

Sustainability Bulletin



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Vice Chancellor Rufus Black, Millie Rooney, Catherine Elliott and Corey Peterson

Millie Rooney

Millie Rooney and Corey Peterson with SIPS student Dixon

Vice Chancellor's Award for the SIPS Team: Enhancing the student experience

It was with great excitement that the ISD Sustainability Team, supported by our Education for Sustainability Community of Practice academic partners, received the Vice-Chancellor's Award for Enhancing the Student Experience. While the award recognises the success of the Sustainability Integration Program for Students (SIPS) since inception in 2010 with a focus on curricular activities, SIPS went to a whole new level over the past two years with a dedicated focus on embedding internships under Millie Rooney's coordination. Millie has mentored a diverse range of students in interesting and engaging sustainability programs across areas such as carbon accounting, waste management, energy efficiency and renewable energy, transport, biodiversity, student sustainability and transport surveys, public policy, behaviour change, video production, communications and marketing. The award recognises the contributions of the broad team involved including Corey Peterson, Kamal Singh, Rowena Zwart, Carmen Primo Perez, Kim Beasey and Catherine Elliott. Since its creation the program has included over 1,761 students and 67 professional and academic staff from 19 discipline areas across all Tasmanian campuses. The award was presented by Vice Chancellor Rufus Black at a ceremony on the 8th of November.

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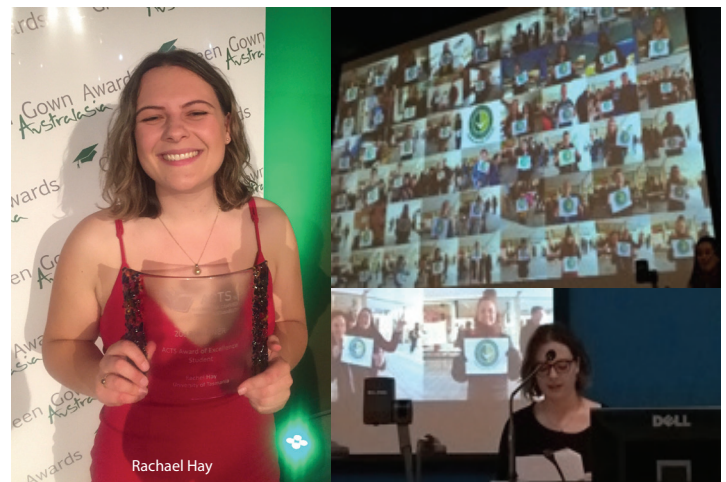


Coming Soon in 2019...

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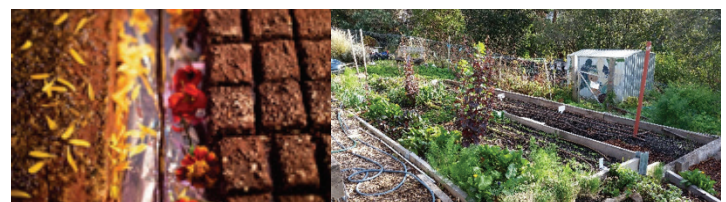
Green Gown Awards Australasia

Congratulations to Rachel Hay, who has won the 2018 Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability (ACTS) Green Gown Award for Excellence in the student category. Rachel was instrumental in the University's move to certified carbon neutrality and has been leading the conversation on divestment from fossil fuels.



Rachael Hay

The University was a finalist in two other categories including the Creating Impact category for "sustainabil-IT-y" and the Campus Health, Food & Drink category "Food @UTAS? Get it from the Source!". Video submissions can be found on the [ACTS YouTube channel](#). Read about and be inspired by the other winners at the [ACTS Green Gown Awards](#).



The Tasmanian University Union celebrates Repower the TUU, 100% renewable power generation

In October, the Tasmanian University Union became the first Australian student union to be 100% renewably powered! Following six years of student led commitment and initiatives, across all campuses the TUU is now fully powered by renewable power. On the 19th of October University students and staff, members of the TUU board and community leaders including Hobart City Council representatives gathered to hear from past TUU representatives and to celebrate the announcement. The launch happened as funding was made available for the final tranche of panels and in anticipation of the imminent installation.

'We are very pleased to achieve a truly sustainable energy system and be acting authentically as a climate proactive community knowing that the power produced meets our power consumption over time and that we are producing no carbon emissions.'

– TUU Environment Officer (2018) Zoe Douglas-Kinghorn



Use the QR code to see the TUU's power generation tracker



Carmen Primo Perez, Millie Rooney, Corey Peterson and Kamal Singh

Sustainability Team News

In 2019 Dr. Kamal Singh and Dr. Millie Rooney are moving to new and exciting adventures, continuing their passion for sustainability in other areas of the University of Tasmania as well as nationally. Millie and Kamal have both been valuable members of the Sustainability Team, mentoring students and shaping the University's sustainability policies and programs. They have supported students on their sustainability journeys, providing challenges and opportunities for further learning as well as tackling tangible problems. Millie and Kamal will both be missed by the team, but we join them in celebrating their new opportunities and future plans!

Kamal will be continuing his involvement with the academic activities of the University through helping integrate and embed sustainability into the curriculum. I am sure that we will work with him through the EFS Community of Practice as well as SIPS projects. So, we won't let him get too far away.

Millie will be moving on to a full time leadership position with [Australia Remade](#), a national project she's been working on over the past few years. As she will be based in Tasmania, we will still benefit from her presence and her offer to help out with transitioning to a new lead for SIPS as it is clearly a program close to her heart.

2018 Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability Conference

Corey Peterson and Carmen Primo Perez attended the Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability Conference. The University's Sustainability Team gave three presentations on the student ICT sustainability projects through SIPS, how the University is using LiFE Index and the Education for Sustainability Community of Practice in Tasmania. Corey also presented in a panel discussion on the Green Impact pilot program at the University in 2018. Corey and Carmen also visited Flinders University's new innovation precinct at the old Mitsubishi factory noting the interesting mix of start-ups, university researchers and other education providers. Unfortunately, the experimental self-driving car was having some technical issues so no free rides around the facility.

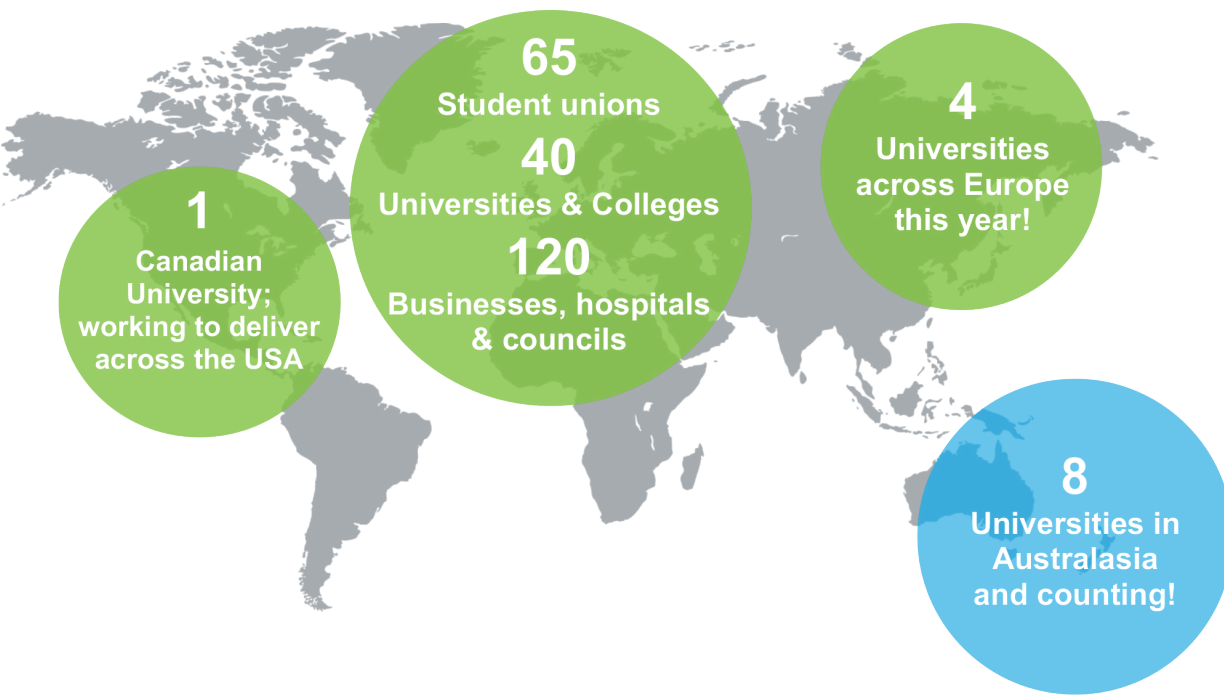


Zoe Douglas-Kinghorn



University students, staff and guests celebrate the TUU becoming 100% renewable

Green Impact pilot program, student training and team evaluations



In 2018 the University of Tasmania piloted the Green Impact Program a proven staff sustainability engagement program that has been running in the United Kingdom, Europe and Canada. In 2018, Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability brought the program to Melbourne University and this year it was opened to nine Universities in Australia and New Zealand.

The University of Tasmania was one of only three Australian universities to open the program for multiple campuses, in Hobart, Launceston and Burnie. To trial the program the Susty Team set out to recruit 6 staff teams, and accepted 8 teams of staff including both professional and academic staff.

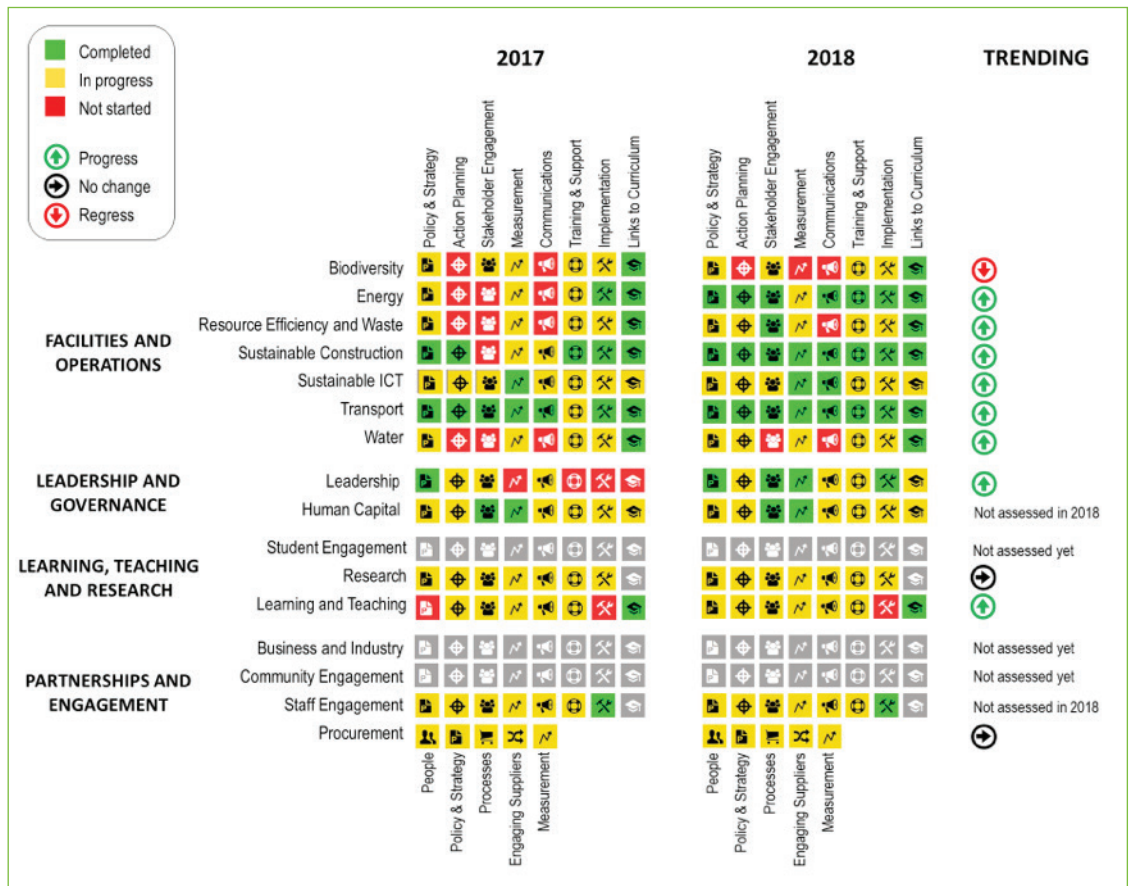
The program provided an opportunity for staff to learn about and celebrate sustainability initiatives happening on campus. Staff were able to use the Green Impact Toolkit to share their experiences, stories, pictures and outcomes, including team lunches, riding to work and celebrating biodiversity on campus. Two staff teams received support from student interns, Will Plaister and Renee (Jia Bao).

In November, masters and undergraduate students from accounting, medicine and geography and spatial sciences joined an internationally accredited auditor training program where they learnt auditing skills and began evaluating the staff teams actions in 2018. The students provided interesting feedback to the staff teams and were curious to learn about what staff have been up to this year.



LiFE Index Workshops

The University uses the international [LiFE Index](#) to report on sustainability frameworks. The following infographic provides an overview of our performance in 2018.



Coming soon in 2019

Green Impact continues in 2019

Staff interested in sustainability can get involved in Green Impact in 2019, contact Catherine Elliott if you are interested in participating.

The fourth bi-annual Travel Behaviour Survey will run from 25 March – 07 April 2019. The data collected in these surveys are used to assess the effectiveness of University investments to support sustainable transport modes as well as plan for our future campuses and facilities across the institution in Tasmania and Sydney.

Engaging Staff and Professional Development Opportunities

Capture your Contribution Workshop

On the 15 October the Sustainability Team hosted a professional development workshop around storytelling techniques for capturing and communicating what we do. The workshop was run by Healthy Tasmania and attended by University staff and SIPs students. Highlights included understanding good storytelling techniques, unpacking authenticity, and ways to foster empathy and support through our networks.

Sustainable Procurement and Modern Slavery Workshops

On the 19 November University staff were invited to attend a workshop on the proposed Australian Modern Slavery Act, the workshop was run by the UK School and Action Sustainability and focussed on embedding best practice in procurement to combat modern slavery in Australia. The workshop was organised by Jennifer Birch and attended by academic and professional staff. Earlier in October the Sustainability and Procurement teams joined forces for a workshop on sustainable procurement and purchasing options for University staff.

Teaching Matters Conference

Millie Rooney presented at the University's Teaching Matters Conference on *The ability to make mistakes: the SIPs sandpit for sustainability and social justice*.

