



# Selling Sustainability to students: Online strategies for behaviour change

27 May 2015, 12:00-13:15

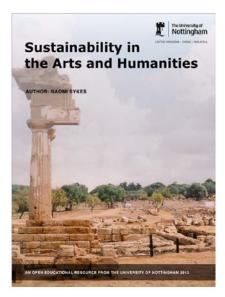
### Speaker:

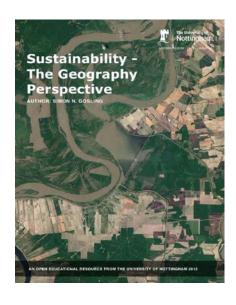
Sarah Speight, Professor of Higher Education, Academic Director of Online Learning, The University of Nottingham

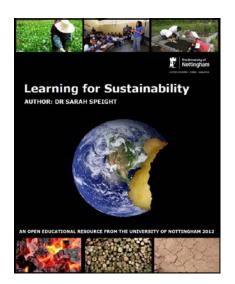
Contact Seth: sikirby@eauc.org.uk / 01242 71 4321

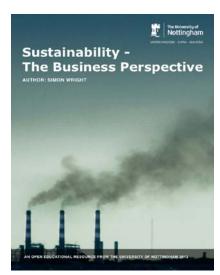
#### **Highly Commended, Green Gown Awards 2012**

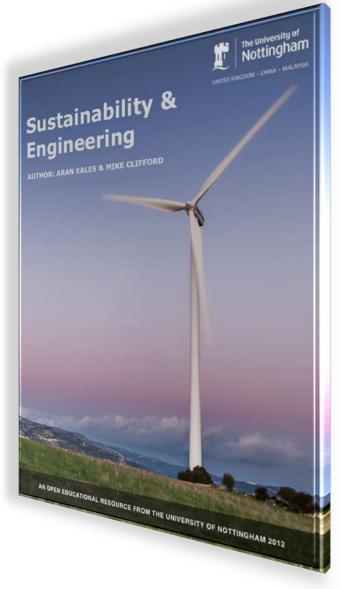
### http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/open/ebooksandibooks.aspx

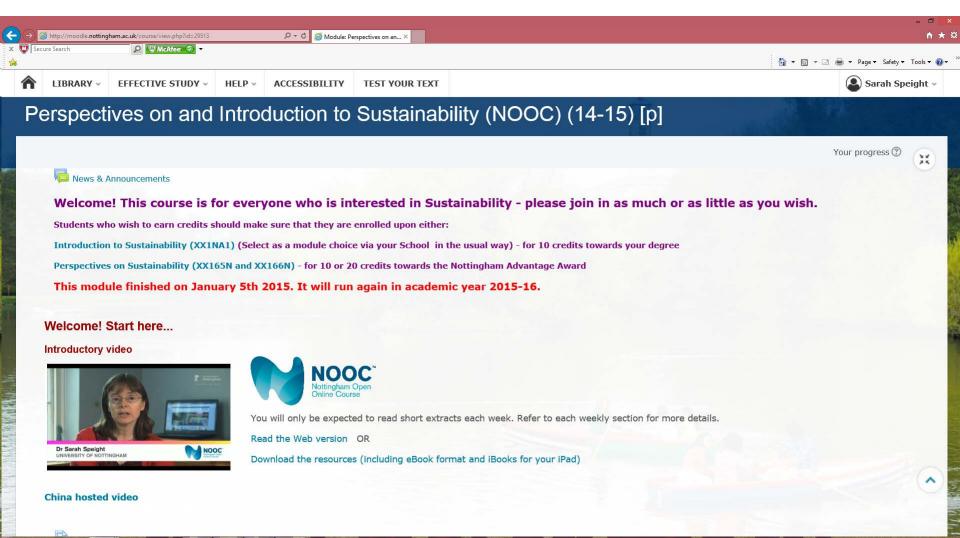












# Multiple Outcomes model

MOOC (alumni)



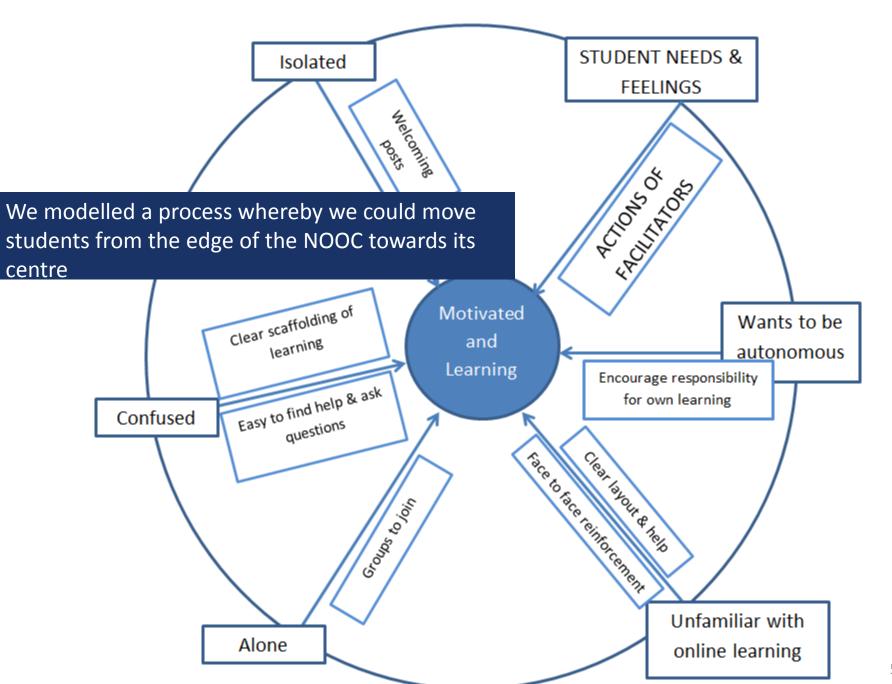
Core learning repurposed for different groups

NAA For UGs Learning for Sustainability

NAA for PGs

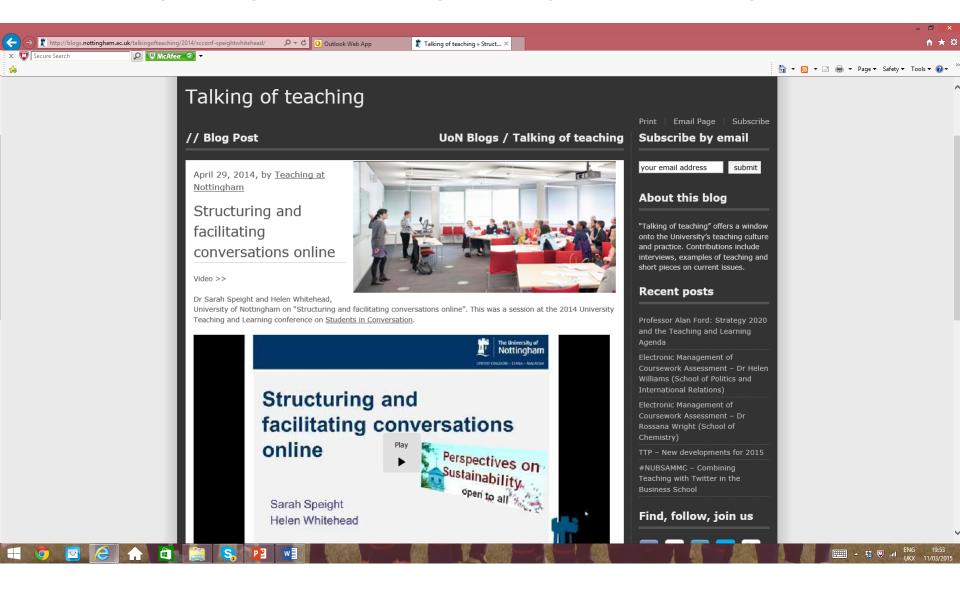
UG Elective





Reflective Blog	Finding out what we think sustainability is about
reflection	
Opinion Polls	Moving from gut reaction to informed view
choose, learn, reflect, choose again	
Image Bank	Building a visual history of sustainability
select, explain, contextualise, peer review	
Waste Audit	Seeing how sustainable we are
act, assess, report	
Formal discussion	Starting to think critically about sustainability
read, reflect, respond, discuss	
Film critique	Further critical thinking about sustainability
View, reflect, respond, discuss	
SWOT Analysis	Assessing Nottingham – how sustainable is our
Choose, research, assess, analyse, report,	university?
respond, peer review	
Evaluation of Open Educational Resources	Judging how useful online information is
Construct criteria, choose, evaluate, report	
Poster Planning	Supporting each other to tell a story about sustainability
Select, research, plan, peer feedback	
Poster Presentation	Capturing our learning in one story, producing a tool to
Take action: produce, advise/inform, share,	use with others
inspire, peer review	

#### http://blogs.nottingham.ac.uk/talkingofteaching/2014/scconf-speightwhitehead/



## Leading students on a journey



# Designing online activities

- 1. Title Waste Audit
- 2. The 'spark' or stimulus Statistic on amount of rubbish we all produce
- 3. Purpose of the task Assess how much you produce and what you do with it
- 4. How to do it *Instructions/Template*
- 5. What to do next Give feedback to other students Upload your report/read those of others and offer advice/contribute to Wiki
- 6. What's next? On to next task, but we will revisit this in a few weeks...

### **Challenging Connections**





Can you give an example of a learning activity that you are using, or might use, in an online context to encourage behaviour change and activism in your students?

It might be an activity focused upon -

Self-audit

Criticality

Reflection

Resource building

**Evaluation** 

It should have a clear purpose, a 'spark', and a connection to what comes next.

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# Examples of what has worked well/not so well for us



AWARDING SUSTAINABILITY EXCELLENCE FOR 10 YEARS

Image:



Weblink:

#### Description:

This was one of our many yields from our allotment back in London. My parents grew up farming in the Philippines and brought what they knew from their home to our home in England. It was only in 2007 that we started growing our own vegetables and we've been doing it ever since.

I chose this image as it was a way that my family; mainly parents, did to save money and unknowingly contributed to improving our waste management by not using plastic bags or polystyrene packaging.

Sustainable waste management is something that I didn't really delve into until reading someone else's blog post. I realised that as a family we we're actually doing something to help. We even saved our food scraps for compost. At the time I thought was quite "gross", however looking at it with a new perspective has made made me think otherwise!

### Visual Representations – 123 images + captions

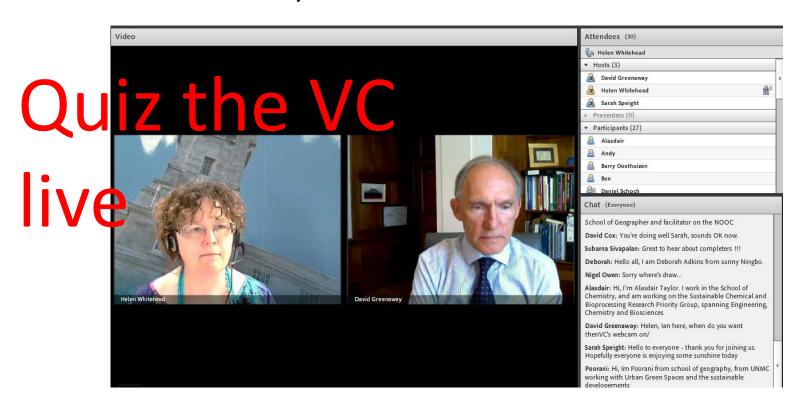
Focus on problems & solutions:

- **Pollution** planet Deforestation
  - Recycling
  - Renewables
  - 11% on politics/policy
  - Small number on personal + daily issues

- rubbishcompanies Earth human time deforestation history China Sustainable resources
- environmental population global water environment
  - naturefuture worldenergy areness summit hour plastic life impact economy

# **NOOC 1 SWOT Analysis**

 128 people completed this and there were 1,594 viewings of the SWOT analysis discussion forum



### **5 Small Sustainable Changes on Campus**

#### Introduction

The University of Nottingham has already made a conscientious effort to improve its sustainability as a whole, with various recycling and carbon emission schemes. I believe that these 5 small changes can be adopted relatively easily on The University of Nottingham, University Park campus making a drastic impact on the sustainability of campus as a whole. The model can then be introduced across all of the Universities campuses.



#### 1. Greywater harvesting:

Both grey water harvesting and rain water butts are fairly efficient and cost effective. They utilsie waste water and excess rainwater which can then be used for ground maintainnce and toilet facilities. This can be adopted in all halls of residence and faculty buildings, reducing the universities fresh water consumption.

http://www.alumni.nottingham.ac.uk/netcommunity/page. aspx?pid=520

#### 2. Water Efficient Toilets:

These use significantly less water per flush thus allowing for the dramatic reduction in water wastage. This could have a huge impact on University Park due to the large number of toilets it houses.



#### 4. Local Produce:

By using local and seasonal produce where possible in hall of residence the universities carbon footprint could be greatly reduced. It also supports the local economy and community. University allotment plots could also be developed.

## 5. Non- Toxic cleaning products:

Environmentally friendly and safe cleaning products can be used in all campus buildings. These are nontoxic, biodegradable and are derived from renewable resources hence have a much less harmful impact on the planet.

#### 3. Food Waste:

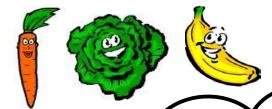
The collection of food waste would allow for the generation of compost which can be used on campus grounds. This will reduce the amount of waste sent to land fill and hopefully increase biodiversity on campus. It also could save money as less needs to be spent on chemical fertilizers.

#### Conclusion

In conclusion I believe if these simple changes are made the University will be able to reduce its impact on the environment and increase its sustainability. The changes suggested are all of minimal cost yet should all reap great benefits.

#### References:

The Environment Agency. Available: http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/. Last accessed 15th May 2013.



# Food for thought





### Did you know?

Globally, 1/3 of food is wasted.

7.2million tonnes of food waste is thrown away from UK homes alone.

This costs an average household £480 a month!



- Cooking/preparing too much.
- Don't consume it in time.



#### What can I do?

- Prepare a shopping list
- Don't shop when you're hungry
- Create a compost heap for fruit and veg
- Utilise leftovers
- Put new food at the back, and old food at the front.



References:

Http://thedailygreen.com



### Soundbites from Students

I liked that you were able to choose which assessments to do and not do.

Although I did not finish all the homework, I nearly read all the materials the course offered. The course is great, because it let me know I can do something for sustainability.

I have a new approach of learning things by online classes and I have the chance share my ideas with other students from other countries.

I am more interested in the news about sustainability and enjoy communicating with other students from other campus on line. The poster activity also provides an extremely useful technique that was nice to learn with me being on a science course.

Perhaps the best thing of this course is its flexibility available for students of different specialties and backgrounds.

## Learning from NOOC1

- Power relations (UG/PG/Staff)
- Status of activities (assessed, nonassessed)
- Clarity of guidance (history tasks)
- Impact of facilitation style
- More interaction feedback videos, webinars, wordles, Delicious, face to face tutorial support
- Linking to other events Films, conferences, surveys – across all campuses



# Useful/Challenging elements of NOOC (from 52 evaluations)

### Useful

- Flexibility
- Opportunity to meet peers
- Interactive online activities
- More willing now to take further online courses

### **Challenging**

- Moodle clutter
- Too much info
- Too many students
- want more social media
- Want face to face interaction

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Thank you

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