



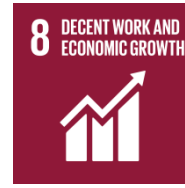
21st ANNUAL CONFERENCE
28-30 MARCH 2017
 GLOBAL GOALS:
LOCAL ACTION



The Carbon Journey



Our Green Credentials



- Situated in the heart of Birmingham, England
- Award-winning green campus in an urban environment
- Part of the Birmingham District Energy Scheme
- All new buildings from 2010-2015 BREEAM Excellent standard and energy efficient refurbishments
- 6th in the 2016 People & Planet University Green League
- Certified ISO 14001 and 50001 standards
- Annual Go Green Awards for students and staff
- European Bioenergy Research Institute (EBRI)

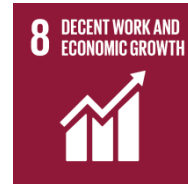


Future leaders...



...will need to deliver an 80% reduction in emissions in their working lives

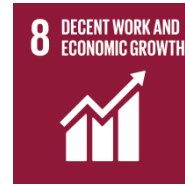
The Carbon Journey - Aims



- to create a learning experience with a coherent narrative which poses the questions that need to be considered
- to introduce the disruptive factors of climate change and decarbonisation into the learning and teaching of every course at Aston
- to improve the employability of every student by arming them with the skills to succeed in the rapidly-changing world in which they'll be working for the next 50 years



The Carbon Journey - Aims



“ We are the first generation that can end poverty...and the last generation that can end climate change”

Ban Ki-moon
UN Secretary-General



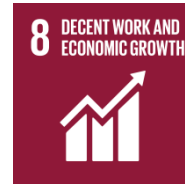
The Carbon Journey - Format



Now in its second full year and taking place in a dedicated 'Carbon Week' in early November, the Carbon Journey comprises three main components:

- 1** One-day conference for all second year undergraduate students at arena in Birmingham
- 2** Programme of seminars delivered over two days by business leaders and future employers
- 3** Optional multidisciplinary group projects based on climate change leading to academic credits

The Carbon Journey – 1. Conference

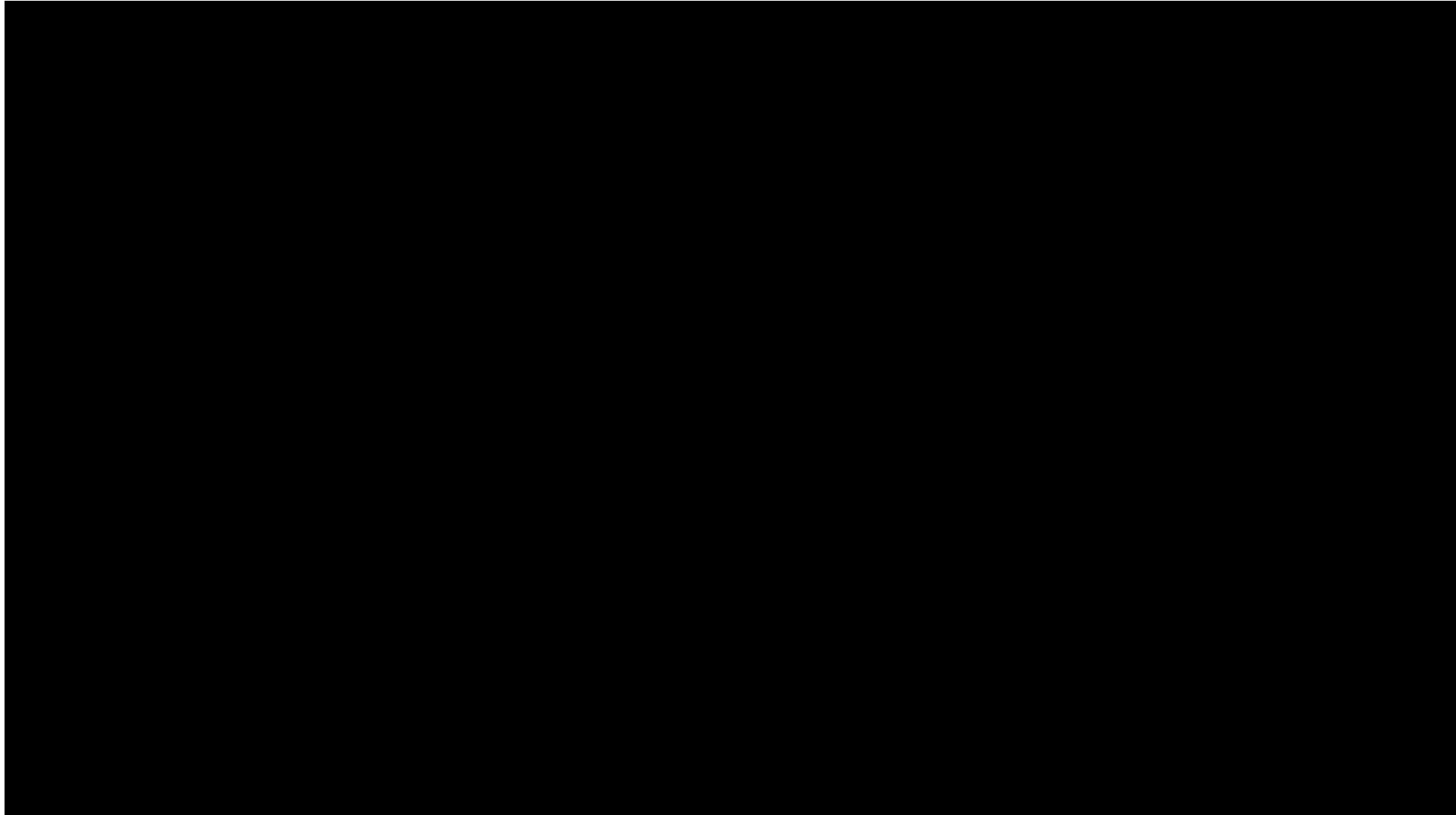
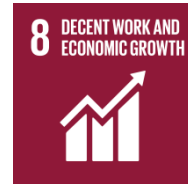


31st October 2016, 1500 students attended

- Main themes included climate science, geopolitics, media presentation and interactive audience group psychology
- Keynote speakers included TV adventurer, government climate change advisor, environmental psychologist, meteorologist and comedy science performers
- Compered by national TV news anchor
- News broadcast from the year 2045 in a world shaped by climate change

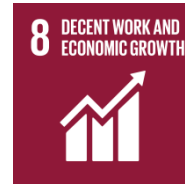


The Carbon Journey – Video highlights



The Carbon Journey –

2. Elective seminars



- A series of elective seminars over two days
- 100 students per seminar
- Key themes include carbon reduction, sustainability and adaptation to climate change
- Gives students insight into how seriously business is taking climate change

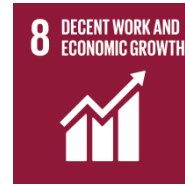


Foster + Partners

SIEMENS

The Carbon Journey –

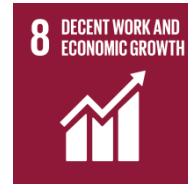
3. Group projects



The third element to the Carbon Journey is the optional group projects based on climate change

- Multidisciplinary groups work together on an allocated project title
- Academic credits available for successful completion
- Assessment is a group report, a short personal reflection and a group presentation in front of a panel of judges
- Project titles included:
 - Health for Some, or All?
 - The Future will be like the Past – True or False?
 - Lying, Cheating and Self-Delusion
 - A Government's Role – Leading on Unpopular Issues

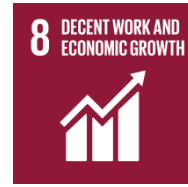
The Carbon Journey – Student engagement



The concept of a dedicated one-week all student activity as part of a Royal Academy of Engineering funded project.

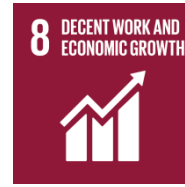
- Lead is Professor Keith Clark, RAEng VP at Aston and ex CEO Atkins
- Academic credits available for successful completion – Important
- Engagement on a voluntary basis
- New module developed
 - SE2ACW – Developing a Low Carbon World
 - 10 credits (pass/fail basis)
 - Added to student's transcript as "additional credit"
 - Academic oversight and credibility

The Carbon Journey – SE2ACW Module aims



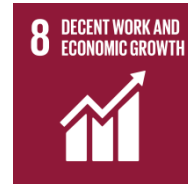
- Climate change, sustainability and decarbonisation will be key factors in every business decision. This module aims to ensure that Aston students are well prepared to play a key part in this rapidly developing area of business.
- This module will give you the necessary climate change thinking and problem-solving skills for whatever programme you're studying, and will prepare you for the brave new career opportunities that will come in a low-carbon world.

The Carbon Journey – Academic regulation



- The concept of “additional credit” is new to Aston and required revision of Programme Regulations
- Some UG programmes, eg Pharmacy, Law have very prescribed syllabi so additional credit is added to the 360 credits required for the degree award
- Seen as a key part of engineering programmes by the Engineering Council
- Other programmes allow substitution of credit where a student has failed one 10 credit module

The Carbon Journey – Media impact



Coverage in 20 separate articles, as well as featuring significantly in an ITV Central News series, “Powering the Midlands”

Edie.net, finchchannel.com (The Financial), Times Higher Education, The Independent, NYT.lol, The Independent on Sunday, Real Time News, OOOYUZ, Republish, UKUNI.net, The Economic Voice, Energy Live News, The Huffington Post, Better Society Network, Switchmybusiness.com, ITV



The Carbon Journey – Student feedback



'The Carbon Journey has helped raise my awareness of climate change'

80% agree

'How useful did you find the content of the conference talks?'

70% useful / very useful (average across all speakers)

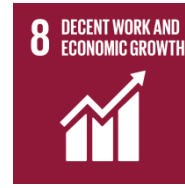
'Rate the quality of the all speakers taking part in the Carbon Journey'

85% good / very good

'The Carbon Journey has provided me with knowledge and awareness that will improve my employability'

52% agree

The Carbon Journey



“

Twenty-five years ago people could be excused for not knowing much, or doing much, about climate change. Today we have no excuse. No more can it be dismissed as science fiction; we are already feeling the effects”.

Desmond Tutu

