



**EAUC Press Release**

**Issue date: Thursday, 05 July 2018**

## **Education proving its value to the economy and society**

This year's UK and Ireland Green Gown Awards' Finalists, **representing over 1 million students, 172,000 staff and a combined annual turnover of £15 billion**, are leading the way with their commitment to the global sustainability agenda and proving the value that universities and colleges bring to the economy and society. The Finalists emphasise an institution's role in enabling and empowering young people to tackle pressing global issues to ensure they have a better tomorrow.

Finalist submissions range from initiatives that tackle modern slavery to Parent Power in the fight against inequality. They include a partnership with Coca Cola that saves plastic bottles by providing reusable bottles with microchips and a soft drink dispenser that senses them, and the first UK university community fridge.

To be held at York's historic National Railway Museum, the Awards Ceremony recognises sustainability best practice within the further and higher education sectors. The Awards provide the sector with benchmarks for excellence and are respected by Government, funding councils, senior management, academics and students.

There will also be a new twist at the prestigious Awards Ceremony. For the first time, attendees will be voting a winner for the new category 'Outstanding Leadership Team of the Year' live on the night!

For the second year running, applicants were tasked with outlining how their sustainability projects delivered against the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). 46% of this year's finalists listed 'sustainable cities and communities' as an SDG they are delivering. Meanwhile just under half are working towards 'responsible consumption and production' and 41% put forward projects that improved 'quality education'. To show the breadth of the impact education has on the delivering against the SDGs, 33% stated they are delivering against the 'health and well-being' SDG and one in four delivering 'industry, innovation and infrastructure'.

Between the finalists, the projects touch on every department and permeate across the whole curriculum. They are conducted by students, staff, academics, external stakeholders and can be found all across the UK and Ireland. These initiatives are a shining example of the power post-16 education possesses and the seriousness with which it takes its responsibility in creating a better world and a new generation of leaders.

**Iain Patton, Chief Executive at the EAUC, said:** *“The EAUC has really stepped it up a gear this year with its commitment to the SDGs and partnership working. This has been driven by the post-16 education sector and its commitment to the Global Goals. The Green Gown Award applications show the truly pioneering initiatives being borne in post-16 education. Every day, tireless environmental, social and sustainability leaders across the UK and Ireland are driving change and showing the value universities and colleges bring to the economy and society.*

*The Green Gown Awards exist to give them the recognition and platform they need to share their learning and do even more."*

The Winners will be announced at the Awards Ceremony on 8 November 2018 at the National Railway Museum in York.

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## Green Gown Awards 2018 - Finalists

### Benefitting Society#

**King's College London** - Parent Power

**Stockport Continuing Education Service** - Turnaround - 360 degrees different

**The University of Nottingham** - Project SCENE: Sustainable Community Energy Networks

**University of Edinburgh** - A whole institution approach to combating modern slavery

**University of Leeds** - Positive Impact Partners: Building capacity through partnerships

**University of Southampton** - Uni-link buses for better air

**University of Surrey** – Source

**University of the Arts London, London College of Fashion** - Rethinking rehabilitation - connecting communities through craft

**University of the West of England, Bristol** - UWE supporting Bristol's One City Plan

**University of Worcester** - Cross Atlantic project-based learning - a tale of two Worcesters

### Campus Health, Food and Drink

#### Category Supporter: TUCO

**King's College London** - Ditch disposables at King's

**Lancaster University** - Campus Community Fridge – the first UK university community fridge

**Liverpool Guild of Students** - Campus compost collaboration

**Sheffield Hallam University** - Taste Hallam!

**University of Greenwich** - Reusable Cup Race

**University of Reading** - Sustain It Bottle

### Campus of the Future

#### Category Supporter: The Energy Consortium

**City of Glasgow College** - New College new learning

**De Montfort University** - Campus Transformation – a campus for the 21st Century

**Glasgow Caledonian University** - Towards zero waste – mainstreaming waste minimisation and recycling

**Newcastle University** - From coal to cloud - Newcastle University Urban Sciences Building

**University of Leicester** - Leicester for Life

**University of St Andrews** - Catching fire for carbon reductions

**University of the Arts London** - Celebrate Camberwell!

## Enterprise

### Category Supporter: CUBO

**Keele University** - Utter Rubbish - an app to tackle fly tipping and improve recycling across the UK

**Kent Union** – EcoFeast

**Newcastle University Student's Union** - Stu Brew - Europe's first student-run microbrewery

**Prosper Social Finance CIC and the University of Edinburgh** - Prosper Social Finance

**The University of Nottingham** - Light up your life: Liter of Light Nigeria

**The University of Sussex** - Project 36 – Nepal

**University of Brighton** - Green Growth Platform - connect, innovate, grow

**University of Essex** - SHE Inspires

## Next Generation Learning and Skills

**Ayrshire College** - Green Teachers

**Sutton College** - Looking for those that care

**University College of Estate Management** - Sustainable futures through online learning

**University of Plymouth** - Embedding sustainability in the global nursing curriculum

**University of Salford** - BEST learning for next generation sustainability

**University of the Arts London, London College of Fashion** - Fashion and sustainability:

Understanding luxury fashion in a changing world

**University of Wales, Trinity Saint David** - On-line Certificate: Sustainable Development and the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act

## Research with Impact – Institution

### Category Supporter: SALIX

**Aston University** - Seawater greenhouse technology enables drought-proof agriculture

**University of Leeds** - Leeds Living Lab: Where knowledge grows

**University of the West of England, Bristol** - LOOSing Water

**University of the West of England, Bristol** - Our future with clean air: ClairCity citizen-led air pollution reduction in cities

## Student Engagement#

**Bath Student Community Partnership** - Our Shared City Move - Out Campaign

**Cardiff Metropolitan University** - Living the green and not just a dream

**Glasgow Kelvin College** - Glasgow Kelvin Velocity: The wheels of sustainability

**Glasgow Kelvin College** - Integrating sustainable inclusive social practice

**Keele University** - The Great Donate

**Northumbria University** - Strategic partnerships embedding long term positive change

**Nottingham Trent University** - SDG Visual Displays project

**Staffordshire University Students' Union** - Staffs TV does Top Gear

**The Students' Union at UWE** - Bring Your Own Bowl

**University of Lincoln** - Digital student partnerships - boosting employability and engagement

**University of Southampton** - Meliora: a student international sustainability research symposium and journal series

**University of the Arts London, London College of Fashion** - LCF x ASOS visioning the circular economy

## Sustainability Institution of the Year Award#

### Category Supporter: EAUC

**Keele University** - The difference that makes the difference

**Manchester Metropolitan University** - Let's make a sustainable planet: Marking a decade of inspiration, innovation and impact

**Nottingham Trent University** - Here for current and future generations

**University of Edinburgh** - Delivering positive impact for society

**University of Worcester** - Small but mighty - University of Worcester punches above its weight

## Tomorrow's Employees

**University of Leeds** - The architects of possibility - Leeds' students are shaping the future

**University of Leicester** - Leaders of the future: Think beyond the headlines

**University of Oxford** - Student opportunities and Training Better Leaders

**University of the West of England, Bristol** - Graduates responsible for a sustainable future

**University of Wales, Trinity Saint David** - UWTSO Carmarthen Business School: Rethinking Business for a Changing World

## Total Reporting

**London School of Economics and Political Science**

**Manchester Metropolitan University**

**University of Gloucestershire**

**University of Leeds**

**University of Worcester**

## INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM AWARDS

### Outstanding Leadership Team of the Year

#### *Category Supporter: Interface*

**Keele University**

**University of Edinburgh**

**University of Gloucestershire**

### Research with Impact – Student

#### *Category Supporter: SALIX*

**Alex Dixon** - Exeter College Technology Centre

**Hannah Sellers** - University of Leicester

**Katherine Piper** - University of the West of England, Bristol

### Sustainability Champion - Student

**Margaret Jennings** - Goldsmiths, University of London

**Ross Perrett** - University of Leicester

**Lizzie Rhoades** - University of Edinburgh

**Amy Bernice Staff** - The Students' Union at UWE

### Sustainability Champion – Staff

**Matthew Bennett** - University of East Anglia

**Deborah Coles** - London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

**Claudine Henry** - University of the Arts London, London College of Fashion

**David Johnston** - University of the West of Scotland

**Dr. Smirti Kutaula** - Kingston University

**Paul Murray** - University of Plymouth

**Darren Procter** - Sheffield Hallam University  
**The King's Libraries Team** - King's College London

FOOTNOTE: # Included in the International Green Gown Awards

## **ENDS**

### **Notes to Editor**

#### **About the Green Gown Awards**

Established in 2004, the Green Gown Awards recognise the exceptional sustainability initiatives being undertaken by universities and colleges across the UK and Ireland. With sustainability moving up the agenda, the Awards have become established as the most prestigious recognition of best practice within the further and higher education sector.

The Green Gown Awards are administered by the Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC) and are governed by a [cross agency steering group](#).

For more information visit [www.greengownawards.org](http://www.greengownawards.org) and follow us on [Twitter](#) @greengowns.

#### **About EAUC**

The EAUC represents institutions with over 2 million students and nearly 400,000 staff with a spending budget of over £25 billion. We exist to lead and empower the post-16 education sector to make sustainability 'just good business'. For more information, visit [www.eauc.org.uk](http://www.eauc.org.uk) or follow us on Twitter @TheEAUC

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