

**Sustainability
Month
Highlights
August 2015**

Sustainability Month was packed full of events with many delivered in partnership between the Sustainability team, Accommodation Services, UTAS Film Society and the TUU.

Events included staff get-togethers, film nights and documentaries, energy challenges, symposium and sustainability displays in both the Newnham and Morris Miller libraries.

Accommodation Services Energy Challenge took a different approach in the south this year by measuring the modern apartments separately to the older colleges, with winners John Fisher College and the Top Uni Apartments. Over 400 students saved energy equivalent to the annual energy consumption of three Tasmanian homes - about 30,000 kWh! Residents enjoyed making a useful contribution to the environment through reducing their carbon footprint.

Newnham's recycling display was well-received with many students curious to know more about their wasting habits and equally surprised about some of the *not to be recycled* items. Who knew that the lid of a coffee cup is recyclable but the cup is not!

Ideas on how to make your area more efficient or sustainable are encouraged. Contact a sustainability team member - details are available on the website: <http://www.utas.edu.au/sustainability>

For updates, including Sustainability Committee members, news and events:

www.utas.edu.au/sustainability

KILL A WATT

How low can you go?

Participate in the annual energy challenge for your chance to battle it out against fellow campus residents and Northern campus rivals!

Prizes
Overall Winners \$500 prize
Campus Winners \$200 prize



Graphic courtesy of Sustainability

Developing a Strategic Framework for Sustainability

University consultation began in July on the development of a holistic framework to guide the institution into the next phase of the sustainability journey.

The first phase of the consultation involved a series of workshops, forums and individual interviews with forty-six staff and students from a broad cross section of the institution, where the participants were asked *What would I like the University to address in the next 10 years in terms of sustainability?*

These activities resulted in 181 specific visions that were grouped into six categories:

- Infrastructure and Campus Management
- Reduce Natural Resource Use and Pollution
- Learning, Teaching and Research
- Student and Staff Experience
- Integration and Leadership
- Transforming Culture

The next steps are to use this feedback to prepare a draft Strategic Framework for Sustainability.

A copy of the stage 1 consultation report is available by contacting sustainability.utas@utas.edu.au



Simple Actions Towards
Sustainability

Brief Timeline of the University's Sustainability Journey

Pre-2005 – Informal and subject-focussed efforts

2005-2009 – Formalising a broader approach

- Governance Level Principle (GLP) 9 – Environmental Sustainability (nee Environment Management)
- GLP 10 – Built Environment (Green Star building commitments)
- Sustainable Built Environment Designs Policy
- Environmental Management Group established
- Environmental Management Plan (EMP) enacted

2009-2011 – Implementation

- Sustainability efforts resourced with staff and budget to implement EMP
- Talloires Declaration (1990) – 10 point action plan for Education for Sustainable Development signed by the University in 2009
- Sustainable Procurement clauses included in policy & guidelines

2011-2013 – Expand sustainability commitments and efforts

- *Open to Talent 2012 – Onwards* states:
*Future planning, design and management of our facilities will be guided by a vision of sustainability seeking to **reduce environmental impacts, achieve economic efficiency, demonstrate social responsibility, and enhance student experience.***
- Staffing (operational and academic)
- Recurrent budgets
- Education for Sustainability Community of Practice
- Academic-Operations Sustainability Integration Program (AOSIP)
- *Sustainable Transport Strategy 2012-2016*
- ACTS Award of Excellence (institutional)
- Strategic Plan for Learning and Teaching – *By inculcating understandings of social responsibility, critical engagement, justice, the possibilities for a more sustainable future...*

2013-2015 – Review and Re-commit

- Formalised Sustainability Committee under the Senior Management Team
- Strategic Research Plan Theme: *Environment, Resources and Sustainability*
- Mission Statement approved
- Governance Level Principles reviewed
- Built Environment Designs Policy updated
- Sustainability Policy ratified
- Green Gown Award Australasia (x2)
- ACTS Awards of Excellence (both staff and student categories)
- Developing draft Strategic Framework for Sustainability

