



Sustainability Bulletin



Issue 9 | September - October 2019



IN THIS ISSUE

- The future of cycling
- Sustainability across the campus

A month of engagement!

Open Day North

For Open Day on Saturday 10 August, the northern Sustainability Team were set up at the Inveresk Campus. This future site of the UTAS Launceston main campus proved popular with community members of all ages, particularly with the primary-school demographic and not just because we offered free organic, Fair Trade chocolate in commercially compostable wrappers and the chance to play sustainability bingo. Many of these young people were already enrolled in university, through the [Children's University](#), and were able to add credits to their 'Passport of Learning'. Overall, it was a very enjoyable day and it was great to see our future generation already actively engaging with sustainability.

Open Day South

It was a conversation filled day at the Sandy Bay Campus on Sunday 4 August, with families, staff, current and prospective students engaging with our stall to talk about sustainability programs on campus and play a game of sustainability bingo. Vice Chancellor Rufus Black visited the stall and discussed sustainability with 2019 SIPS students flying the sustainability banner.

Special mention and acknowledgment of the UTAS Marketing Team taking a quantum leap for sustainability with gift bags of seed-bearing lollipops, reusable cups and other sustainable items. More information on the contents of the gift bags provided below in this bulletin.



Will Plaister and Carmen Primo Perez meet Vice Chancellor Rufus Black



From Left to Right Varunjani Jayaseelan (Sustainability Projects Officer), Lexi K'ng (SIPS intern), Jing Fan (SIPS intern), Jie Wan (IPREP Intern), Min-Ting Chou (SIPS intern), Fengjing Xu (Masters of Social work intern)

Plastic Free July movie screening

To raise awareness for Plastic Free July the Sustainability Team hosted a cross-campus film screening of 'Blue the Film', a documentary about people's impact on the oceans including plastic pollution, illegal fishing, over fishing and coral bleaching. The screening was opened by Dr Jennifer Lavers from IMAS whose research features in the film. The simultaneous cross campus screening was attended by 60 students across Sandy Bay, Newnham and Cradle Coast campuses.

"It was a devastating realisation. You don't really think about what your tuna sandwich does to the ocean, but I feel motivated now to study and make a change" Rahil a Bachelor of Science (Zoology Major) student with a passion for birds.

"I didn't realise what the plastic bottle I bought is doing to the oceans, I will be making an effort to reduce the plastic I use now" Peter (Bachelor of Law).

At the event on the Newnham campus, Plastic Free Launceston communicated with students about reducing plastic waste. In Sandy Bay, the newly formed TUU 'Zero Waste' student society spoke about their aims and encouraged students to get involved with their society on campus.



Dr Jen Lavers, Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies, Newnham Campus



Blue the Film

The future of cycling

The University of Tasmania recently partnered with [Bicycle Network Tasmania](#) to help them deliver the Bike Futures forums in Launceston and Hobart. These forums provide professional development for traffic engineers, planners, landscape architects and researchers on the latest in bicycle infrastructure developments and other programs supporting increased bike use.

Alison Hetherington, Public Affairs Manager with Bicycle Network Tasmania, explains the role that these forums have in advocating for change. "Keeping abreast of developments interstate and overseas can help bolster your arguments for improvements to local infrastructure. If they can do it in Geelong and Adelaide, why can't we do it in Hobart and Launceston?" asks Alison.

Alison expresses her gratitude to UTAS for its continued support: "We've partnered with UTAS on venue support for many years of Bike Futures forums which has been invaluable for us as it has allowed us to stretch our grant money further to get more speakers and have them addressing more than one forum."

UTAS is also helping Bicycle Network Tasmania deliver its first E-Bike Expo in Launceston on Sunday 27 October. This event is designed to provide those people curious about e-bikes (electric bicycles) with the opportunity to trial them in a safe environment. Stay tuned for more details of the E-Bike Expo as well as the [National Ride2Work Day](#) on 16 October 2019.



A full house at Inveresk for the Bike Futures Forum

Sustainability Reps: Champions for change

The Sustainability Reps are ambassadors for sustainability throughout UTAS. On 27 August, these champions for change gathered together to discuss the latest sustainability news and events across the University. And there is plenty happening! Corey Peterson, Sustainability Manager, reported back from the recent University [Sustainability Committee](#) meeting. Catherine Elliott spoke about the increasingly popular [Green Impact](#) and [SIPS](#) programs. Jasper McCormack reminded us all to check out the [Re-use Program](#) website, our online catalogue of furniture and other items available for reuse within the university.

Associate Professor Fred Gale from the School of Social Sciences is coordinating the Global Climate Change Week at UTAS from 14-20 October. Fred says he comes to the Sustainability Reps meetings as they are a great place "to find lots of information about sustainability".

Fancy yourself as a UTAS Sustainability Rep? Click [here](#) for more info on how you can get involved.

Next meeting: Tuesday 17 December 2019

Welcoming the new SIPS students for Semester 2, 2019!

The Sustainability Team host placement students as well as visiting classes to pitch curricular project ideas and communicate on campus sustainability. In Semester 2 2019, more than 250 students have had the option to work on an on campus sustainability systems and challenges through their units in KGA223 Environmental Management, KNE346 Engineering students, XBR102 Developing you Creative and Entrepreneurial Potential, XBR110, Discover your Potential: leadership, service and employability.

SIPS Fellows		
Name	Project	Location
Will Plaister	Sustainability workshops for students (Semester 2, 2019)	North
Kawinwit Kittipalawattanapol (Ink)	Sustainability workshops for students (Semester 1, 2020)	South
SIPS Interns		
Joy Pflieger	Reducing waste to landfill	South
Jing Fan	Sustainability Tour Map	South
Juan Martin Rodriguez Ortega	Active transport: North West Coastal Bike Path	North
Ryan Lottering	Active transport: Ride2work for Newnham cyclists	North
Jessica Flint	Staff engagement: reducing waste to landfill on the Cradle Coast Campus	Northwest
Chester James-Smith	Student engagement: reducing waste to landfill in accommodation services at Cradle Coast Campus	Northwest
Alinta Prewett	Tasmanian Aboriginal Cultural Places on Sandy Bay Campus co-supervised with Riawunna (ISSP funded)	South
TSBE corporate internships		
Chaoyu Ma (Charles)	Cost-benefit analysis of a car share scheme for students	South
Zhimei Zhao (May)	Cost-benefit analysis of a car share scheme for students	South
Haoxiang Yang (Aaron)	Requirements for ISO 20400 with the Procurement Team	South
Josh Coleman	Engagement: communications for sustainability stalls	North
Master of Planning placements		
Qiong Hu (Chris)	Climate Change Strategies for Universities	South
Purnima Shrestha	Walkable sustainable behaviours for students in Hobart CBD University Accommodation	South
Master of Social Work placements		
Yanqi Wang	Food gardens for students living in accommodation services	South
Fengjing Xu (Felicity)	Climate change resilience for students	South
Wern Hong Chai	Encouraging diversity in sustainability	South
IPREP		
Jie Wen	Active transport: Ride2work for Sandy Bay cyclists	South
Zhi Wen Neoh	Engagement: Global Climate Change week	North
Jia Sheng Danny Tan	Reducing pollution in waterways	North



Sustainability Team and SIPS students attending Come Walk with Us, a cultural safety program training led by Associate Professor Clair Andersen



Sustainability Team and SIPS students attending a leadership training by Sybylla Anderson, Leadership & Careers Education Advisor



SIPS curricular placement students from TSBE, CoSE, Masters of Planning, CALE and Social Work join the welcome and induction workshops to learn about sustainability on campus

Green Impact 2019

Congratulations to the Global Engagement Student Mobility team, Waste Watchers from the Cradle Coast Campus TUU and the TIA team at the Cradle Coast Campus who are all off to a strong start in the Green Impact 2019 program! We have 14 teams across three campuses participating this year.

Thank you to Louise Murphy and Alison Hall from the TIA CCC team who presented at the [Green Impact Team Showcase Webinar](#), on their initiatives to reduce waste to landfill at the University farms and in their office and tea room.

We welcome staff and students who would like to take part and make a positive change on campus. Students are also welcome to connect with us and join the events on campus listed in the upcoming events table below. You can also connect with us through the University's Green Impact Yammer group or via #greenimpact. For more information email Catherine.Elliot@utas.edu.au.

News from around the community

New home for bikes abandoned at UTAS

Gabrielle Stannus, Sustainability Projects Officer

Each fortnight I make a trip to the Inveresk campus to count parked bicycles and motorbikes to inform the progress of the [UTAS Sustainable Transport Strategy](#). Recently, I visited the [Launceston Big Picture School](#), located opposite the Inveresk Arts Building.

There I met Adrian Dean, a School Principal open to new ideas and community partnerships, and Joshua Hannes, a Year 9 student with a passion for sustainability. He is even designing his very own foldable bicycle to fit into a backpack!

Joshua is actively involved in this school's bike repair program, run by a group of year 9-12 students interested in cycling and bike maintenance. The students are keen to use this passion to help the community around them. Mentored by Robert Blackman, they collect abandoned bikes from the community, repair them and then sell them for \$20 outside of the school or via Gumtree.

"Once a bike is purchased, the funding goes directly to the UNHCR which provides essential funding for refugees in need. This is an amazing outcome for everyone because the students repairing the bikes develop their skills and understanding of bike maintenance and the processes involved in repairing them correctly. The individual purchasing the asset now has a new, efficient means of transport to commute in an environmentally friendly way and the sponsor child is able to receive precious funding to give them the essentials for living," says Joshua.

Nicole Dobber from the UTAS School of Architecture & Design has donated four abandoned bikes to Joshua and her local [Green Impact](#) staff team can now tick off an action in that program's toolkit. A win-win situation all around!

Do you need a cheap bike to get to UTAS?

If you are based in the north and would like to purchase one of the Big Picture School bikes, contact the school via lbsps@education.tas.gov.au or 03 6335 1500.

For the southerners, you can get a bike from the [Hobart Bike Kitchen](#), who also provide advice and assistance so you can learn bike maintenance skills.

Sustainability across the campus

UTAS Marketing taking a lead in sustainability!

Cherie Cooper, Senior Marketing Content Officer
Office of Marketing

Living in one of the world's most extraordinary places means we all have a responsibility to think about the preservation of our incredible environment here in Tassie. That's why the University's Office of Marketing is making a conscious effort to get greener in everything they do. The latest example of this is the 2019 Open Day welcome packs.

What's included in the Open Day welcome pack?

Rice husk fibre reusable cup - They're stylish, durable, and perfect for your daily coffee.

Seed-bearing strawberry basil lollipop - What's better than a free lollipop? A free lollipop that grows basil! Just plant the biodegradable stick horizontally and water. Before long you'll have your very own little basil plant.

Calico shopping bag - This cute reusable bag is perfect for toting shopping or books. And if you look closely at the image created by one of Marketing's graphic designers, you'll recognise the iconic Tassie plant the *Nothofagus*.

2020 course guide - The latest course guide is printed on FSC-approved paper stock and printed with soy-based inks.

Drink bottle - These sturdy bottles are made from recycled plastic.

What else is Marketing doing to deliver on the University's sustainability commitments?

- Using digital options where possible instead of printing.
- Asking for less or no packaging around merchandise and other products.
- Asking printers to use soy-based inks and FSC-approved paper for printed items.
- Reskinning old signage and using A-frames.

To find out more about Marketing merchandise, please email Marketing.Office@utas.edu.au or check out the University's Slick merchandise portal online: <http://www.slickpromotions->



Sustainable open day pack given to prospective students and visitors at open day



Al Gore and I (and the other 699 new trainees)

A Climate Reality Leader in the Sustainability Team

Dr. Carmen Primo Perez, Sustainability Officer

A couple of months ago I had the amazing opportunity to share the room (together with 699 other Australian and international guests) with former US Vice President Al Gore as part of the latest (41st!) Climate Reality Leadership Corps training in Brisbane.

During three very intense days of training, I had the rare opportunity to learn from Al Gore himself (but also scientists, policy makers, students, First Nations people and change-makers) about how to raise awareness of climate change and inspire people everywhere to act. It was also the perfect setting to meet other people who, like me, are worried about what the future will bring, including a group of remarkable like-minded Tasmanians mentored by our own Nick Towle from the Rural Clinical School.

For me, the highlight of the training was Al Gore's famous presentation. The shortest two hours of my life while Mr. Gore guided us through the science and causes of climate change, it's terrifying impacts in Australia and around the world (even if we don't notice them so much in Tasmania... yet!), and the solutions that already exist to tackle this threat. And what a rollercoaster of emotions it was! I felt inspired and motivated, sad and scared, frustrated and hopeful at the same time.

There were many take-home messages, but these are some of my favourites:

- *"Most people are not fish"* – Humans live on dry land and temperature increase will be higher on land (vs. oceans) to the point that many places will be uninhabitable. Time to grow gills or should we do something to prevent this from happening?
- *"Global warming is too nice. We should call it global heating"* – At the rate we are going, it will be global scorching soon!
- *"We can't allow this [climate change impacts] to become the new normal"* – Al Gore's words while showing a few golfers playing with a massive bushfire in the background

It was clear to me that we are running out of time and the time to act is now. I believe that the University is already doing some great work with the limited budgets and resources we have. We are the second carbon neutral certified Australian university, we have delivered 5 and 6 Green Star buildings, we have reduced non-sustainable ways of transport... but there is still so much to do! We look forward to working with everyone across the university and our partners to deliver on the sustainability elements of the new University Strategic Plan 2019-2024.

Need someone to talk about climate change?

I am extremely honoured to now be a Climate Reality Leader and can't wait to hopefully inspire, educate and motivate others. As a Climate Reality Leader, I have committed to share what I learnt. If you want me to present to your class, department, club, association or simply a group of colleagues and/or friends, you can contact me at Carmen.Primo@utas.edu.au.



Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability (ACTS) – your organisation, too!

All of ACTS resources are available to you FREE as the University of Tasmania maintains an organisational membership. To get monthly newsletters, find out what our peers are up to, opportunities for conference scholarships and/or access resources, please head onto the [website](#).

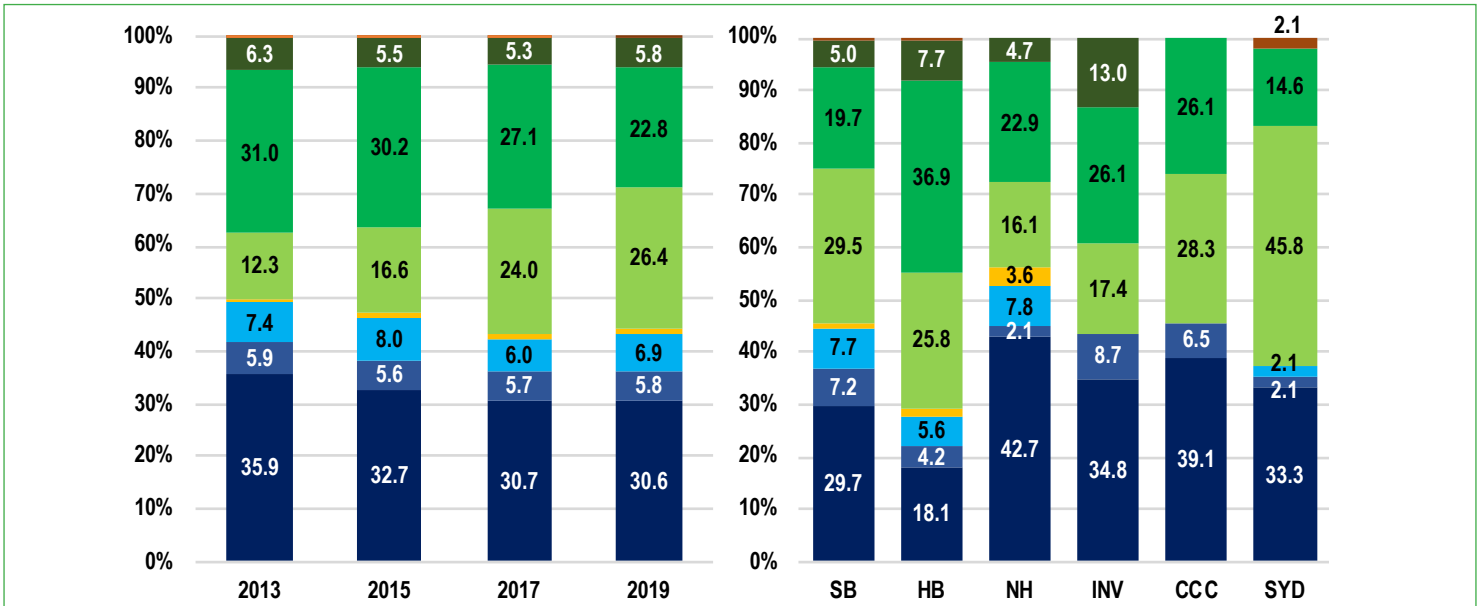
Travel Behaviour Survey Results

The fourth biennial Travel Behaviour Survey results show an overall increase from 2013-2019 of students choosing sustainable transport modes such as bus, bike, walking and carpooling. The story is very campus-dependent though, with choosing sustainable transport modes more likely in campuses located in, or near to city centres (see Hobart CBD vs Sandy Bay, and Inveresk vs Newnham). Better services and infrastructure are a significant reason for this.

Graph Legend

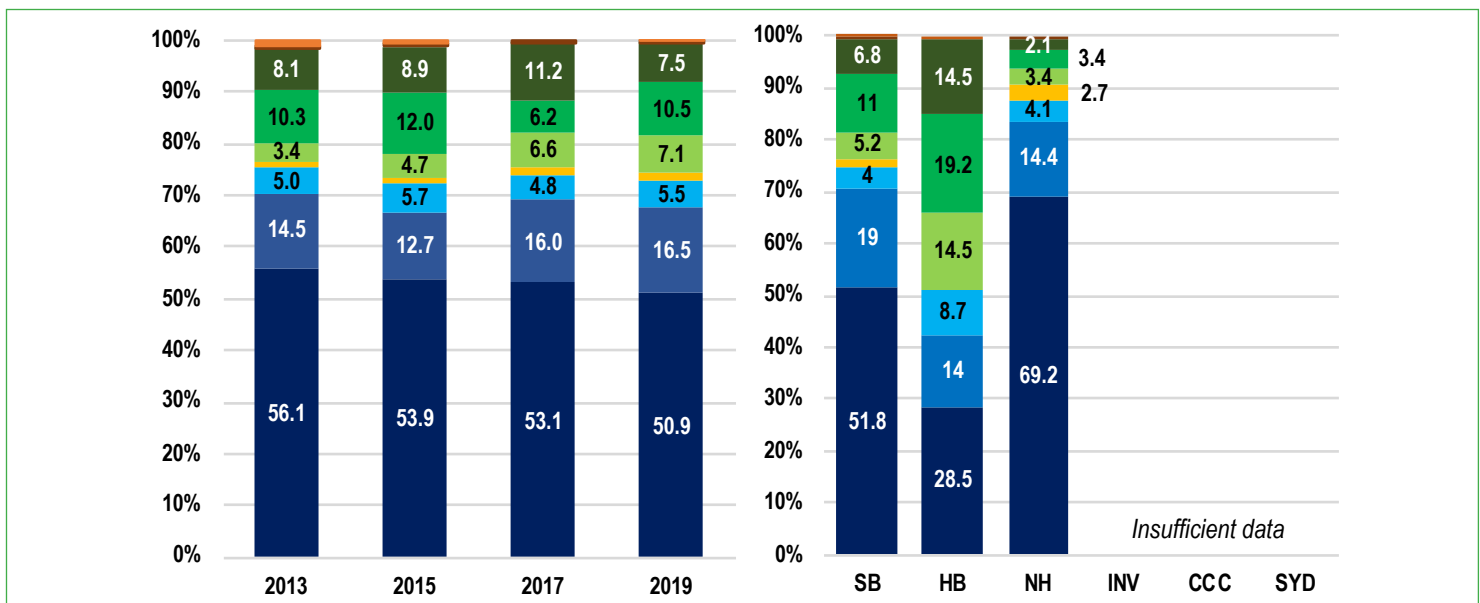
- drove car – sole
- drove car – multiple occupants
- car a passenger
- motorcycle/scooter
- bus/train
- walk/run
- bicycle (incl. electric bicycle)
- taxi/Uber
- other

Main Mode Share of students by year and by campus/area in 2019 (SB = Sandy Bay; HB = Hobart CBD; NH = Newnham; INV = Inveresk; CCC = Cradle Coast; SYD = Sydney)



For University staff, there has been more modest change, but the gradual decrease in single occupant vehicle use and increased bus use is worth noting, but overall there hasn't been a big mode shift from car-based to more sustainable modes over time. Similar to students, however, staff show higher use of sustainable transport modes in campuses located in, or near to city centres (see Hobart CBD vs Sandy Bay).

Main Mode Share of staff by year and by campus/area in 2019 (SB = Sandy Bay; HB = Hobart CBD; NH = Newnham; INV = Inveresk; CCC = Cradle Coast; SYD = Sydney)



Full survey results are being shared with University planners and external stakeholders in Launceston (29 August) and Hobart (20 September). The 2019 survey report is available via the University [Sustainability portal webpage](#).



Upcoming Sustainability Events	Date
Lunchtime sustainability workshops for students – Storytelling and engagement	Wednesday 11 September
Mock Green Impact audit for students led by the Sustainability Team	Friday 13 September
Sustainability in the Pub in Launceston on SDG#14 Life Below Water	Tuesday 17 September
Lunchtime sustainability workshops for students – Climate Reality and our carbon footprint	Wednesday 18 September
PARKing Day	Friday 20 September
Lunchtime sustainability workshops for students – Plant-based diets and attainable change	Wednesday 25 September
Global Climate Change Week	14-20 October
Sustainability in the Pub in Launceston SDG#13 Climate Action	Tuesday 15 October
Sustainability in the Pub in Hobart SDG#13 Climate Action	Wednesday 16 October
National Ride2Work Day (Hobart, Launceston and Burnie)	Wednesday 16 October
E-Bike Expo (North)	Sunday 27 October
Green Impact Toolkit closing	Thursday 7 November
Sustainability in the Pub in Launceston SDG#12 Responsible Consumption and Production	Tuesday 19 November
Green Impact student auditor training and team visits	Thursday 21 November



Coming up in the next Sustainability Bulletin

- Learnings from our Sustainability Manager's 2019 study trip to sustainability leading UK and Irish universities
- More stories from Green Impact 2019 with great initiatives and great outcomes