

Date: Thursday 20th Aug 2020
Time: 14:00–15:30
Resources: [Available here](#)

MINUTES: Students Leaders Sustainability Roundtable

Attendees:

Adil	Rahoo	Glasgow Caledonian University
Alex	Luetchford	Edinburgh College
Amanda	Scully	University of Edinburgh
Amy	Smith	University of Stirling
Ankit	Duggal	Edinburgh Napier University
Ann	Letham	Borders College
Anna	Brown	Teach the Future
Cara	Sangster	SRUC (Scotland's Rural College)
Chiara	Menziozzi	Queen Margaret University
Colin	Aitken	Heriot Watt University
Daniel	Marshall	University of St Andrews
Hanna	Lundstrom	University of St Andrews
Heloisa	Fyfe	Edinburgh Napier University
Izi	Robe	Heriot-Watt University
Jill	Burnett	EAUC-Scotland
Jodie	Waite	University of Strathclyde
Lea	Weimann	University of St Andrews
Marta	Crispo	The University of Sheffield
Matthew	Morrison	University of Stirling
Matt	Woodthorpe	EAUC-Scotland
Nicholas	Garcia	City of Glasgow College
Sonya	Peres	EAUC
Stefan	Jindra	University of Aberdeen
Adil	Rahoo	Glasgow Caledonian University
Alex	Luetchford	Edinburgh College
Amanda	Scully	University of Edinburgh
Amy	Smith	University of Stirling
Ankit	Duggal	Edinburgh Napier University
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	SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS	ACTIONS
1	<p>Welcome, Apologies and Introductions <i>Amy Smith, Chair, University of Stirling</i></p> <p>Everyone was welcomed to the event, asked to introduce themselves and share what they were looking forward to working on this year.</p>	
2	<p>Scene setting - How far has the sector come and where does it need to go? <i>Matt Woodthorpe, Programme Manager, EAUC-Scotland</i></p> <p>The Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019 sets targets to reduce Scotland's emissions of all greenhouse gases to net-zero by 2045 at the latest. This is 5 years ahead of the UK and is based on what the independent Committee on Climate Change (CCC) advice.</p> <p>Public Sector Bodies such as Scottish colleges and universities have a significant role to play in achieving the net-zero goal and the Scottish Government has asked institutions to set targets and actions that reflect this.</p> <p>Since 2015/16, 44 colleges and universities in Scotland must report annually their progress to date in reducing their institutional greenhouse gas emissions to the Scottish Government through a system known as Public Bodies Climate Change Duties (PBCCD) Reporting.</p> <p>Reports can be found on the Scottish Sustainability Network website here.</p> <p>EAUC-Scotland completes a sector analysis each year of the reported data, and created separate Scottish FE and HE reports this year.</p> <p>Students Officers and your respective Students' Union/Association can be a key driver for many types of change, including issues surrounding sustainable development and climate justice. Understanding of the climate and ecological crisis and sustainability within student governance structures and the wider student body is essential to creating a step-change in campus sustainability.</p> <p>Resources: Student Leaders for Sustainability Guide Example Students' Union / Association SMART Action Plan Simplified SU / SA GHG emission calculator</p>	

<p>3</p>	<p>Climate Commission <i>Marta Crispo</i></p> <p>The Climate Commission is a partnership between EAUC, Association of Colleges, Guild HE, Universities UK & NOUS who want to provide a sector response to the climate emergency.</p> <p>It has five key priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilising the FHE Sector Voice • Research & Innovation • Measuring & Reporting GHG Emissions • Deep Adaptation • Education and the Student Experience <p>There are 3 student commissioners to ensure the student voice is heard and they have participated in evidence gathering events and in the UNESCO Future of Education discussion groups and reports. Have also just launched climate chats with students podcasts.</p> <p>How to get involved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take our 10 minute survey • E-mail any ideas to speres@eauc.org.uk • Do a podcast • Attend consultation on University Climate Action Roadmap (date tbc) 	
<p>4</p>	<p>Teach the Future <i>Anna Brown</i></p> <p>Scottish Youth Climate Strike and NUS Scotland joint campaign to demand reform of the education system.</p> <p>Key asks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government review of how the education system is preparing students for the climate emergency and ecological crisis • Inclusion of climate emergency in teacher training • Increased priority for sustainability in inspections and ranking • Scottish climate and biodiversity emergency act <p>Launched in July with digital week of action, mass e-mail campaign to MSPs and letters to Government. Received positive replies and are meeting with John Swinney next month. Have joined Learning for Sustainability Scotland and made international contacts</p> <p>Further information available here.</p>	

<p>5</p>	<p>Breakout Rooms and Next Steps</p> <p>Divided into break out rooms to discuss sustainability challenges and opportunities and how EAUC-Scotland could support student leaders.</p> <p>General agreement there is a huge opportunity to work collectively to campaign, raise awareness and increase impact and exposure. Especially in local areas where students could collectively lobby the local authority on common goals and objectives. There was interest in meeting regularly and EAUC would be happy to facilitate this.</p> <p>As a first step we will set up a jiscmail group to facilitate discussion and networking and we will be in touch about a next meeting date. We will also look at a Facebook group.</p>	<p>EAUC set up jiscmail list</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Next meeting ideas</p> <p>Interest in learning about how to communicate climate emergency in a positive way to not discourage people. Possibly look at Climate Psychology Alliance. Please e-mail any other suggestions for topics or speakers at our next meeting to scotland@eauc.org.uk.</p>	
<p>7</p>	<p>Thanks and close</p>	