners
- Collaborating on joint projects and providing opportunities for joint bidding
- Raising awareness of sustainability issues in ways which build the capacity, skills and knowledge to bring about long-term and sustained change
- Supporting opportunities for volunteering and work placements with RCE partners
- Complementing and adding value to existing initiatives and networks.

Following an inaugural meeting in October 2008, governance arrangements for RCE Severn were agreed and a steering group established which is chaired by Martin Davis. The steering group has identified priorities for the RCE and four working groups have been established. These will be responsible for developing and delivering innovative projects and programmes in the fields of:

1. Business and Sustainability
2. Young People and Sustainable Schools
3. Local food initiatives
4. Media and communications

Two key projects that RCE Severn has been heavily involved in are:

### **The Handbook of Sustainable Literacy**

“The Handbook of Sustainability Literacy: skills for a changing world” is a paperback publication that arose from a larger project, Soundings in Sustainability Literacy, which was coordinated by Arran Stibbe (University of Gloucestershire) in partnership with EAUC and HEA. A multimedia version of the book containing extended chapters and video interviews with authors is available from [www.sustainability-literacy.org/](http://www.sustainability-literacy.org/). RCE Severn was involved as a co-sponsor of the initial Sustainability Literacy workshops offered at the Universities of Plymouth and Gloucestershire in 2008.

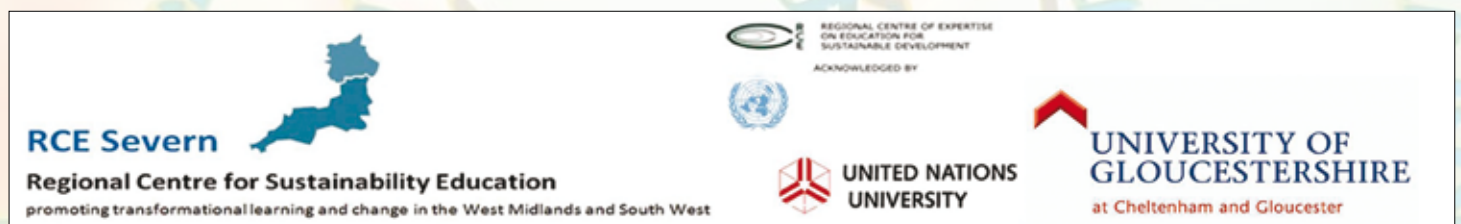
### **Are we there yet? Journeys of Student Engagement in Sustainability**

This national forum shared good practice and explored opportunities for improving student engagement in sustainability within higher education at the University of Gloucestershire on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2009. The event looked at the progress made in engaging students in sustainability through campus, volunteering and community activities.

For more information about RCE Severn visit [www.glos.ac.uk/vision/sustainability/unurce](http://www.glos.ac.uk/vision/sustainability/unurce) contact **UNU RCE Severn Director** on [dtilbury@glos.ac.uk](mailto:dtilbury@glos.ac.uk) or call 01242 715 378.

*Written by Carol Rabbette*

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## EAUC Continuing Professional Development Programme 2010

Below is the EAUC's Continuing Professional Development Training Programme for 2010.

Our Continuing Professional Development Programme is unique. Every training event includes topical themes and examples of sector application, including key input from colleagues across the sector who will share their knowledge and experience to help you go back to your institution and work more effectively.

Further information on all EAUC events and details of how to book are available on our website, please visit [www.eauc.org.uk/events](http://www.eauc.org.uk/events) or email [info@eauc.org.uk](mailto:info@eauc.org.uk).

We offer our Continuing Professional Development Programme at affordable rates, with added discounts for EAUC Members. So what are you waiting for? We look forward to seeing you on a course soon!

<b>4<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Know your Waste Scotland</b>	<b>University of Edinburgh</b>
<b>11<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Level 1&amp;2 of the Sustainable Procurement Flexible Framework</b>	<b>Bristol University</b>
<b>25<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>First Steps in Environmental Management System (EMS)</b>	<b>Durham University</b>
<b>13<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Level 3 of the Sustainable Procurement Flexible Framework</b>	<b>Aston University</b>
<b>28<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Biodiversity Management on Campus</b>	<b>University of Glasgow</b>
<b>11<sup>th</sup> &amp; 12<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Introduction to Carbon Management</b>	<b>Dumfries Crichton Campus</b>
<b>11<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Level 1&amp;2 of the Sustainable Procurement Flexible Framework</b>	<b>University of Aberdeen</b>
<b>6<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>CIWM Waste Awareness</b>	<b>Glamorgan University</b>
<b>18<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Level 3 of the Sustainable Procurement Flexible Framework</b>	<b>University of Inverness</b>

## New Quick and Easy Online Event Booking System

No more booking forms required!

The EAUC has now launched a new online booking system allowing delegates to book direct via the EAUC website to attend any of the EAUC events including the EAUC Continuing Professional Development events and the 14th Annual Conference. The new system is connected to our Membership system so all member details are already inputted and will provide a one-click book and pay system to book straight away and pay by credit/debit card or request an invoice. The EAUC hopes that the new system will make booking onto events even easier for delegates and more sustainable by reducing paper.

With the 2010 CPD Programme and Annual Conference now available for bookings, please visit [www.eauc.org.uk/events](http://www.eauc.org.uk/events)



# eauc round-up

## From CSR to ESR – Universities that Count Moves into its Second Year

Universities that Count, the HE sector's environmental and social responsibility performance improvement and benchmarking programme (project managed by the EAUC and delivered by CSR Consulting) is starting its second year with increased participation and a new name for its core survey.

"Universities were unhappy with the word 'corporate', and thought 'corporate social responsibility' was not for them", says Liesl Truscott of CSR Consultancy, the programme's lead delivery partner. "So we asked which words did work, and ESR, Environmental and Social Responsibility, was the result. So now we have Universities that Count, the Environmental and Social Responsibility Index."

Year one's results showed that the key positive sustainability impacts of universities, their teaching, learning and research activities, needed to be covered in more detail. A development group of eight top academics worked to improve the questions and the result will be a comprehensive overview of which techniques work best in embedding sustainability into the curriculum, research and into other areas such as knowledge exchange.

Insight is available online in the UTC Annual Report, with contributions from sector experts from across the UK. Detailed results and analysis of each question give an unparalleled understanding of how the sector is meeting its ESR challenges. The report is available at [www.eauc.org.uk/utc](http://www.eauc.org.uk/utc)

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## EAUC and JISC Head Up New Sustainable ICT Project

As part of JISC's ongoing commitment to greening technology, their sustainable ICT pilot project (managed

by the EAUC) is underway. This project will examine how ICT systems in Universities & Colleges in London and Yorkshire are performing and, after implementation of more sustainable methods of operation, will assess their reduced impact on the environment.

The principle aims of the project are to improve participants' ICT performance by making them more sustainable in their use of ICT equipment and also to look at design, manufacture and disposal. The project intends to look at behavior change in ICT users. The procurement of ICT equipment will also be examined.

Data and case studies resulting from this project will provide transferable, reproducible and long term sustainable solutions to ICT departments, not only in Universities and Colleges, but also in business and government sectors. It is also hoped that this programme will provide a platform for long lasting change in how large institutions purchase, use and dispose of their ITC equipment.

For further information on this project, please contact Nicola Hogan on [nhogan@eauc.org.uk](mailto:nhogan@eauc.org.uk), or call 01242 714 321.

Written by Nicola Hogan, New Sustainable ICT Project Manager, EAUC [nhogan@eauc.org.uk](mailto:nhogan@eauc.org.uk)



## Green Impact – Greening your Campus from the Inside

Green Impact, an exciting new initiative from the EAUC and the NUS, offers a practical way for staff and students to make their universities greener. Launched in the last edition of Earth, the project will pilot in 19 universities across England with 15 staff teams within each institution undertaking the challenge.

Participating Institutions:

De Montfort University, London School of Economics and Political Science, London South Bank University, Manchester Metropolitan University, Roehampton University, The University of Manchester, The University of Sheffield, University of Bath, University of Birmingham, University of Bradford, University of Bristol, University of East Anglia, University of Exeter, University of Kent, University of Leicester, University of Liverpool, University of Reading, University of Westminster, University of Worcester.

We are delighted that due to overwhelming interest in this scheme we also have 3 institutions taking part in Green Impact outside of the wider Degrees Cooler Programme:

Anglia Ruskin University  
City University London  
Southampton Solent University

For more information about the Green Impact Project and Degrees Cooler please visit [www.eauc.org.uk/green\\_impact](http://www.eauc.org.uk/green_impact) or contact [greenimpact@eauc.org.uk](mailto:greenimpact@eauc.org.uk)



## earth bite

### Transport Group Re-launch

After it's re-launch in November the EAUC Transport Group looks forward to consolidating its new skill set and developing useful tools for everyday jobs. The next meeting will be

in February 2010 to prepare for the EAUC conference in March and any input would be greatly appreciated. So to keep informed and to get involved, contact Caroline Radnor at [c.s.radnor@bham.ac.uk](mailto:c.s.radnor@bham.ac.uk)

## New board members

### Di Dale

*Principal of Wiltshire College*

Di has worked in the FE sector for 27 years, previously as a secondary school teacher of French, German and Spanish. Wiltshire College is Di's seventh college and second as Principal. With a strong track record in turn-around assignments, Di has significant experience in Quality Improvement. Di has been a regional and UK Assessor on the EFQM UK Excellence Awards, an Ofsted Inspector of secondary schools and an Associate Inspector in the Further Education sector.

Di graduated from Lancaster University, pursued a teaching qualification at Warwick University and then completed a Masters in Contemporary European Politics at Aston University, remaining keenly interested in links with Europe, and European education systems. Di is currently undertaking research into the 14-19 phase.

Di is a member of the LSC National External Advisory group, the AOC National Principals Advisory Group and Sustainable Development Group, chairs the SW region Train to Gain task group and the SW Colleges Sustainable Development Group.



Environmental Management before becoming Associate Dean, Learning and Teaching in 2006.

As Associate Dean Helen's responsibilities include the provision of strategic leadership in relation to the enhancement and quality assurance of the School's taught provision as well as contributing to the wider management of the School. Helen also has responsibility for staff and student wellbeing in the school and contribution to University level learning and teaching policy development and quality assurance.

Helen has been an active member of IEMA for many years, an assessor for Associate Examinations and a member of the NE Regional Steering Group. In addition, she recently chaired the task group set up by IEMA to review Associate membership assessment.

### Paul Cross

*Associate Director, Strategy, Oxford Brookes*

After graduating from Oxford Brookes University in Real Estate Management, Paul worked at the Oxfordshire Community Health NHS Trust in Estates and Facilities Management for 12 years.

Two years ago Paul joined Oxford Brookes University as Associate Director for Strategy in the Estates and Facilities Management Directorate. With a personal interest in sustainability and corporate responsibility, part of Paul's remit at Brookes was to be ultimately responsible for the Sustainability Team.

As Associate Director Paul is responsible for a number of strategic functions within the Estates and Facilities Management Directorate including the excellent Sustainability Team headed by Harriet Waters and also nurtures programmes of culture change. In joining the board, Paul hopes to play a part in the development of the EAUC, maximising every opportunity for creating excellence in the practice of corporate responsibility for the benefit of the FE and HE sectors.



### Helen Manns

*Associate Dean, Learning and Teaching, Northumbria University*

Helen joined Northumbria University in 1992 after working for three years in environmental roles in Local Government. After her first role at the university as Environmental Policy Officer, Helen was promoted several times occupying the posts of Senior Lecturer in Environmental Management and Head of Division of

## EAUC Wales – From Strength to Strength

The EAUC in Wales is buoyant, thanks to the pro-active leadership of Elizabeth May with the able support of Katrina Henderson as Secretary. I am now starting to appreciate the work both put in 'behind the scenes' with Elizabeth now retiring as the Wales Convenor and Katrina taking time out with imminent addition to the family.

So what has the EAUC in Wales been up to? Well, it's been a demanding and eventful year with continuity of the ESDGC agenda and the AM&T teething troubles, as well as sharing ideas and projects in the sustainability field.

Our four or five meetings a year are hosted by different universities, with the mornings taken up on a specific topical issue, usually a professional presentation – recent aspects being Transport Plans, Procurement, Waste Management and Environmental Management Systems – these integrated with inspection of the host university facilities eg.- Newport's bio-diesel plant, Glamorgan's hydrogen bus, Aberystwyth's waste composter and Pembrokeshire's new BREEAM Excellent Technology Centre, amongst others.

The afternoons then tend to specific business, with excellent pan-Wales coverage with a goodly number of FE participants. We are also graced by the attendance of at least one, often two and occasionally three, HEFCW

(our Funding Council in Wales) personnel, as well as Welsh Assembly Government representatives. Hence debate can be fully informed, constructive and, most importantly, productive and integrated.

Next year, after the EAUC Annual Conference in Bangor, we're looking at HE-FE collaboration on procurement (including energy), an all-Wales framework for contracts, Carbon Management Plans and the knotty issue of ESDGC-EMS integration – we'll keep you posted on our progress!

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## EAUC Membership Surveys

The EAUC asked its members to undertake a membership survey in December to assess its services and to understand how its members want to take the organisation forward - the survey response rate was an impressive 60% of educational institutions.

The Membership Survey aimed to

- Assess membership satisfaction with current services provided
- Investigate members awareness of current membership benefits
- See how members utilise current services provided
- Identify any areas that members would like the EAUC to expand into
- Explore the different requirements of FE, HE and other education sectors so the EAUC can more accurately target institutions
- Collect new member contact details



The overall objective for the survey is to produce and analyse an evaluation report. The feedback will help us to prioritise future developments and target key areas of dissatisfaction. The survey also aims to identify future areas of expansion for EAUC membership services.

In addition to our institutional membership survey we are also conducting a separate telephone survey for our associate members to assess the value and awareness of current EAUC membership and get feedback on potential sponsorship opportunities.

Primary analysis shows that 87% of members who responded are satisfied with the level of service from the EAUC and 97% of respondents believe that the EAUC can assist their institution in becoming more sustainable. The results from both surveys are currently being analysed and the final reports will be available to members in February.

### And the winner is...

In December we offered members the chance to enter into a prize draw if they filled in the member survey before 23rd December. Congratulations to Mr John Pugh from Langside College for winning the Full Conference Ticket and fair trade office hamper.

## EAUC Carbon Audit



The EAUC has recently undertaken a Carbon Audit and

the initial results show that the two offices in Cheltenham and Edinburgh are doing well but there is still room for improvement! Recognising that the challenge of delivering the sustainability agenda against a backdrop of economically challenging times and lack of resources in both finance and personnel were not just issues for our Members. The EAUC commissioned Sustainability Insight to oversee a Carbon Management and Reduction (CM&R) Programme including related sustainability issues for our own operational activity. The EAUC has also recently grown significantly in terms of staffing from three to fourteen and growing. In recognition that much of the current strategy, policy and operational activity was designed and developed whilst still a relatively small grouping, the EAUC will use the findings and recommendations of the final report to form the basis from which to review, develop and implement new organisational policy and operational related documentation and staff training. The Audit has also been commissioned to tie in with and provide the focus for the 10:10 initiative which the EAUC signed early in November 2009. The final report is due out early 2010 and will be available on our website.

## News from the Board



The Board welcomed some newly co-opted members to our last meeting with Helen Manns (Associate Dean, Learning and Teaching at Northumbria University), Paul Cross (Associate Director, Strategy, Oxford Brookes University), and Di Dale (Principal and CEO, Wiltshire College) joining our ranks. We will of course be asking the membership to formally approve these new Board members at our AGM in March but we are delighted with the new skills and experience this allows us to draw upon for the benefit of the organisation at this important time.

In my last Board update I thanked members for their contributions to our consultation document; the Board have now considered these and revised this document in light of comments made. This will be presented for approval at the AGM. Thanks too are due in this update to all members who have participated in our member survey; we can only continue to improve our services to members with your help so thank you.

Looking forward to seeing you at our conference.

*Written by Sheri-Leigh Miles, Chair of the Board*

# eauc round-up



## Making Great Strides in Wales

Bangor University, the host of the EAUC's 14th Annual Conference, has one of only three buildings worldwide to have received a commendation for its sustainable credentials in the international final of the prestigious Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors Awards. A joint initiative between the University and NERC, the iconic 'Environment Centre Wales' building, opened by Prime Minister Gordon Brown, is a BREEAM "Excellent" building. It is rapidly developing an international reputation as an exemplar building of sustainable design and construction. It is also a great inspiration within the University as it aims towards improving the sustainability of the Estate.

In the last couple of years Bangor University has developed a University-wide Environmental Management System for which they were awarded the Green Dragon Environmental Standard. It has achieved Fair Trade University status and has steadily progressed up the People and Planet Green League. As members of the Gwynedd Local Service Board they are also working in partnership with other public bodies to significantly reduce the county's carbon footprint through the establishment of joint Action Plans and challenging CO<sub>2</sub> reduction targets.

Written by Ricky Charles Carter [r.carter@bangor.ac.uk](mailto:r.carter@bangor.ac.uk)

**Welcome** We would like to give a very warm welcome to the following new members who have joined us recently:

### Educational Members

Cardinal Newman College, Preston  
Glyndwr University, Wrexham  
Moray College, Elgin  
Royal Forest of Dean College, Glos.  
Ystrad Mynach College, Hengoed

### Associate Members

EC Harris LLP  
Franklite  
The Green Blue

### Student Union Associate Members

Reading University Student Union  
University of Bristol Student Union

For information on the many benefits of membership visit [www.eauc.org.uk](http://www.eauc.org.uk)



**Remember you can sign-up to receive the electronic FE newsletter "flash"**

Do you have an interesting case study we can publish on SORTED? Help us share best practice.

We are particularly interested in:

- Carbon Management and Reduction
- Education for Sustainable Development
- Waste management
- Working with Students
- Sustainable procurement
- Utilities management
- Renewable Energy
- Behaviour Change
- Environmental management systems
- Sustainable ict management.

Please contact us, we would love to hear from you.

For newsletter sign-up and case studies, please contact [ejones@eauc.org.uk](mailto:ejones@eauc.org.uk)



[www.eauc.org.uk/sorted](http://www.eauc.org.uk/sorted)

## Sustainable Design Workshop

Environmental and social sustainability issues facing Kingston University and the wider town were addressed by students and experts recently at a workshop held at Kingston University.

The One Day Sustainable Design Solutions workshop, was organised by Michael Herrmann, Senior Lecturer in Landscape Architecture. Students, from courses across the faculty joined forces with eight specialist advisors to address a wide range of scenarios, problems and opportunities. Involved on the day were ecologists, environmental engineers

and key members of 'Transition Town Kingston and the University's 'Sustainability Hub'.

Some innovative conceptual designs were presented, including proposals to 'green' the campus roofs and the riverside student bar area at Knights Park and to create campus wildlife and communal gardens. Other ideas examined the potential for 'living walls' and green spaces around campus where organic produce could be grown as a local alternative for students and the canteen.

Feedback from both staff and students has been highly positive. Michael plans to

build on this next year with an event featuring even greater involvement from Royal Borough of Kingston, experts, activists and local interest groups. Students from landscape architecture, fashion, interior design, product and furniture design were represented this year and it is hoped to widen participation at next year's event.

*Written by Michael Herrmann*

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## From Application to Graduation – Greening Universities

UCAS manages and process more than two million applications for full-time undergraduate courses to higher education institutions (HEIs) every year. UCAS has 424 staff working from one office based in Cheltenham, and in November 2009 UCAS was awarded the ISO14001 by BSI.

Implicit in the success of this achievement is the vision and support from senior management, the commitment of our staff, and the existence of the Environmental Action

Group (EAG) to represent the different areas of the company. The EAG develops and delivers on company-wide objectives and targets to prevent pollution, and the group is managed by the Environmental Officer to achieve continual improvement.

In 2008 we identified our significant aspects as energy, paper, travel and waste. In order to reduce the power consumption of our server room by 3% we will be installing metering and implementing an aisle containment initiative. For the aspect of paper we agreed at the

Universities/UCAS Change User Group in 2008 that the A3 copy forms would be discontinued from Sept 2013, and that no applicants' letters would be produced in 2009.

With our business travel and staff commuting we are working to reduce our carbon emissions by 3%, and by having recycling bins and compost bins, we are managing our waste by removing individual waste bins from the open plan office areas. These projects are just a few examples of the work of the EAG, and our environmental policy is available on [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com).

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## Nursery Children See Green Future Take Flight

Children aged one to four from Sunderland have helped launch a green future for the North East. The children from St Mary's Childcare Centre were celebrating Sunderland University being named the first in the North East to win the Carbon Trust Standard award by releasing "carbon neutral" balloons. In the last three years the university has saved the equivalent of 200,000 balloons filled with carbon.

The Carbon Trust Standard highlights the work of organisations that have genuinely acted on climate change and are committed to ongoing emission reductions. The University of Sunderland joins leading organisations such as ASDA, British Airways and HM Treasury in

achieving the Standard for real carbon reduction.

Claire Charles, the environmental co-ordinator for the university says: "We are a university right in the heart of the city, and we like to think that we're creating a place that can be beautiful, functional and also environmentally responsible. We want to spread that message to all our staff, students, the community and their children."

*Written by Claire Charles* [claire.charles@sunderland.ac.uk](mailto:claire.charles@sunderland.ac.uk)



**University of  
Sunderland**

## Environmental Weeks - What Goes On?

Durham University had its first Environment Week last November. The week was filled with activities and messages relating to living and working in a more sustainable way.

The week began with an Environment fair; a variety of both internal and external exhibitors offering advice and services on topics such as recycling, transport, energy and Fairtrade. There were also various competitions and activities including a driving simulator and solar powered car at the Durham Campus, suggestion boxes and much more. The Fair was open to all staff and students

and both the Chancellor and Vice - Chancellor, Bill Bryson.

Additionally, at the start of the week the University also held a 'Green Move Out' launch to other North East Universities. The Green Move Out campaign focuses on diverting students' discarded items both to local charities and back to other students. This year the scheme in Durham diverted almost 20 tonnes of belongings away from landfill.

The week was also used as a platform to further promote University policies. For example every department and college has since been given a digital thermometer, via their staff Environment Champion, in order to allow them to monitor their own internal space temperatures. Plug in energy monitors were also purchased and loaned out to departments so they can see the electrical consumption of their appliances and begin to recognise where energy savings can be made.

The University is confident that Environment Week raised the profile of both environmental issues within the University and the many



different activities both staff and students can do to help mitigate the effects of climate change. This coming year will see campaigns in the University which reinforce the messages of Environment Week, including further increasing the percentage of waste recycled and continuing to drive down energy use.

*Written by Tara Duncan*  
[www.durham.ac.uk/environment/  
envweek09](http://www.durham.ac.uk/environment/envweek09)



## Green League 2010 – Have your say

Should the Green League 2010 include new criteria or stay the same? Should it shine a spotlight on particular areas of carbon reduction? How can we improve the methodology and make submissions easier for environmental managers? Come along to a consultation event, hosted by Oxford Brookes Sustainability Team, to find out more about People & Planet's future plans for the Green League, and feed into a review of the criteria and methodology for the coming year. Last year's Green League was developed based on your input and received widespread media attention. We value your contributions and expertise and would love your input again this year!

To register for the event or more information please contact Louise Hazan: [louise.hazan@peopleandplanet.org](mailto:louise.hazan@peopleandplanet.org) or 01865 245678

*Written by Louise Hazan*

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## Going Greener with People and Planet

Working closely with the EAUC and NUS, People & Planet's new Going Greener campaign is part of a massive behaviour change programme, Degrees Cooler, which aims to showcase how universities can reduce short-haul flights, increase recycling, encourage low-carbon diets and reduce energy-usage among staff and students.

The campaign focuses on the entire university community and aims to enable both staff and students to work collaboratively to reduce their carbon footprint and energy use. Students are encouraged to join forces with staff to develop and implement their own responses to the climate challenge. Together they are developing a mix of practical projects, awareness-raising campaigns, Go Green Weeks and community-building initiatives that work towards their vision of a Transition University.



Transitioning to low-carbon institutions will require far more than structural changes, such as renewable energy systems and greener transport options; behaviour change is also key to reducing the FHE sector's carbon footprint – the majority of which is generated through the university community's behaviour.

To find out more, please visit [www.peopleandplanet.org/goinggreener](http://www.peopleandplanet.org/goinggreener), or contact Andrew Taylor on 01865 245678.

*Written by Andrew Taylor*

[www.peopleandplanet.org/goinggreener](http://www.peopleandplanet.org/goinggreener)



## The Wave- A Word from the EAUC Student Union Members

In early December the EAUC's member institutions, employees and Student Unions were represented at The Wave - the biggest ever climate change march the world has ever seen. The day was a huge success and the atmosphere was electric as people from all walks of life, including over 1,000 students, came together to express their concern about climate change.

Liverpool Guild of Students was one of the EAUC's Student Unions that attended and took a coach of 70 students to participate in the Wave. They joined in other student activities with the NUS.

"Students are key to driving behavioural change and environmental activism and we were delighted to be part of such a momentous occasion." Danielle Grufferty, President, Liverpool Guild of Students.

Not only did UEA Students Union take part in the march with their very own samba band, placards, banners and sea monster, they also actively helped raise awareness in the community of climate change through rally's, petitions, gigs, marches and one of the few teach-ins to happen in the country.

"The Wave was the culmination of a term of hard campaigning in the union and in the city" Leejah Dorward, UEA's Environment Officer

Gemma Lay was there on behalf of the EAUC and commented: "It was great to see Universities and Students being represented on the march as it illustrates their sincere commitment to and involvement in helping their institutions contribute to society being more environmentally sound" EAUC Membership Services Officer.

*Written by EAUC* [www.stopclimatechaos.org/the-wave](http://www.stopclimatechaos.org/the-wave)







## The London Universities Environment Group



The London Universities Environment Group (LUEG) is open to all London Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), the majority of whom are also members of the EAUC. The LUEG shares HEFCE's vision that "within the next 10 years, the Higher Education sector will be recognised as a major contributor to society's efforts to achieve sustainability – through the skills and knowledge that its graduates learn and put into practice, and through its own strategies and operations" – Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE), 2005.

Based on the EAUC regional group structure, the LUEG provides a forum to share best practice and information to support the implementation of sustainable development in HEIs. LUEG encompasses a wide variety of HEIs who all have the scope to learn from each other through meetings and peer led workshops in bi-monthly meetings.

Selected highlights from the LUEG meetings include:

- Free support and training from Sustain to write a Sustainable Catering Policy which enabled Queen Mary University to launch one just six weeks later
- Sharing best practice for end-of-term reuse schemes which led to Kingston University scooping a Green Gown Award
- An introduction to permaculture at Islington Ecology Centre with delicious local, organic, vegan food and practical exercises to show our interconnectivity with the natural environment
- Presentation on 'designing out cycle crime' with Bike Off
- Introduction to Environmental Management Systems
- Feasibility of bee keeping and living roofs in urban environments

*Written by Feimatta Conteh*

[www.lse.ac.uk/collections/environment/OurInitiatives/CommunityInvolvement/LUEG.htm](http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/environment/OurInitiatives/CommunityInvolvement/LUEG.htm)

Contact *Liane Fredericks* [l.fredericks@lse.ac.uk](mailto:l.fredericks@lse.ac.uk)

## Climate solidarity – getting the workforce involved

### What is 'Climate Solidarity'?

Climate Solidarity is a partnership of four trade unions -- the University and College Union (UCU), the Public and Commercial Services Union (PCS), the National Union of Teachers (NUT), the Communication Workers Union (CWU) -- and a charity, the Climate Outreach and Information Network (COIN). Funding has been made available from Defra to set up Climate Action Groups (CAGs) in universities and colleges.

### How will it work?

UCU will train Action Group Leaders who will support the work of CAGs. A group can cover the whole institution or be set up on a site or departmental basis. Staff will work on a number of personal carbon reduction targets which will cover anything from energy use,

transport arrangements, food or whatever carbon saving target is agreed by group members. The idea is that it should be fun.

### How will it benefit the sector?

Universities and FE colleges will have a more informed workforce. The groups will also relate their activities to the strategy of the institution. It is intended as an important contribution to the need to engage staff on green issues. This will be crucial if the increasing number of internal and external sustainability targets are to be achieved.

### What support do we need from the sector?

We have already started working closely with the EAUC and HEFCE on this. Both organisations sent speakers to the UCU



Environment conference in November. The event was very successful and will hopefully strengthen the link with key organisations in the sector. The AoC has also expressed support for the project. UCU will be working hard in 2010 to engage with as many universities and colleges as possible to promote this project.

*Written by Graham Petersen*

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## Green ICT Initiatives Offer both Energy and CO2 Savings and Cost Savings



Sponsorship of a Green programme and adoption of green ICT policies and standards within an organisation are probably more important to the achievement of optimized Green ICT savings than any single technology factor.

Current, clear, comprehensive data is the foundation of any business decision, but because of the budget silos and responsibility domains in many organisations there is often a lack of data about the current IT energy usage profile of the organisation. Over 80% of IT directors do not see the power bill for the data centre they operate, and even fewer have direct responsibility for paying it. Even when power facts are known, the savings that would be realised by spending on green projects to address the situation rarely fall entirely within the department that has to make the project spend which acts as a brake on green progress. This will have to change as Government pushes organisations to become compliant with the EU Code of Conduct for data centres and achieve carbon neutrality on operations.

Bull helps clients address their lack of baseline of data by deploying a range of assessment tools and audit services to provide savings and cost estimates which provide the means to develop accurate business cases for change programmes.

Written by Rachel Keil [Rachel.Keil@bull.co.uk](mailto:Rachel.Keil@bull.co.uk)

*Bull are Associate Members of EAUC.*

The EAUC Board provides strategic guidance and has a responsibility for the development of services for members. The EAUC Board is elected annually at the AGM and is made up of volunteering individuals working in the FHE sector.

Sheri-Leigh Miles, University of Bradford, UK Convenor  
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Neil Smith, University of Southampton  
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