

Partnership and Engagement



Annual Conference 7-9 May 2014

NOTTINGHAM TRENT UNIVERSITY





eauc Annual Conference



Emily Thompson-Bell Programme Manager **National Union of Students**



NOTTINGHAM





Our vision

- 1. Students' unions as hubs of sustainability within their communities
- 2. Students leaving tertiary education as part of the solution to our environmental challenges rather than part of the problem







Students' Green Fund

£5m pilot fund from HEFCE for **student-led sustainability projects** to be run by students' unions in partnership with their parent institutions

Four key themes:

- Student engagement
- Partnership
- Impact
- Legacy





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LATEST NEWS...













Green Guerrilla

Green Ladder

Sustainable Food **Production on Campus**

Cycling 4 All University of Bradford Students

Gardeners





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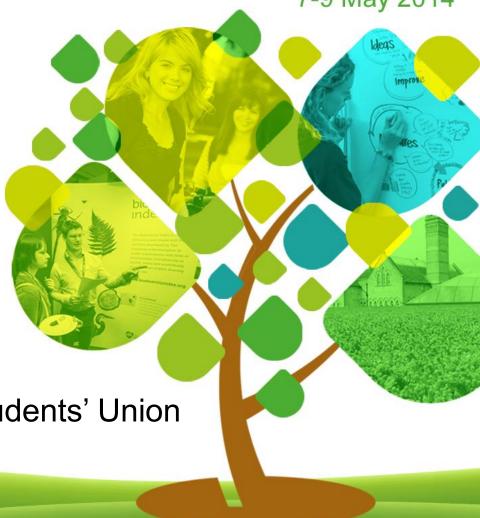






Teresa Kennard Sustainability Manager

University of Southampton Students' Union







What is BEES?



- Students audit Southampton organisations
- Students implement solutions to improve ethical and environmental practices











Engagement



Doing: Project Manager; Project Assistant; Sabbatical

Officer; University Project Support; Interns

Deciding: SUSU Chief Executive; Chair of UoS

Sustainability Action; NUS SGF Programme Manager;

Southampton City Council

Consulting: Student volunteers; organisations being audited; UoS academics; business representatives

Informing: University of Southampton; SUSU;

local community; HEIs







Issues covered include:



Carbon emissions

Investment

Resource management

Employee wellbeing

Transport

Supply chain







Benefits



For Organisations:

- Free business support
- Employee satisfaction
- Reputation
- Financial Performance
- Innovation

For Students:

- Employability
- Training
- Skill development
- Making an impact







Highlights



- Project Development
- Audit Methodology
- Training
- Volunteer interest and sign-up
- Business interest









Challenges



- Logistics volunteers and audits
- Communication with stakeholders
- Embedding sustainability within SUSU







Legacy



- Future of BEES
- Engaging with businesses and organisations
- Developing SUSUs Sustainability Zone
- University-wide module on Business Ethics and Environmental Responsibility
- Adopting sustainability behaviours and habits







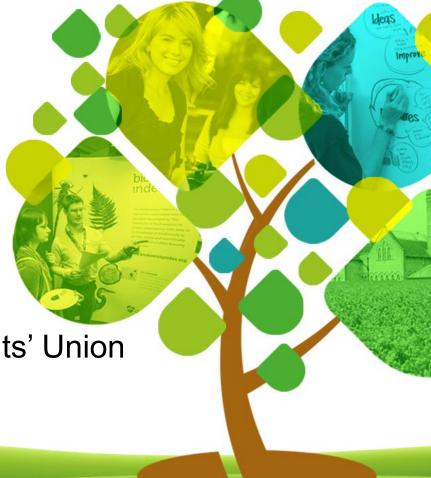
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Christina Donovan

Students' Union Coordinator

Wigan & Leigh College Students' Union





Institutional Partnership

- The challenge of Learner Voice at Wigan & Leigh College
- Creating a vehicle for Learner Voice from scratch
- Students engaging with senior management for the first time







Community Partnership: Working Together for Social Justice

- Our Six Key Principles of Sustainability
- Establishing relationships with the groups in the wider community
- Dragon's Den
- A commitment to sustainable development that has a positive impact upon the community at large











Partner Institutions

- Putting 'partnership' back into our Partner Institutions
- In particular working with UCLan SU
- Building bridges, sharing skills & strengthening bonds











Lessons learnt

- Empower your students
- Engaging Teacher Education students to help with curriculum-based projects







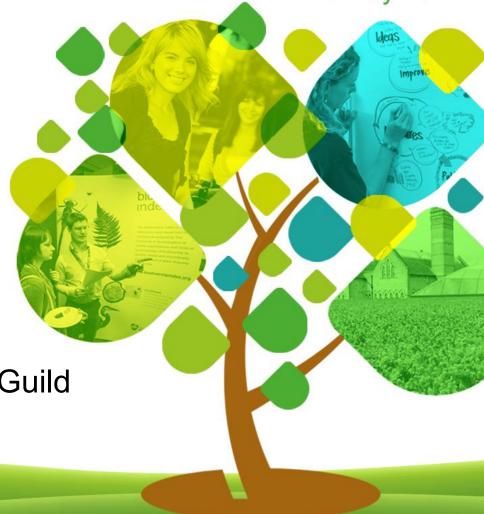


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Norrie Blackeby

Students' Green Unit Manager University of Exeter Students' Guild



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The journey so far...



What we aim to achieve

- Awareness
- Engagement
- Behavioural change

Project strands

- Research
- Employability
- Education
- Student & Community Engagement
- Operations

Vital Interaction with Stakeholders

University Sustainability Team VC Executive Group Sustainability Advisory Group Project Review Board Academics and researchers Educational Enhancement





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Highs

- Building a team of five interns
- Stakeholder engagement
- •SGU launch
- •First and second tranche of funding
- Student led projects kick off











Vital Interaction with Stakeholders

University Sustainability Team VC Executive Group Sustainability Advisory Group Project Review Board Academics and researchers Educational Enhancement

Challenges

Good understanding of Internal politics
Finding the right communications tool for
effective engagement
Overcome people's natural reticence to
anything new
Engage with the right people









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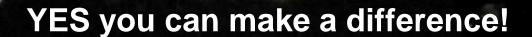
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What to remember

- Know your audience
- Listen to what they have to say
- Ask for help and directions
- Be realistic with expectations
- Look for alternatives
- Be patient but persistent







Mapping exercise

- Form groups of three with people from other institutions.
- Each identify one key environmental issue on your campus that you're tackling at the moment.
- Each take 5 minutes to map your team's key strengths on this issue, and then move on to find where collaboration would strengthen your work – this could be other departments, HE/FE institutions, student groups, academics, local community organisations and beyond...
- We'll call out when to move onto the next issue





'Aha' moment What we've found so far...

Before starting any new project, do a mapping exercise to find out who can help you make this happen.

Forming genuine partnerships takes time and willingness on both sides – but we've found it invaluable.

Top-down strategies delivered from managers are less likely to inspire change than genuine enthusiasm from students. Engage your students.

