

## SUSTAINABILITY BULLETIN Dec 2014

The ACTS Conference, co-hosted by the University of Tasmania in Hobart from 5-7 November, finished on a high note for the University, which was awarded the Green Gown Australasia Award in the Facilities and Services category for planning and implementation of sustainable transport initiatives.



## 14th INTERNATIONAL ACTS CONFERENCE AND GREEN GOWN AWARD A SUCCESS

This award is truly whole of institution acknowledgement as the multi-faceted nature of efforts is what sets the University apart from others in this award category, especially involvement of academics and students in delivering outcomes through practical and experiential learning projects as well as research that addresses significant gaps in knowledge about Tasmanian travel behaviour and transport. The University is a major trip generator across the island and our efforts impact on the broader community in a very positive way opening up further opportunities for community engagement and sustainable impact through practical leadership and collaborative learning.



From left to right: Jonathan Pheasant (ACTS Vice President; University of Adelaide); Stephen Conway (TasTAFE CEO); for University of Tasmania: Corey Peterson, Anna Lyth, Carmen Primo Perez, Matt Smith; and Leanne Denby (ACTS President; Macquarie University)

In a few short years, implementation of the University's Sustainable Transport Strategy 2012-2016 has led to fundamental shifts in institutional and community approaches to transport. The Strategy's success in achieving more socially, economically and environmentally sustainable transport outcomes and travel behaviours for the university community are evidenced through major policy changes such as removal of most free parking, infrastructure investments such as significant improvements to bicycle facilities and provision of bus stop shelters, service improvements such as urban and inter-regional bus service and extensive data collection, which is so important to effective planning and decision making.

*A full list of 2014 awards is overleaf*

## PRESENTATIONS

### PUBLIC LECTURE

Watch 'Conversations with Professors Stephen Sterling and David Orr' via Livestream at:

[Sustainability in Education and in Practice: UK and USA](#)

### ACTS CONFERENCE OPENING REMARKS & KEYNOTES

Prof David Sadler, Dr Nick Towle (UTAS); Senator Christine Milne; Prof Stephen Sterling, University of Plymouth UK; Kelly O'Shannassy ACF CEO; Stephen Conway, TasTAFE CEO  
[www.youtube.com/user/ACTSAustralasia](http://www.youtube.com/user/ACTSAustralasia)

### GREEN GOWN AWARDS (AUSTRALASIA & INTERNATIONAL)

Watch the full awards ceremony at:

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=E6tX3Ag\\_460](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E6tX3Ag_460)

## FEATURED HIGHLIGHT

### How do students and staff move themselves?

The modal transport mix for students by campus in 2013 is presented below. Will this change for 2015?

To find out more, go to: [Travel Survey](#)

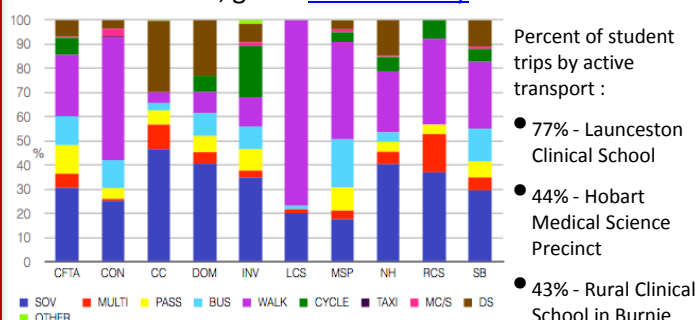


Figure 5: Students modal share of trips to/from study/home by campus

# AWARDS 2014

For further details regarding awards, see:

[www.utas.edu.au/sustainability](http://www.utas.edu.au/sustainability)

*Awarded* - Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability (ACTS) Green Gown Australasia Award – Facilities and Services category for implementing the Sustainable Transport Strategy *Thinking outside the rectangle: beyond the car park for sustainable transport*

*Awarded* – ACTS Award of Excellence–Individual Staff; Corey Peterson, Sustainability Manager

*Awarded* – ACTS Award of Excellence–Individual Student; Oliver Lovell

*Highly Commended* – ACTS Green Gown Australasia Award – Student Engagement category for *Repower the Tasmanian University Union (TUU)* project, seeks to make TUU the first student union to be 100% on-site renewably powered.

*Awarded* - Australian Property Institute (Tasmanian Division), Excellence in Property Awards 2014 for the IMAS Building:

- Environmental Development Award
- Property Development Award

*Awarded* - Master Builders Association (MBA) Tasmania 2014 Excellence Awards:

- New Construction \$50m-\$100 million: John Holland Fairbrother Joint Venture for MS2 building
- New Construction \$20m-\$50 million: John Holland Fairbrother Joint Venture for IMAS building



*Best Use of Glass:* John Holland Fairbrother Joint Venture for the IMAS building

*Finalist* – Community Achievement Award – EPA Sustainability category for UTAS commitments and efforts with respect to waste minimisation via significant investment in recycling and resource recovery infrastructure and services.

# BREADTH UNITS

From Semester 1, 2015 all commencing students in undergraduate programs with common course structures, will be required to take two breadth units through the term of their degree. To facilitate this, the Division of Students and Education introduced three pilot [breadth units](#) in 2014, which are defined as units consistent with the University’s blended learning model, can be readily adaptable to open educational practice and that are directed to the universities overarching, normative graduate attributes (knowledge, communication, problem-solving, social responsibility and global responsibility).

The first unit was *Confronting Sustainability*, a unit taught by six members of the Education for Sustainability Community of Practice based in five faculties and coordinated by Dr Graham Wood from the Faculty of Arts. Offered at first year level the unit brings a wide range of perspectives to bear on questions of sustainability that integrate environmental, social and economic disciplines. The unit develops interdisciplinary understanding of sustainability through critical thinking, reflection and evidence-based argument focussed on practical case studies drawn from around the world.

Offered fully on-line, the unit attracted a (voluntary) enrolment of 17. Many students engaged enthusiastically with learning activities that included thinking through the lessons to be learnt about the Rana Plaza textile factory collapse in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The teaching team really enjoyed the experience of teaching the unit and looks forward to a considerably larger cohort in 2015 when the units become ‘compulsory electives’.

Many of the other breadth units, such as Living and Working with Cultural Diversity and Global Food Security, are highly relevant to issues of sustainability.

## Your Sustainability Committee

David Sadler	<b>Chair</b> Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students and Education)
Corey Peterson	<b>Secretariat;</b> Sustainability Manager, CSD
Jacinta Young	Executive Director, Commercial Services and Development (CSD)
Craig Barling	Chief Finance Officer
Gary O’Donovan	Deans’ representative
Aidan Davison	Education for Sustainability Community of Practice representative (S)
Sandy Murray	Education for Sustainability Community of Practice representative (N)
Anna Lyth	DVC (Research) representative
Gina Hadolt	COO Division, Service Delivery Unit
Neal Denning	Associate Director Strategy and Policy, CSD
Lynne Seville	Lecturer, Rozelle Campus representative
Sophia Mallick	TUU Environmental Officer (S)
Liam Scanlan	TUU Environmental Officer (N)