

sustainability bulletin



ISSUE 12 February 2020



AT A GLANCE

Green Impact 2020

Welcome to our newest SIPS!

Introducing new students to sustainability at UTAS in 2020

Sustainability staff and students had stalls in Hobart, Launceston and Cradle Coast campuses for Orientation week in mid-February. As always, the ever-popular second-hand cutlery set give-aways to encourage students to bring their own reusables to campus and avoid single-use materials were all snapped up quickly. So, if you have any old cutlery, please contact sustainability.utas@utas.edu.au and we'll gladly re-home it for you!

On Newnham campus, the TUU pop-up op shop was a resounding success! The pop-up is a temporary expansion of the TUU's op shop. Coordinated by the TUU Environment Officers, the TUU op-shop is open every Friday from 10am -12pm and can be found on level 3 of Building Z/TUU.

You may have noticed some new biodiversity posters around campus! The posters are part of a Natural Values Scavenger Hunt game created by SIPS Fellow Kawinwitt Kittipalawattapanol (Ink). Together with

fellow students, Ink has set up a new TUU society for students called the Biological Sciences Club. The game was created to raise awareness about biodiversity and be a fun way for new students to get to know their campus. Prizes for the first 40 students to find posters on campus were generously donated by Rob Wiltshire, Senior Lecture for Plant Science at the School of Biological Sciences. The game was run during Orientation Week for students at Sandy Bay, Hobart, Newnham and Inveresk, and the Sustainability Team is partnering with the TUU to run the game on the Cradle Coast Campus later in the year.

At the Sustainability stall at TUU Market Day, Sustainability Projects Officer Varunjani Jayaseelan said:

"It was great to meet so many eager individuals' curious about what they can do to be sustainable"



SIPS intern (2019) Yanqi Wang and Sustainability Projects Officer Varunjani Jayaseelan at the UTAS Orientation week 2020 in Hobart

Take part in the 2020 staff and student Sustainability Survey

Survey open 2-22 March

Conducted biennially, the University of Tasmania Sustainability Survey is aimed at gathering meaningful information on the perceptions, aspirations and behaviours of staff and students in relation to sustainability, concerns about the future and the responsibilities and performance of the University. The results help inform the University's sustainability strategies, incorporate actions and targets into its operations, teaching, research and community engagement activities. Participants have the chance to win one of six \$100 vouchers (one for each region/campus).

Survey Link (Available from 2 March)
www.utas.edu.au/sustainability/home



Sustainability Projects Officer Will Plasiter at Orientation week 2020 in Launceston



Launching the new Sustainability Tour...

SEE PAGE 2



FOR UPDATES, INCLUDING SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE INFORMATION, NEWS AND EVENTS
utas.edu.au/sustainability

Launching the new Sustainability Tour

In 2019, SIPS student Jing Fan, worked with the Sustainability Team to create a [Sustainability Tour](#) for staff, students and visitors to the University. The Tour includes sustainability features and student projects at Cradle Coast, Newnham, Inveresk, Hobart and Sandy Bay campuses.

Staff across the University were consulted about what to include in the Tour and the Tour itself can be used by any area. It can be used either as an online virtual map or a physical walking tour.

"People's passion for sustainability touched me when I was working on this project! I learnt a lot of new things about sustainability while designing the map and I'm so glad we can share their great efforts with you through the Tour." – SIPS student, Jing Fan

The first walking tour with students was held during Orientation Week and elements of the tour have been included in UTAS Life Campus Tours. Thank you to everyone who contributed ideas and information to enable the Tour to happen.



SIPS fellow Kawinwitt Kittipalawattanapol (Ink) at the Biological societies stall running the Natural Values Scavenger Hunt game.

New club for nature lovers – The UTAS Biological Science Club

The UTAS Biological Sciences Club is an inclusive community of nature lovers and biologists committed to (1) providing opportunities for members of the Society to explore the various aspects of the Biological Sciences and contribute to citizen science through ethical and educational field surveys; (2) creating educational opportunities for the community regarding biological values, threatening processes and action-based solutions; and (3) connecting students and staff from different disciplines within or outside of Biological Sciences.

The aim of the club is to share accurate and accessible information on the natural values

to further public education and recognition of our often-unique Tasmanian environments. All data gathered through the club will be recorded and made available to aid in further biological research and conservation projects.

The club members hope to share their natural passion with one another through organised fieldtrips, fundraisers and other events which everyone can participate in.

Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#): @utasbiosciclub

Contact us through: utasbiosciclub@outlook.com

THEME OF THE MONTH

Procurement at UTAS

Modern slavery is estimated to effect 40.3 million people in forms of child labour and slavery, forced labour and servitude, human trafficking and more ([International Labour Organisation](#)).

The Modern Slavery Act came into effect on the 1 January 2019 in Australia and calls upon businesses to display transparency through supply chains and rethink the way in which business is done. As an institution, the University of Tasmania is under reporting obligation to submit an annual federal statement on its contribution towards upholding the Modern Slavery Act 2018. Procurement is working very closely with the Project Lead, the University's Compliance Manager, Catherine Kaehne, to finalise activities that will demonstrate the University's commitment to eradicating modern slavery in its supply chains. The first 12-month reporting period commenced on 1 January 2020 and procurement will commence by revising our vendor contracts to encapsulate the Modern Slavery statutory obligations. Other procurement activities are expected to be announced after the establishment of the University's MSA Project Team.

Both in response to the Modern Slavery Act 2018 and UTAS Procurement's commitment to alignment with the ISO 20400 Sustainable Procurement standard. Procurement Services are working closely with the University's Legal Team to develop binding sustainability clauses for our Purchase Order General Terms and all other supplier contracts.

You can contribute towards upholding the Modern Slavery Act by finding out where your purchases are made and choosing certified items (e.g., [Fairtrade](#)).



Launching Green Impact 2020

Green Impact is back for 2020! Join us on 17 March for the first Green Impact showcase webinar. The online toolkit for 2020 is now open, and you can sign up as a team or individual.

Due to positive feedback from staff and students following the students' audits last year. This year, teams have the option of working with two volunteer student project assistants.

A Green Impact project assistant provides practical assistance and positive support for their team.

You can read more about the Program in our [2019 report](#). We look forward to seeing the creative initiatives and achievements of

staff through the Program in 2020! If you are interested in taking part in sustainability initiatives on campus contact catherine.elliott@utas.edu.au for more information.

2019 Green Impact Winners

Student Champions: Jess Flint, TIA CCC & Chester James-Smith, Rural Clinical School CCC

Community Action: TIA CCC

Engagement Innovators: CoSE Reach Out! Schools Engagement Team

Environmental Improvement: Rural Clinical School CCC

Introducing the new Northern TUU Environmental officer Cathereen Phua

I was grateful when I learnt that the previous Environment Officer, Eliza, set up an on-campus op shop last year. Having a campus-based op shop is important as it really helps students, especially newbies!

The on-campus op shop allows students to get what they need within walking distance, rather than traveling alone to the city or shopping in an unfamiliar place. At the op shop students can get a range of useful household goods, stationery items, and clothes. As an international student, I wished I had known about the op shop earlier. Then I wouldn't have needed to buy new when I can get affordable, second-hand items from the op shop. For a student, a few bucks really matter. Students can also donate things they no longer need to the op shop, reducing the amount of waste going to landfill.

As I am new to the concept of minimalism, I have been trying my best to live a minimalist lifestyle. In 2020, I am prioritizing the concept of sustainability (which is quite broad) and minimalism. I would like to have two op shops on-campus, one at Newnham and one at Inveresk. You can find the Newnham op shop at the TUU. Please get in touch if you would like to volunteer at one of the op shops!



Community Gardening Day for students at the Hobart City Apartments

On Sunday 9 February, 32 people gathered in the community courtyard at Hobart City Apartments to build six new wicking beds. Students living in the Apartments were joined by members of the local community and local businesses. Landscape Gardener, Nick Darcey, provided guidance about choosing suitable plants and explained how the self-watering wicking beds use less water than conventional garden beds. The wicking beds are designed to be moved to facilitate different uses of the courtyard space.

The new beds create a more welcoming and interesting environment for both students and members of the community using the space.

Students headed down to the Farm Gate Market to choose edible plants for the new beds and then shared a lunchtime BBQ. The new food garden beds are located near the BBQ facilities and picnic tables that are available for students and members of the public.

The event was co-hosted by the Sustainability and Student Living teams. Congratulations to SIPS student, Mahalia White-McColl, for her support to organise the event!



Students constructing wicking beds at the Hobart City Apartments



Student	Role	Mentor/s	Project Topic
Kawinwit Kittipalawattanapol (Ink)	SIPS Fellow (South)	Catherine Elliott	Sustainability engagement: biodiversity and environment
Kenneth Wu	SIPS Fellow (North)	Carmen Primo Perez	Sustainability engagement: reducing waste to landfill at Newnham and Inveresk
Jessica Flint	SIPS Fellow (NW)	Cathy Walker	Sustainability engagement: reducing waste to landfill at Cradle Coast Campus
Mahalia White-McColl	SIPS Intern (South)	Catherine Elliott	Community gardening day at Hobart City Apartments
Mary Jeyasingham	SIPS Intern (South)	Corey Peterson	2020 UTAS Sustainability Survey
Sharifah Syed-Rohan	SIPS Intern (South)	Corey Peterson and Catherine Elliott	Sustainability Governance
Zi Long Chow	SIPS Intern (North)	Carmen Primo Perez and Rowena Zwart	Student engagement in sustainability: energy auditing
Rani Greig	SIPS Intern (North)	Carmen Primo Perez	Biodiversity and environment (North, Newnham Creek)
Ellen-Rose Sorensen	SIPS Intern (South)	Catherine Elliott	Staff engagement in sustainability
Timothy Boyle	SIPS Intern (South)	Corey Peterson and Catherine Elliott	Student engagement in sustainability
Eloise Bennett	SIPS Intern (South)	Catherine Elliott	Biodiversity and environment (South, Sandy Bay and Hobart)

Upcoming Sustainability Activities

Roundtable on Climate Communication (hosted by Law School)	1 March
Have your say in the Sustainability Survey for staff and students	2-22 March
Sustainability Fellows Lunchtime Workshops	Sem 1 and 2
Green Impact showcase #1	17 March, 12-1pm
Sustainability Careers Expo at Sandy Bay campus	1 April
Green Impact showcase #2	30 April, 12-1pm
Health and Sustainability on Newnham Campus	4-5 May
Ride2Work Day	21 October
Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability (ACTS) Conference and Green Gown Awards Australasia hosted by the University of Tasmania	18-20 November

Stay tuned for more activities in our next bulletin!