



# earth

The Newsletter of the Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges

Spring 2010

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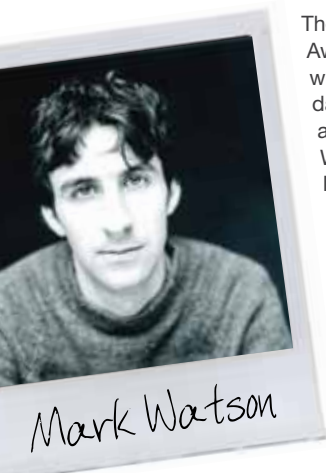
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## Welcome to the Theatre of Greens

Green Gown Awards, 16th June, London

Hosted by the Swan at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre and compered by high profile comedian and amateur environmental crusader Mark Watson, this year's event is set to be a night to remember.

With plenty of opportunity to share and champion best practice, the Green Gown Awards 2010 offers guests a truly unique experience. So join the representatives of the 68 shortlisted projects, who will be waiting in the wings, and hear the results of the most hotly contested Green Gown Awards to date.



Mark Watson

The Green Gown Awards Masterclass will run on the same day from 12-3 pm at the University of Westminster. The Masterclass is a fantastic networking opportunity with two past winners of the Green Gown Awards sharing best practice and their journey to success.

The Green Gown Awards recognise the exceptional

initiatives being undertaken by higher and further education institutions across the UK to become more sustainable. Now in their sixth year, the Awards have become established as THE most prestigious recognition of sustainability excellence within the further and higher education sectors, as well as the environmental sector.

This year, two new categories have been introduced – Skills and Sustainable Procurement, bringing the total to 12. This is also a record year with a further



increase in the number of applications demonstrating the progress being made by educational institutions in this area.

The shortlisted applicants underwent a rigorous assessment, involving 30 expert judges drawn from a range of relevant institutions including the Higher Education Academy, the Learning and Skills Council and the Association of Colleges and Universities UK. The successful institutions will now be invited to submit a stage two application along with additional support materials.

The shortlist encompasses a wide range of innovative and diverse initiatives, spanning everything from implementation of new technology in the carbon reduction category, to a furniture reuse scheme in the sustainable procurement section and a fruit and vegetable co-op that features as a student entry.

Commenting on the Green Gown Awards shortlist, Iain Patton, Chief Executive of the EAUC, the administrator of the scheme, said;

“WE ARE ONCE AGAIN IMPRESSED BY THE HIGH RESPONSE LEVEL AND IMPRESSIVE STANDARD OF ENTRIES THIS YEAR, ILLUSTRATING THE GROWING IMPORTANCE OF SUSTAINABILITY WITHIN THE FIELDS OF FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION.

For more information and to book, please visit [www.eauc.org.uk/green\\_gown\\_awards](http://www.eauc.org.uk/green_gown_awards) or call 01242 714321

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# The Shortlisted Institutions for the 2010 Green Gown Awards

## Carbon Reduction

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### University of Manchester

Carbon Reduction Technicians

### University of Manchester

LED Plant Growth Lights

### Loughborough University

It's better off!

### Pembrokeshire College

Taking big steps to leave a small footprint

### University of Exeter

Forging Ahead: Big steps towards a low carbon University of Exeter

### National Oceanography Centre, University of Southampton

Saving Carbon: Linking Utility Savings to Environmental Communications

## Colleges & Smaller Institutions

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### The Arts University College at Bournemouth

Travel Plan

### National Star College

CLIMATE CHANGE IS NOT JUST ABOUT POLAR BEARS – Our Whole College Approach To Sustainability

### Bradford College

Green Solutions

### Blackpool & The Fylde College

Making a sustainable difference in procurement

### Coleg Gwent

Recycling and Carbon Reduction

### City College Plymouth

City College Plymouth lights the future with energy saving initiatives.

## Continuous Improvement – Institutional Change

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### University of Wales, Newport

Continuous Improvement at the University of Wales, Newport

### University of the West of England

Continual Improvement through Whole Institution Holistic Sustainability at the University of the West of England

### Kingston University

Gingering Sustainability – pip to tree – The Steering Group for Sustainability (SGS) at KU

South West Wales Higher Education Partnership Sustainability Project (SWWHEP SP): Swansea Metropolitan, and Swansea Universities and Trinity University College Carmarthen Partnerships Go Green!

### University of Plymouth

Embedding Sustainability

## Continuous Improvement – Specific Area

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### University of Leeds

Waste Management

### Imperial College London

Continuous Commissioning (ConCom) – a partnership in conserving energy and carbon reduction

### University of Nottingham

The University of Nottingham – grounds management transition to sustainability

### University of Bradford

Being Well on a Greener Campus

### University of Gloucestershire

Step Changes: Education and Learning for Sustainability at the University of Gloucestershire

## Courses

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### Kingston University

Development of an Electric Motorbike

### Scottish Agricultural College

PGDip/MSc in Organic Farming by part-time online distance learning

### University of Huddersfield

Students Powering Ahead for Greener Cycling Facilities

### London School of Economics

LSE100 The LSE Course: Understanding the causes of things

### The University of Plymouth & Somerset College

Outside the green box – embedding ESD in Teacher Training in the Lifelong Learning Sector

### The University of Plymouth

Project title Centre for sustainable futures (CSF) – embedding sustainability in the curriculum

### University of Manchester

The Manchester Sustainable City Project

## Green ICT

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### University of Hertfordshire

The RARE-IDC Project (Reduction and Re-use of Energy in Institutional Data Centres)

### University of Liverpool

University of Liverpool PowerDown

### Warrington Collegiate

IT is Green at Warrington Collegiate

### University of Gloucestershire

Hardware for hard times

### National Oceanography Centre, University of Southampton

IT Energy Savings Without Spending a Fortune

### North Warwickshire & Hinckley College

Power IT Down!

## Research & Development

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### ESRC BRASS Centre - Cardiff University

Micro Factory Retailing (MFR) – a new business model for the car industry

### De Montfort University

WATTBOX

### Scottish Agricultural College

Developing greenhouse gas marginal abatement cost curves for the agriculture, land use and forestry sector in the UK

### Coventry University

The Investigation of Pollutant Retention by TarmacDry Pervious Pavements

### Centre for Sustainable Fashion, London College of Fashion

Centre for Sustainable Fashion

## Skills

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### University of Gloucestershire

Soundings in Sustainability Literacy

### Bedford College

Skills for a Low Carbon Economy

### Coventry University

Add+Vantage Programme – The Environmentally-Aware Graduate

### NAC Group

Green Awareness Pre-Employment Training Programme

### Keele University (Research & Enterprise Services and School of Physical & Geographical Sciences)

Project Green – Keele University's Sustainable Business Programme

## Social Responsibility

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### University of Westminster

Water Amnesty

### University of Westminster

Westminster Scholarships

### School of Surveying & Planning, Kingston University

Sustainable Living and the Older Community-Partnerships for Public Engagement Project

### Hull College

Supporting learner well being: Alcohol Awareness

### University of Strathclyde

Engineering Excellence in Renewable Energy

## Student Initiatives & Campaigns

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### Students in Free Enterprise – Cardiff University

Your Uni Fruit and Veg Co-op

### Cranfield University

Greening the Cranfield campus

### University of Gloucestershire Students' Union

Your Student's Union: A Greener, More Ethical Union

### London School of Economics

Sustainable Future Consulting Group – Making it Real

### Lancaster University Students' Union [LUSU]

GreenLancaster's Carbon Competition

### Aberdeen University Student's Association

Copenhagen: Seal the Deal Awareness Week

## Sustainable Construction & Refurbishment

### Harper Adams University College

Construction of a small scale, cost effective building with big environmental and educational benefits

### University of Leeds

Construction Commitment

### University of Derby

Iconic towers – 'Climate poacher turns gamekeeper'

### Leeds Metropolitan University

Implementing Leeds Mets sustainable construction policy

### University of Cambridge Estate Management

University of Cambridge New building for the Institute for Manufacturing

## Sustainable Procurement

### Lancaster and Morecambe College

Sustainable Procurement

### Durham University

How supplier engagement addresses the Corporate Social Agenda at Durham University.

### The University of Plymouth

Sell2Plymouth

### University of Leeds

Furniture Reuse Programme

### University of Gloucestershire

Sustainable Procurement at UoG: A Learning Experience

### London South Bank University

Sustainable Procurement at LSBU

The EAUC would like to thank the sponsors of the Green Gown Awards 2010 for their support and recognises that without them, this event would not be possible.



TAKE YOUR SEATS AT THE SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS CEREMONY OF THE YEAR AND CELEBRATE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE FHE SECTOR IN DRAMATIC STYLE

**Don't miss out!**

Book your tickets and reserve your senior management team tables now, visit [www.eauc.org.uk/green\\_gown\\_awards\\_2010](http://www.eauc.org.uk/green_gown_awards_2010)



# Conference Review

The 22nd-24th of March 2010 saw the EAUC's annual conference take place in the coastal town of Bangor. The event saw over 300 delegates, speakers and exhibitors from across the world representing a vast array of disciplines gather together to engage with what is surely the biggest question of our time – How can we justly move to a sustainable world?

## Our Thoughts

The EAUC was glad to draw on its links with Bangor University to host this event and support its Welsh membership. The venue and running of the event lived up to our high expectations and the networking and best practice sharing opportunities were a real highlight. The EAUC would like to thank all of those who attended the conference, but especially those who gave

plenary and ran workshops – these were the real backbone of the conference. The EAUC will always endeavour to find and promote innovative and inspirational concepts, to explore and share practical advice and to bring together all elements of the sustainability field to ensure that it remains cohesive and becomes ever more efficient.

To access the conference presentations, please go to [www.eauc.org.uk/presentations\\_2010](http://www.eauc.org.uk/presentations_2010)



## HIGHLIGHTS

### John Stewart

John Stewart, Chair of HACAN and UK's top environmentalist gave a riveting talk about success coming to those that wait. He divulged that even though we have come a long way over the recent decades, we still have a long way to go. Whilst acknowledging this he reminded everyone in the audience that it is important to remind ourselves of our success so far. John then moved on to emphasise that as sustainability is an issue that is moving with the tide of time we are therefore in a prime position to be proactive, creative, set the agenda and come up with solutions. We need to remember that things this large, such as the industrial revolution, do not occur over night, and even though it may take a long time to push the matter of sustainability though, it will happen and once it does, it will be fantastic.

Thanks to the EAUC annual conference sponsors





### Professor Philip Gummett

An insight into the way FHE institutions in Wales deal with the sustainability agenda was provided by Professor Philip Gummett, Chief Executive of the Higher Education Funding Council Wales and Andy Fraser, Head of Climate Change Policy in the Climate Change and Water Division for the Welsh Assembly Government. Professor Gummett emphasised that even though Welsh FHE institutions make up only 5% of UK institutions, this has worked in a positive way. Being small has enabled Wales to get everyone together to discuss current matters and to work out tangible solutions. Professor Gummett moved on to say that the best way to mainstream the sustainability agenda would be through embedding it in finance and other top level systems that drive institutions frameworks.

### Dr. Anthony Cortese

Dr. Anthony Cortese, President, Second Nature & Co-organiser, American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment, USA took to the podium and delivered a talk about Mobilising Higher Education leadership to create a just and sustainable society in which he spoke about the fantastic work that is going on with the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment, to which 677 colleges and universities in 50 states and the District of Columbia have made this unprecedented commitment. After only 3 years of the commitment launching, these institutions represent an outstanding one third of the student population! Delegates listened to how this commitment displayed an example of courageous leadership in the FHE sector in the USA, a commitment that also requires institutions to publically report on their progress.

### Gala Dinner

People came, people ate, people danced and if that wasn't enough the shortlisted candidates for the 2010 Green Gown Awards were announced. It was a great evening at the heart of this year's event.

### The Exhibition

With 38 leading sustainability and energy organisations represented, delegates benefited from specialist advice and the most innovative and proven advancements in products, services and technology.

# Legal Spotlight



## Regulatory Enforcement and Sanctions Act 2008

Part 3 of these regulations introduce new civil powers for the Environment Agency and Natural England, as enacted through the **Environmental Civil Sanctions (England) Order 2010** and the Environmental Sanctions (Misc. Amendments) (England) Regulations 2010. Similar provisions for Wales will be introduced by the Welsh Assembly Government.

The regulations introduce four new civil sanctions that will enable the Environment Agency to avoid the lengthy court process. These are:

- Fixed monetary penalty (FMP) notices – fines of a fixed amount;
- Discretionary requirements – this allows the regulator to issue a notice that they will impose one of the following:
  - a variable monetary penalty (VMP) determined by the regulator;
  - a requirement to take specified steps within a stated period to secure that an offence does not continue or happen again (compliance notice); and
  - a requirement to take specified steps within a stated period to secure that the position is restored, so far as possible, to what it would have been if no offence had been committed (restoration notice);
- Stop notices – preventing organisations carrying on with an activity until it is compliant; and

Enforcement undertakings enabling organisations, which a regulator reasonably suspects of having committed an offence, to give an undertaking to a regulator to take one or more corrective actions set out in the undertaking.

The new powers will not replace the Environment Agency's approach of using advice and guidance and are expected to be used sparingly. The Environment Agency will still take criminal cases against business and individuals that cause deliberate, reckless and grave environmental damage.

## Water Environment (Groundwater and Priority Substances) (Scotland) Regulations 2009

These Regulations give effect to the Groundwater Directive 2006 (2006/118/EC) and the Priority Substances Directive (2008/105/EC) in Scotland.

The Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2005 are amended: to take into account the new definition of a hazardous substance introduced by these regulations.

Schedule 2 of the 2005 regulations, for the identification of hazardous substances, is revoked and replaced.

[www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/scotland/ssi2009/ssi\\_20090420\\_en\\_1](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/scotland/ssi2009/ssi_20090420_en_1)

## Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2009

These Regulations redefine an exempt waste operation not requiring a permit. Where changes made by this amendment redefine a current waste operation as an exempt waste operation, the permit, or that part of the permit that covers the operation will be revoked on 6 April 2010.

The Regulations substitute new Schedule 2 and Schedule 3 to the 2007 regulations, which set out the specific procedural requirements for registering an exempt waste operation and the descriptions of exempt waste operations respectively.

[www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2009/draft/ukdsi\\_9780111487112\\_en\\_1](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2009/draft/ukdsi_9780111487112_en_1)

## Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2010

These Regulations will replace:

- the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2007
- the consent system of water discharges in Chapter 2 of Part 3 of the Water Resources Act 1991,
- the groundwater permitting system in the Groundwater (England and Wales) Regulations 2009; and
- the system of radioactive substances regulation in the Radioactive Substances Act 1993 (c. 12).

Activities formerly obligated under these regulations will now be covered by the environmental permitting regime. Operators with existing environmental permits will not need to re-apply for new permits.

[www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2010/draft/ukdsi\\_9780111491423\\_en\\_1](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2010/draft/ukdsi_9780111491423_en_1)

## The Water Environment (Oil Storage) (Scotland) Regulations 2006

The deadline for all storage tanks in Scotland to comply with these regulations is 1 April 2010.

Waterman Greenspace takes the hard work out of EHS compliance, systems and reporting ([www.legalregister.co.uk](http://www.legalregister.co.uk)). Greenspace was a finalist of the ENDS Green Business Award 2009.



# E.ON – Helping Universities and Higher Education Institutions Cut Carbon and Costs

In response to the Government's CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme, E.ON's Sustainable Energy business and Self Energy UK have jointly developed the Energy Performance Guarantee (EPG), a "no gain, no fee" service to help higher education institutions drive down costs and meet carbon targets.

The EPG will allow the deployment of decentralised energy systems such as solar photovoltaics and Combined Heat and Power without the need for up-front investment.

Michael Woodhead, Managing Director of E.ON's Sustainable Energy business, said:

“ THE REGULATORY LANDSCAPE IS CHANGING RAPIDLY AND ORGANISATIONS ARE STRUGGLING TO RESPOND. WE'RE IDEALLY PLACED TO PROVIDE LOW CARBON ADVICE AND SOLUTIONS TO MEET THIS CHALLENGE. UNDER THE EPG WE'LL FUND AND FIT EFFICIENCY MEASURES, WITH NONE OF THE FINANCIAL BURDEN GOING TO OUR CUSTOMERS. THE UPFRONT COSTS ARE OURS AND CUSTOMERS ONLY PAY FROM ENERGY SAVINGS THAT THEY MAKE OVER A FIXED CONTRACT PERIOD.

Through the Clinton Climate Initiative (CCI) – part of the William J Clinton Foundation – London is the first city in the world to have launched a framework of approved energy service companies. This will help to cut through red tape and allow public sector organisations to retrofit their buildings with energy efficiency measures more easily.

Under the Buildings Energy Efficiency Programme (BEEP), on which E.ON and Self Energy sit as approved suppliers, colleges, hospitals and councils across the UK will be helped to cut energy use and save millions on their fuel bills. It is estimated that if all the public sector buildings in London



King's College, London

employed the EPG model, savings of around £500 million could be achieved and total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions could be reduced by eight per cent, so there is huge potential for delivering massive cuts through this programme.

For example, King's College, London, was advised to install a 1MW trigeneration solution to provide heat, power and cooling and an on-site renewables system to serve several of the College's campuses. It is already enjoying the benefits of reduced carbon emissions and energy bills reinforced with the security over future energy needs.

Paul Lewis, CEO of Self Energy UK, said:

“ OUR CLIENTS ARE FACING UNPRECEDENTED REGULATORY AND TARGET DRIVEN CHALLENGES AND ARE RISING TO MEET THEM. WE HAVE DEVELOPED THE ENERGY PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE TO SUPPORT THEM IN TURNING THESE CHALLENGES INTO SUBSTANTIAL OPPORTUNITIES.

Universities tend to have complex estates with buildings of different sizes, complexities and ages so a one size fits all approach does not work in this environment, the flexibility of the EPG is therefore very effective.

Written by E.on

**Contact**  
**Mark Saunders 02476 183950 or**  
**Paul Lewis (Self Energy) on 0208 1444 348.**

Thanks to everyone who visited the E.ON Sustainable Energy and Self Energy stand at the recent EAUC Annual Conference. We are pleased to announce that **Kate Boom**, who works for the University of Worcester, was the lucky winner of our FA CUP competition to win a mascot place at the Cup Final on 15th May. Katy is hoping to offer the prize to one of the local school football teams that the University's staff and students work with.



E-on is an EAUC Associate Member.

# CRC – “Carbon Reduction Commitment” or “Complicated Reduction Criteria”?

The CRC is a mandatory scheme which will raise the profile and the cost of carbon emissions for an organisation. The first thing to determine is whether or not your establishment is included in the full scheme. The measure of this is your 2008 electricity usage, if you consumed over 6000MWh, which is approximately £500,000 and that was on sizable buildings which have a half hour meter then you're in. If you didn't then you will still be required to report your emissions annually but not the rest of the scheme.

Matt Fulford, Head of Sustainability at Built Asset Consultancy, EC Harris



Registration packs are currently being sent out to all bill paying organisations which have a half hour meter and should be completed over the next few months. Once in the scheme, reporting on ALL carbon emissions from buildings (electricity, gas and oil) is mandatory.

The reporting raises the first issue of the scheme – Governance. The return has to be signed off by a board level member of the organisation who will be personally liable for wilful mis-reporting. The profile and accuracy of carbon will therefore rise to the board table.

Once you have carefully reported your carbon – and a member of the board has signed it off – then what?

Firstly you must pay for your carbon, at the cost of £12/tonne. This rate needs to be put into context in two ways:

1. For an organisation only just within the threshold of the scheme this will mean an annual cost of £40,000 but in most organisations it will run to an annual cost of hundreds of thousands.
2. That £12/tonne is tiny compared to the real cost of carbon – you have to buy energy to emit carbon. The cost of buying enough electricity to emit 1 tonne of carbon comes close to £200/tonne.

The good news is that you might get most of it back and if you want approval for your carbon saving scheme now would be a good time to ask...

Thought should then be given to how you will maximise the money you get back, and this is where the scheme starts to get complicated and where the beloved league table comes into play.

After you have reported on your emissions and paid for your credits the Government will take 6 months to produce a carbon reduction league table. Top the table and you will get more money back than you put in (10% more in the first year, rising to 50% by year 5) and bottom you will get less money back (by the same percentages). Image and profile may also be influenced by the position on the publicly available league table.

Finally consideration on how to improve league table performance is needed. The biggest factor will be reducing carbon but this will not kick in until the second year. In the first year it is all about early action. The best action you can take now is to install automatic meter reading (AMR) across your estate. This needs to be done by 31st March 2011 to bank the benefit for the next five years and will provide a great foundation to ease reporting; producing DEC's but most importantly reduce your carbon in years to come.





# Insight Snapshot

This is the five minute version of the EAUC CRC Insight guide, designed to wet the whistle and offer a glimpse into how the EAUC can help its members.

The Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC) has published a CRC Insight Guide to inform institutions about the Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC).

Institutions that do qualify have a legal obligation to comply with the commitment within their estates. Energy usage and carbon management activities are often spread across institutions, from facilities management to procurement, finance to CSR and sustainability operations and will require buy in from all parts of universities and colleges.

For those institutions that do not qualify, this guide provides all the relevant information to keep up-to-speed with the latest CRC requirements in order for the sector to share a cogent knowledge of the key issues and to offer support wherever possible. Furthermore the EAUC has been advised that although the 2010 qualification does not directly affect all of the sector, it is likely that in the forthcoming years the qualification criteria will extend to include many more, smaller organisations- so the guide can give you a head start!

## What is the Carbon Reduction Commitment?

Starting in April 2010, with the first payment due in April 2011, the Carbon Reduction Commitment is the UK's first mandatory carbon trading scheme. The initial phase of the Carbon Reduction Commitment will be compulsory for any institution that consumes over 6,000 MWh (6,000,000 kWh) of half-hourly metered electricity during the period from January 2008 to December 2008. This is roughly equivalent to electricity bills of £500,000 per year.

## How are institutions affected?

An institution would be included in CRC if it has at least one meter settled on the half-hourly market – and its total half-hourly metered electricity use is greater than 6,000 megawatt-hours (MWh) between 1 January 2008 and 31 December 2008. If your institution, including any offsite buildings/estates, spends more than £500,000 a year in the UK on electricity, you are likely to be included in the scheme.

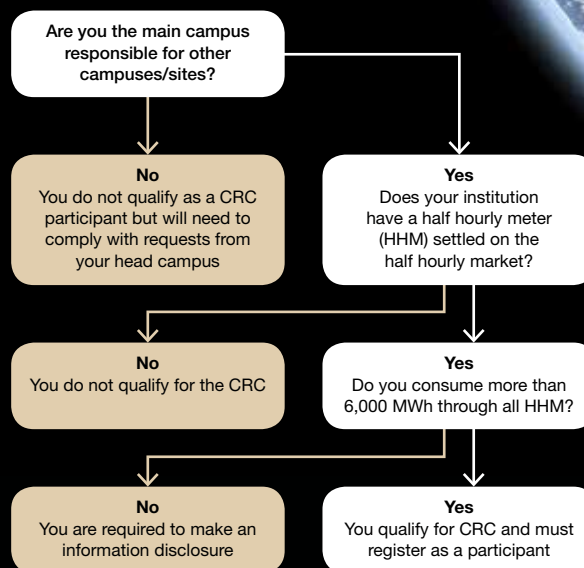
## How does the 'revenue recycling' work?

In the July of each year a league table will be publicly published showing the position of all organisations within the scheme ranked on the basis of;

- the absolute carbon reduction made year on year from the start of the scheme (2010/2011)
- any early action the organisation has taken to reduce its emissions
- any growth or reduction in the organisation

## Timeline of Events

The scheme is scheduled to begin in April 2010, with a three-year introductory phase. The first capped phase will begin in April 2013.



Read the full version of the insight guide by visiting [www.eauc.org.uk/eauc\\_crc\\_insight\\_guide](http://www.eauc.org.uk/eauc_crc_insight_guide)

# Scotland's Universities and Colleges Leading the Way on Tackling Climate Change

Leaders from Scotland's universities, colleges and government agencies gathered in Edinburgh in March to recognise and celebrate the ongoing success of the Universities and Colleges Climate Commitment for Scotland (UCCCFs) and institutions' commitment to addressing the challenges of climate change and reducing their carbon footprints.

Organised by the EAUC, the event took place at the University of Edinburgh's Playfair Library and included key messages of support from Stewart Stevenson MSP, Minister for Transport, Infrastructure & Climate Change and Mark Batho, Chief Executive of the Scottish Funding Council. Dr Anthony Cortese, co-founder of the American Colleges and Universities Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC) gave the inaugural lecture of the UCCCFs Lecture Series: *The ACUPCC: A Unique Climate Protection Initiative*.

Officially launched in January 2009 and developed through collaboration between key sector agencies and representative bodies, the UCCCFs represents a significant collective effort by Scotland's universities and colleges to address the environmental, social and economic challenges threatening our society through climate change and this collective approach has been formally recognised by the Scottish Government, who will endorse the initiative in its forthcoming second action plan for the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development. This will provide the EAUC and UCCCFs signatories with a solid foundation upon which to continue delivering meaningful changes within universities and colleges and it signifies the valuable contribution the sectors are making towards the Scottish and UK Governments' wider sustainability objectives.

In support of the UCCCFs, Mr Stevenson said "Sustainability is at the heart of this Government's purpose of creating a more successful country, with opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish, through increasing sustainable economic growth. We can only achieve our ambitions if we are equipped with the skills, expertise and knowledge for success and learning has a key role in helping us rise to the challenge of making Scotland a better place for all. I am delighted that Scotland's colleges and universities have taken the initiative and declared that they will address the challenges of climate change and reduce their carbon footprints."

Mr Stevenson's views were echoed by Dr Cortese who spoke proudly about the success of the ACUPCC and the UCCCFs, stressing that both are "an example of courageous leadership by college and university leaders ... and this is the first major public sector with a significant number of its members to commit to climate neutrality".

The latest signatories of the UCCCFs are Barony College, Perth College and Shetland College. Their participation means that 50 institutions have signed the UCCCFs, constituting 80% of the Scottish sector and since February 2010 signatories have started to publish their 5-year Climate Change Action Plans, which can be downloaded from the EAUC website at [http://www.eauc.org.uk/climate\\_change\\_action\\_plans\\_ccaps](http://www.eauc.org.uk/climate_change_action_plans_ccaps).

For further information on the UCCCFs please contact Sarah Lee, Programmes and Events Manager, [slee@eauc.org.uk](mailto:slee@eauc.org.uk) or 0131 474 0000.



# Poverty Aware Procurement

What is your understanding of poverty and what does it mean to you and your institution?



More often than not when looking to procure goods and services, cost is the first issue considered. How often do you think about the things we buy and the impacts this may have on the livelihoods of others in countries far away? The introduction of the UK Government's 'Flexible Framework' in 2006 has increased awareness of sustainable procurement with institutions, as well as UK in the attempt to become a leader in EU on the issue, but where does poverty fit into this?

Procurement in the further and higher education sector (FHE) is estimated at £8 billion annually and this offers a significant advantage to influence suppliers of goods and services, particularly when addressing poverty issues. The EAUC, funded by the Department for International Development (DfID), has produced a series of documents for procurement professionals through to the novice on raising awareness of poverty issues. Deliverables in this project include:

- Poverty-aware procurement guidelines report;
- Poverty-aware procurement guidance report; and
- Poverty-aware procurement information sheets, which cover commodities such as:
  - Banking
  - Beauty
  - Beverages
  - Cleaning
  - Clothing
  - Electronics
  - Fruit
  - Oil & Gas
  - Paper
  - Plastics
  - Seafood
  - Steel
  - Timber
  - Vegetables

FHE has a fundamental role in poverty aware procurement and with the above guidance and publications, will ensure that anyone from colleges, universities or purchasing consortiums will be equipped with the knowledge needed to consider poverty issues when procuring goods. For more details on the 'Promoting Poverty Aware Procurement on Campus' project, please visit: [www.eauc.org.uk/promoting\\_poverty\\_aware\\_procurement\\_on\\_campus](http://www.eauc.org.uk/promoting_poverty_aware_procurement_on_campus)

Written by Sarah Lee, PAPP Project Manager [slee@eauc.org.uk](mailto:slee@eauc.org.uk)

# Members Survey – Making Changes, Looking Forward

After recently conducting a membership survey the EAUC has published its results. The survey was designed to assess the ways in which our member services and benefits are relevant to our members and to identify potential areas of expansion for EAUC membership services. The survey received a total of 307 full responses from our member contacts which represents over 60% of our educational members.

## Survey Headlines

- 97% of respondents consider the EAUC able to assist their institution in becoming sustainable
- 92% of respondents say consider the EAUC website to be an important source of information
- 87% of respondents are satisfied with the EAUC as a whole
- 77% of respondents feel that our name reflects what the EAUC does

## Aims going forward

- Develop regional networks
- Reduce print runs on publications such as Earth
- Improve Enews to enhance its efficacy



## Key Findings

### Respondents' perception of the EAUC

The EAUC is seen primarily by its member as an organisation that: supports sustainability practitioners, ensures sustainability issues are factored into sector policy and is a one stop shop for information on sustainability.

The EAUC is not currently perceived as an organisation that deals with community and student matters.

Although respondents associate the EAUC to a low extent with lobbying for government policy change they believe that the EAUC response to government consultations is an important membership service.

### Current EAUC activity

#### Annual Conference

While 52% of respondents from Higher Education institutions participate in the EAUC Annual Conference only 28% of respondents from Further Education institutions participate. Respondents from Higher Education institutions find the conference a more important membership service than respondents from Further Education institutions. Further analysis will be carried out to help identify improved offerings for FE participants.

#### E-news

E-news is ranked of very high importance by our members as a membership benefit, especially within the FE sector. It was also regarded as a useful tool with the associate members who were questioned within the associate membership survey.

### Earth

Whilst regarded highly, the survey highlighted the format issue of the quarterly publication, Earth, with a strong push towards electronic copy.

### EAUC Website

Overall the most important membership service is the "EAUC as a source of information- via EAUC website" with 92% of respondents stating that they find the service important.

### EAUC Name

77% of respondents believed that the EAUC name reflects the association correctly. Although some respondents believe that the word sustainability should be included in the name, the EAUC is a well established and recognised brand.

### Discussion networks

Members identified discussion networks as the second most important membership service and 83% of respondents would be interested in having access to an efficient, focused and active networking forum. Also, 76% of respondents were interested in having access to an extensive archive of previous forum discussions.

The EAUC is a member led organisation as such, is always interested in involving its members and hearing their views, so please visit [www.eauc.org.uk/membership\\_survey](http://www.eauc.org.uk/membership_survey) to read a more detailed review of our survey and contact [info@eauc.org.uk](mailto:info@eauc.org.uk) with your views.

Written by Gemma Lay, Membership Services Officer, EAUC

# Greening ICT with JISC

The EAUC's newest project in collaboration with JISC, is enjoying ongoing interest from the sector. With 16 Universities sought to take part in the sustainable ICT project, a workshop was held at the University of Sheffield in late March.

The workshop focused on improving data centre efficiency and Dr. David Speake of the University of Sheffield presented his research into temperature control, virtualisation and other energy saving measures. It offered potential participants in the project the chance to ask questions giving them a better idea of what's involved.

Another larger workshop has been planned for May 6th, which will include workshop presentations from participants in the preceding Scotland Carbon Reduction and Management project who will discuss changes made to their ICT systems at each of their institutions. Delegates will hear about energy savings made at the half way stage, associated cost savings and which sustainable systems have yet to be implemented. Other Scotland project participants will be in attendance to answer questions and swap stories about some of the hurdles faced and how they overcame them. Keep informed on the JISC funded sustainable ICT project by logging onto the EAUC's website and through Earth Magazine.

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



# JISC

# EAUC Leads International Collaboration on Climate Change

As part of the ongoing success of the Universities and Colleges Climate Commitment for Scotland (UCCCfS), the EAUC is pleased to announce that it has agreed an international collaborative approach to tackling climate change through further and higher education.

Together with the organisers of the American College and University

Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC), the EAUC has agreed to work with Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability (ACTS) to export the UCCCfS model and support the development of the Universities and TAFEs Australia Climate Commitment (UTACC) for Australia's 39 universities and 59 Technical and Further Education

(TAFE) institutions and to work closely in sharing our good practice with one another across the globe to tackle the international challenge of climate change.

For further information, please contact Andrew Chamberlain, Head of Programmes & Events, [achamberlain@eauc.org.uk](mailto:achamberlain@eauc.org.uk) or 0131 474 0000.

Further information on the ACUPCC can be downloaded at [www.presidentsclimatecommitment.org/](http://www.presidentsclimatecommitment.org/)

For further information on ACTs, please visit <http://acts.asn.au/>

Full details of the UCCCfS can be found at [http://www.eauc.org.uk/scotlands\\_principals\\_climate\\_commitment](http://www.eauc.org.uk/scotlands_principals_climate_commitment)



## EAUC Continuing Professional Development Programme 2010

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

<b>27th May</b>	Minimising the Environmental Impacts of Printing	Docklands Campus, University of East London
<b>11 June 2010</b>	Sustainable Procurement – Level 1 & 2 of the Flexible Framework – Scotland	University of Aberdeen
<b>6 July 2010</b>	CIWM Waste Awareness	Glamorgan University
<b>13 July 2010</b>	Sustainable Procurement – Level 3 of the Flexible Framework – Scotland	University of the Highlands and Islands
<b>Date To Be Confirmed</b>	An Introduction to Renewable Energy	University of East Anglia

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 discount for EAUC Members. So what are you waiting for? We look forward to seeing you on a course soon!

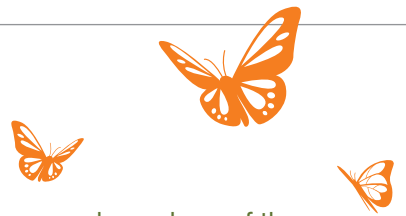
## Welcome to new members

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

- \* Crichton Carbon Centre
- \* Cumbernauld College
- \* Foundation for International Education
- \* HE Academy
- \* James Watt College
- \* Linton Metalware Ltd
- \* Newman University College
- \* Title Films
- \* Tomra Systems
- \* University Business
- \* University College Oxford
- \* University of New South Wales



# Note from the Board



The EAUC annual general meeting was held at the 2010 conference in Bangor, where several members of the board stood down to be replaced by new faces.

Before that happened, the outgoing Chair Sheri-Leigh Miles described some of the exciting activities which have taken place over the past year including the expansion of the EAUC staff to 14, the successful completion of the first year of Universities that Count and the introduction of an all-new sustainable IT project run in conjunction with JISC.

The new Chair, Paul Cross, gave a short presentation about the challenges and opportunities for the EAUC and thanked its members for the opportunity to take part in the development of the organisation at such a pivotal moment. Paul bid a fond farewell to the outgoing board members Sheri-Leigh, Keith Pitcher, Adam Van-Winsom and Gil Snook. Their contributions have been mighty and they will be greatly missed.



## Neil Scott

**Board Member  
Finance Director,  
Staffordshire University**

In addition to experience in the HE sector, Neil has worked in private sector organisations within both the Motor Industry and Leisure and Retail sectors. Neil has vast experience within the wider education sector, being a governor of Shrewsbury College of Arts and Technology and is a board member of Foundation Degree Forward, the national body responsible for the promotion of Foundation Degrees. As a member of the University's Executive Board Neils role covers Finance, Estates, Hospitality Services and Information Services. Neil also lead on transformational projects. Neil believes passionately in driving sustainability and environmental improvements and is responsible for transforming Staffordshire University's environmental performance. Neil also strives to contribute to the transformation of the sector, using his experience and position to raise the profile of environmental issues and, more importantly, promote solutions.



## Robert Bellfield

**Board Member  
Director of Resources for  
Learning, Aberdeen College**

Robert has worked in further education as a teacher of agriculture, head of department and college manager for many years and has gained an in-depth knowledge of the needs and requirements of the sector. Robert is responsible for leading Aberdeen College's approach to environmental sustainability from a curricular and institutional perspective and has produced exemplary results. Robert is very keen to support and assist other colleges and universities to take the environmental and sustainability agenda forward as rapidly as possible. Being an EAUC Board Member provides the opportunity for Robert to share and promote good practice and assist EAUC in developing effective policies and strategies that provide effective support to colleges and universities to develop their curriculum and institutional practices.



## Harriet Sjerps-Jones

**Board Member  
Sustainability Curriculum  
Development Manager,  
University of Exeter**

Harriet has lectured at a college and as a research fellow at the Centre for Sustainable Futures (University of Plymouth) for many years and has liaised with numerous colleges in the South West. As such, Harriet recognises that the EAUC is an important driver for sustainability in the FE and HE sector and has a pivotal role to play in the implementation of ambitions for the move towards low carbon Universities and Colleges. Harriet would therefore like to support the EAUC to grow its influence to instigate change in *learning and teaching provision* in order to help graduates to become engaged citizens and employees.

## Green Curriculum Grows Great Social Enterprise Project at Middlesbrough College

50 years on I still have nightmares about being back in a Latin grammar class. I suspect that some young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities might feel the same about a college curriculum dominated by literacy and numeracy. What they desperately need is a chance to show what they can do and not to be exposed to more failure in the classroom.

So, with ten young people 16 to 19 and with LSC funding for a social enterprise project we set off as pioneers to a field at the foot of the North Yorkshire Moors. Two years later this is where we are at:

We've laid 100 meters of land drains, erected 3000 square feet of polytunnel and 5000 square feet of raised beds, moved 60 tons of road planings and 40 tons of council compost and set up a respectable horticulture project. In so doing our team have learnt to saw straight; used battery powered tools; applied the science of mixing concrete; grown, harvested, marketed and eaten their own vegetable produce; come to hate or love the smoky flavour of

Jerusalem artichokes and started to acquire some of the generic work-based skills we hear so much about. Some have shown real application; one has secured an apprenticeship with the council and after 6 months is doing well. (This in itself is a justification for the project, especially if he now avoids a life-time of benefit dependency).

What makes this project different is the environment in which the students learn and work. They are given responsibility for construction and gardening tasks that would be impossible in a classroom environment and which some might judge are inappropriate for their level of ability.

Despite the atrocious winter, attendance has been almost 100% and no-one has grumbled about the mud and cold. Now that the sun is out and the sap is rising, there is no stopping us!

Written by Peter Smith, former Head of Faculty at Middlesbrough College and owner of the site.



## Aberdeen College – Getting a First

Aberdeen College has become the first educational institution to achieve an Ecocampus Platinum award. Ecocampus, an environmental management system tailored to the needs of the higher education sector, provides tools and support to guide organisations through the implementation process in a staged approach.

Building on from Aberdeen's ISO 14001 certification in June, the college pursued the Ecocampus award for its recognition in the education sector. Following an external audit by certification body NQA, Aberdeen College was awarded the highest level of achievement in December 2009.

The college has made significant progress in embedding sustainability within the curriculum. Lesson plan templates include environmental and economic sustainability and soft skills. Curriculum teams are audited on issues including:

- Noticing environmental impact of actions



- Efficient use of resources
- Awareness of energy conservation
- Awareness of role of reducing, reusing and recycling

Over the last quarter, several institutions have achieved EcoCampus awards in recognition of their ongoing environmental management system implementation:

- Institute of Cancer Research and Aston University have successfully achieved the Bronze award,
- Bournemouth University have successfully achieved the Silver award, and;
- Bath Spa University have successfully achieved the Gold award.

Further detail, please visit [www.ecocampus.co.uk](http://www.ecocampus.co.uk)

## Leeds Met awarded Carbon Trust Standard



Leeds Metropolitan University has been awarded the Carbon Trust Standard and is one of only a handful of UK universities to do so. The standard, which recognises organisations taking action to reduce their impact on climate change, is a highly sought-after accreditation and is only awarded to organisations that measure, manage and actively reduce their carbon footprint.

How organisations manage their carbon will have a direct financial impact through the Carbon Reduction Commitment, with those who don't make attempts to reduce their carbon footprint being penalised. Additionally, the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) is consulting on plans to allocate a proportion of capital funding to all higher education institutions based on their carbon management programmes.

Mark Warner, Sustainability Manager at Leeds Met, said:

“ WE HAVE BEEN TAKING STEPS TO REDUCE OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT FOR SOME YEARS NOW. WE ARE DELIGHTED THIS HAS BEEN RECOGNISED AND I KNOW THIS WILL STAND US IN GOOD STEAD FOR CHANGES IN POLICY OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS. THE AWARD ALSO RECOGNISES THE TEAM EFFORT ACROSS THE SUSTAINABILITY, MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL PROJECTS TEAM WITH SPECIAL THANKS GOING TO CAROLE BIRTWHISTLE, OUR TRAINEE ENVIRONMENT OFFICER, FOR PROJECT MANAGING THE PROCESS.

One of the pre-requisites of the Carbon Trust Standard is being able to demonstrate a drop in carbon emissions by 5 per cent over the last three years, which Leeds Met has achieved.

For further details please contact Carrie Braithwaite in the News and Media team at Leeds Met on 0113 812 3022 or email [c.braithwaite@leedsmet.ac.uk](mailto:c.braithwaite@leedsmet.ac.uk)

# The Streets are Alive with the Sound of Walking!

Last year, over 5,000 people walked to, from or during work as part of national Walk to Work Week. This year, it is set to be even bigger with individuals and staff teams giving walking a go during their working week.

Walking keeps us active and healthy, so this year the theme is 'Get fit without the hassle', encouraging people to view the streets as their gym: cutting out the need for a change of clothes, membership and all the time that going to the gym demands.

Living Streets, the charity behind Walk to Work Week, created an online tool for participants to track their progress, compare themselves with their colleagues, and get tips about incorporating walking into your everyday routine.

Even if you've missed the Week, you can still get involved in Living Streets' ongoing Walking Works campaign and make your own pledge to walk more as part of your working week. For more information and to make a pledge visit [www.walkingworks.org.uk](http://www.walkingworks.org.uk)



## Bedford College's 3rd Annual Sustainability Day 22/03/2010

Bedford College's 3rd annual sustainability day was a big success! The event has consistently grown over the years with increased input from local partners highlighting collaborative activity in addition to showcasing achievements in embedding sustainability into the curriculum. Activities and information on display included:

- Footage of the re-fashioned clothes fashion show (took place during a recent Open Day)
- 'Making a Solar Oven' workshops
- Card games: 'Save Energy/ Reduce Waste' and 'Recycling in Bedfordshire'
- "Greeny says..." and "Our world is unique because..." suggestions from students
- Work currently in progress at Shuttleworth College- Bedford College's land-based centre, including:
  - Hinchinbrook Country Park and Tempsford church - tree work and weekend demonstration.
  - Edward Peake middle school, Biggleswade- designing and building children's garden.
  - Peter Pan Childrens Centre, Bedford- designing and building a play area/ sensory garden.
- 'The Green Box' competition entries from St Andrews School- an art and design schools competition organised by the college. Winners were given prizes during the day by the Mayor of Bedford.
- Work done by Foundation Degree Construction and Building Services students to support the design and development of the Riseley Eco House



- A 'Make Bedford Green' poster competition sponsored by Willmott Dixon
- Displays of awareness raising posters prepared by students
- Furniture and objects made from recycled materials

..... and many others!

# Your Students and the Lost World Project

Ibex Earth seeks ten young adults to join an internationally acclaimed team of documentary makers – including a BBC Planet Earth cameraman – to travel to South America on an expedition to discover and film the wildlife, landscapes and threats of one of the least explored corners of Earth. Participants will receive training from BBC Planet Earth cameramen, and will take footage and assist filming of a 50 minute documentary.

Mount Roraima – a colossal plateau skirted on all sides by sheer vertical cliffs up to 600 metres tall – is the inspiration behind Arthur Conan Doyle's famous adventure novel 'The Lost World' and more recently has been a major influence upon Disney's latest blockbuster 'UP'. The summit of the mountain has remained isolated for millions of years and today is home to the greatest concentration of unique plants and animals found on Earth, including ancient living fossils that have remained little-changed since the time of the dinosaurs.

This real-life 'lost world' is also home to many of the strangest landscapes of our world, including valleys of labyrinths of towering stone pinnacles, banks of crystals and gemstones, and the tallest waterfalls on the planet. However, increasing accessibility, the introduction of foreign plants and animals and illegal gold mining are all seriously damaging this remarkable natural wonder.

The Lost World Project aims to increase awareness and aid conservation. The resultant documentary will support a bid to make the Lost World a UNESCO World Heritage site. For an opportunity to take part, all you will need to do is help fund raise for 12 environmental charities (Ibex Earth's Environmental & Conservation Partners).

The ibex team are still looking for participants and venues in which to speak about the project. If your institution would like to participate, visit [www.thelostworldproject.org/](http://www.thelostworldproject.org/) for more details.

## SORTED – the Sustainability Online Resource & Toolkit for Education

### Recent updates to the SORTED website:

- Green Gown Awards 2010 Stage 2 shortlisted entries announced! The standard of entries was high, and the judges were tough. Click here to see the FE Institutions who got through to Stage 2.
- The CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme, the UK's mandatory climate change and energy saving scheme starts in April. Does it affect you? Read the latest EAUC Insight Guide to find out.

### Recent pages added to SORTED:

- Carbon Reduction Targets – information on carbon reduction policy, targets, and help to start the carbon reduction journey.
- OFSTED Inspections – information on how sustainability is now included in OFSTED's inspection framework.

If you wish to subscribe to the SORTED Newsletter, please email [info@eauc.org.uk](mailto:info@eauc.org.uk)



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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.

- Paul Cross, Chair, Oxford Brookes University
- Derek Jones, EAUC Wales – Convenor, Glyndwr University
- Fraser Lovie, EAUC Scotland – Convenor, University of Aberdeen
- Robert Bellfield, Board Member, Aberdeen College
- Di Dale, Board Member, Wiltshire College
- Helen Manns, Board Member, Northumbria University
- Harriet Sjerps-Jones, Board Member, University of Exeter
- Neil Scott, Board Member, Staffordshire University
- Neil Smith, Board Member, University of Southampton
- Georgiana Weatherill, Board Member, Leeds City College