

Sustainability Bulletin



Issue 4 | September - October 2018

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Open Day reflections

Sustainability interns took (Mumford's) pride of place at the Open Days in Hobart and Launceston in August. The stalls and interns were organised by Varu Jayaseelan (SIPS Fellow) and supported by Sustainability Officers Carmen Primo Perez and Catherine Elliott. Feedback was positive in the engagement of students, parents and other staff members in conversations about sustainability in general and on campus. Ideas and comments received focused on topics of reducing plastic waste, composting facilities and divesting from fossil fuels. Sustainability friendly Fairtrade chocolates in compostable wrappers were the rewards for those sharing their thoughts at the stall. Varu said "it was a fun, active and high impact day where we were able to spread our passion towards sustainability through our stories."



Hobart



Launceston



FALLING TRASH

1. Download the app
2. Practice
3. Compete and win!

PLAY TO WIN!
Next competition kicks off in August*
Competition and prize details through app announcements.
sustainability.utas.edu.au

Simple Actions Towards Sustainability

*Parent University of Tasmania students only

Available on the App Store | Google Play

Congratulations your score is 75444
Please enter a gamer tag
Enter text...
OK

Falling Trash competition results 6-26 August 2018

Total players	49
Max score	234,648
Sum of scores	66,956,653
Total games played	420

One participant played 147 times!

*Falling Trash is an app developed by a 2017 ICT student project group

Green Gown Awards 2018 Finalists

Congrats!



1. Creating Impact category – ITS
2. Campus Health, Food & Drink – Source Wholefoods Cooperative (Sandy Bay campus)
3. ACTS Award of Excellence (Student) – Rachel Hay

Green Impact update and auditing course opportunity

Our Green Impact Program is underway with information sessions run across the state in July and August for the seven Green Impact teams participating in our pilot program in 2018! Great to see that we have 32 staff across 20 different areas, both professional and academic, both student and non-student facing. Participants are from a diverse range of areas including Philosophy, Architecture, Campus Services, Health and Communicable Diseases, Student Mobility, UTAS Life, the English Language Centre, the TUU, Chemistry and the Sustainability Team (ISD).

We welcomed two SIPS interns, Will Plaister in the North and Jia Bao (Renee) in the South, to support Green Impact teams during the program. Will and Renee will also be joining our team evaluations on the 20 November 2018.

The University joins nine Universities and 18,000 people across Australia and New Zealand taking part in 2018. Internationally 162 organisations are participating this year and have achieved over 85,000 sustainability actions.

If you have any questions about the program or would like more information, our Green Impact Coordinator is available on Wednesdays to meet and support your teams.



Green Impact Coordinator
Catherine Elliott
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SIPS Semester 2 Projects



Carla Bruinsma	Source project
Ella Hilder	SIPS Fellow – intern support
Francisco Guerrero	Organic waste at UTAS
Isabella Ermacora (Issy)	Bike workshop on campus
James Sayer	Engagement (North)
Jia Bao (Renee)	Green Impact support
Kotaro Takano (Taka)	I-PREP
Nhi Pham	Divestment analysis
Joy Pflieger	Sustainable Labs
Varunjani Jayaseelan	Events and Engagement
Zhu Wenting	Re-use program for students - accommodation
William Plaister	Green Impact support
Yan (Enya) Peng	Divestment analysis

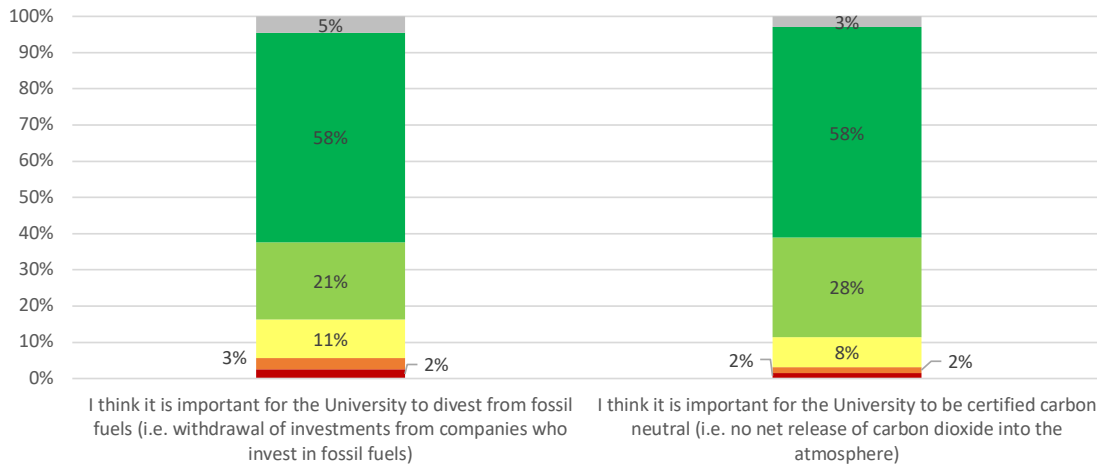


Fossil Free UTAS event

22 August 2018

Students have continued encouraging and educating the University on Fossil Fuel divestment, including a 'banner raising' on kunanyi/Mt. Wellington and a hosting a forum "Fossil Free Future at UTAS" attended by over 200 students and staff with a panel of experts, including Dr. John Hewson, Ms. Naomi Edwards (Chair of TasPlan), Professor Ben Richardson (Law) and emceed by Dr. Tom Baxter (TSBE).

■ Strongly Disagree
 ■ Disagree
 ■ Neither Agree nor Disagree
 ■ Agree
 ■ Strongly Agree
 ■ Don't Know



Student Sustainability Survey results highlight the interest in both the divestment issue and that the University maintain its carbon neutral certification.



Events and Activities

UTAS Wellbeing Week	24 - 28 Sep
Tamar Sustainable Living Expo Albert Hall Launceston	13 Oct
Global Climate Change Week (GCCW) http://globalclimatechangeweek.com/	15 - 19 Oct
Ride to Work/Uni Day both Sandy Bay and Newnham campuses	17 Oct
ACTS Conference https://www.actsconference.com.au/	31 Oct - 02 Nov
Green Gown Awards Australasian Gala Dinner	01 Nov



Active Living in Tasmania Forum

Description: Open to individuals who have an interest in physical activity, planning, transport, preventive health and liveability.
Host: Department of Health and the CoHM
Location: UTAS MSP - 17 Liverpool Street, Hobart, Tasmania 7000
Date/Time: 8:45am – 1:00pm, Tue 20 Nov 2018

https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/active-living-in-tasmania-forum-tickets-48826750124?ref=enivt_eFor001&invite=MTQ5NzYwMDgVZWxhaW5lLm1hcnNoYWxsQGhlyWx0aC50YXMuZ292LmF1LzA%3D%0A&utm_source=eb_email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=inviteformalv2&utm_term=attend

Sustainability

Survey

Results



Student Survey highlights

In 2018, responses focused on supporting students to enact sustainable practices, the university making a commitment to divest from fossil fuels and reducing fossil fuel use. In addition, concerns over the management of waste at UTAS, by Facilities Management and by food providers on campus, was a frequent element in student responses.

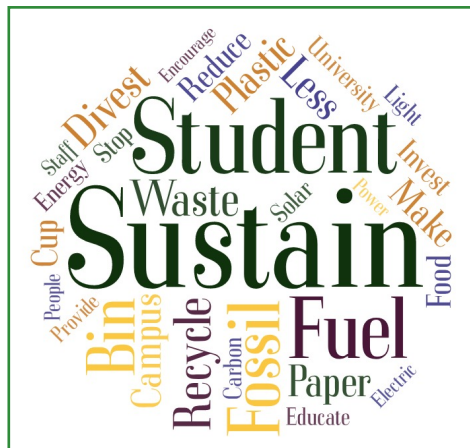


Figure 1: 2018: A word cloud of student views on how UTAS could be more sustainable (top 30 most frequent words (1034 responses))

Based on coding of all responses mentioning the word 'waste,' the top 6 waste reduction action themes cited in 2018 are:

1. Phase out plastic at all university food outlets and provide re-usable alternatives.
2. Reduce paper waste
3. Increase waste reduction infrastructure (within and outside buildings)
4. Reduce food waste and encourage composting
5. Provide waste reduction education and increase waste reduction signage
6. Commit to Zero Waste.

Sustainability & University Infrastructure

In both 2016 and 2018, over 75% of students agree and strongly agree that it is important to them that the natural environment is incorporated into built environments.

A large proportion of students agreed, at some level, with the statement 'I would like to see the University implement more sustainability initiatives on its infrastructure and in processes'; approx. 84% in 2016 and 87% in 2018.

Teaching sustainability across the curriculum

In 2018, 77% of respondents noted that they agreed, to some level, that sustainability is relevant across all areas of the curriculum (74% in 2016 survey).

Many students in 2018 (67%), much like in 2016, are ambivalent or perceive a lack of coverage of sustainability within their selected course.

In 2018, as in 2016, most respondents (74%) disagreed or were again ambivalent regarding the statement that *'The University is very innovative in its approach to teaching about sustainability'*.

Staff Survey highlights

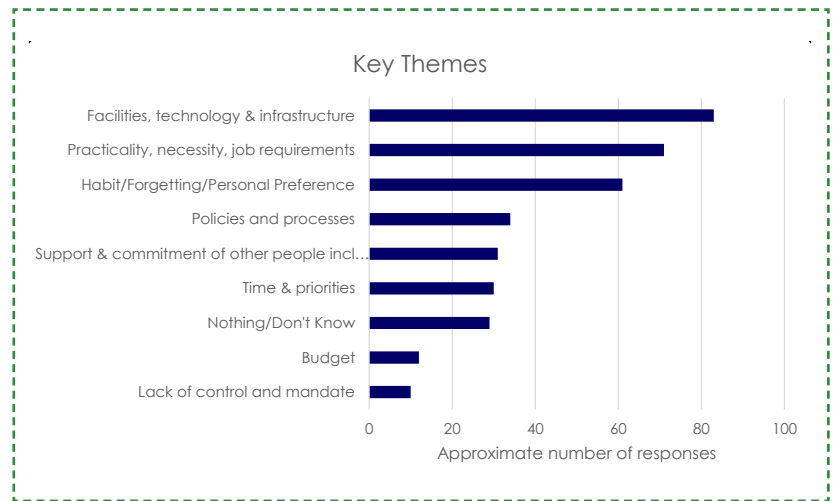
Staff were asked what the main barriers were in taking personal action to decrease the environment impact of their direct work activities. The table to the right outlines key themes of responses given.

Currents efforts to imbed sustainability within the University.

Overall, staff are committed to sustainability and see it as something of importance for themselves and UTAS to pursue.

There was also a substantial jump in the perception of the overall effort UTAS is making towards sustainability, whereby UTAS is now above the average, compared with other universities, on this measure.

Staff see sustainability is being increasingly supported and led by leaders than in the previous survey.



Developed and conducted by Awake Consulting, the survey was built around a range of Sustainability Culture Indicators which measure the degree to which sustainability is individually and organisationally enabled. UTAS still trails its university counterparts on most enablers, suggesting that there is still some way to go in providing the support mechanisms required for staff to fully embrace sustainability.

In summary, UTAS appears to have embedded sustainability in its culture more successfully since 2016. This has been driven by an increased strategic focus and leadership. While headed in the right direction, to catch up with the norm for the university sector, further improvements are needed in providing both organisational support mechanisms and staff empowerment and support.