

## **Welcome to the Higher Education Academy's EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**

### **Bi-Monthly e-Newsletter**

Volume 2, Issue 4 (April 2009)

In a stable society, yesterday's education, if it was well designed originally, will do for the citizens of tomorrow. But if a culture is undergoing radical change, the demands of the future cannot be clearly predicted, and a different kind of preparation is required.'

Wells, G. and Claxton, G. (2002) *Learning for Life in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century - Sociological Perspectives of the Future*, Blackwells Publishers, Oxford

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## EDITORIAL

### ***Shed Loads of Applications to the New SHED Network!***

We are really pleased to see the positive reaction to the new SHED network, officially launched at the EAUC conference on 2<sup>nd</sup> April. We have had an overwhelming response to our invitation for you to join SHED – which is short for 'Sustainability in Higher Education Developers' network. SHED aims to facilitate the networking of all who are interested in or actively working to embed sustainability in HE, and is a joint initiative of EAUC and the HE Academy ESD Project. SHED comprises two related networks coming under this one 'roof' – SHED Share (for information exchange) and SHED Act (to facilitate collaborative action).

The reaction to date is very encouraging, of course, and a solid indicator of the degree of interest amongst academics and other staff in taking sustainability forward. Everyone who has applied will be added to the SHED Share list and applications to join SHED Act will be reviewed based on the criteria (see below for details).

The Academy ESD Project and EAUC are looking forward to help increased networking and collaborative activity across the sector as a result of SHED.

*Finally, a big thank you for all the efforts you put into your activities.*

**The HE Academy ESD Project Team**

**Simon Smith, Stephen Sterling and Heather Witham**

## SURVEY RESULTS

Thank you to those of you that completed our e-Newsletter survey. Some of you feel we focus too much on curriculum and not enough on research related to ESD, and then others felt just the opposite! We will try to maintain a balance between the two. And we will certainly continue to highlight any funding and policy issues that are relevant to the sector. We had a request to expand the regional section to include different areas of England (and not just the different countries). We are happy to attempt this, as that would give us a good excuse to contact those regions for more information.

For those of you looking for jobs in the field, we recommend the Sustainable Development Research Network, which sends out a comprehensive list of

events, news and publications, plus links to jobs on their website: <http://www.sd-research.org.uk/>

Eighty percent of respondents would like to see interviews with ESD champions and more curriculum case studies, and 50% would be interested in book reviews. If you would like to nominate someone to be interviewed, please let Heather know. If you would like to review a relevant book for our readers, please let us know.

Seventy percent find the e-Newsletter Very or Quite Useful; the rest A Bit. And 90% found the length just right. Nobody thought it was too short (funny that...!)

Returning to the SHED, one survey respondent was keen to ensure that policy and strategic issues about positioning and funding support formed part of the discussion, and we wholeheartedly agree. Another reader suggested SHED incorporates the Welsh ESDGC network. We will certainly explore that.

Thanks again for taking the time to offer your thoughts and ideas. We are always open to feedback and suggestions, so do get in touch anytime.

## **DISSEMINATION AND NETWORKING**

### **UNDER THE SAME ROOF – AN INVITATION TO JOIN US IN THE SHED: SUSTAINABILITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION DEVELOPERS NETWORK**

As announced in the last issue and mentioned above, the EAUC and the HE Academy ESD Project have joined forces in launching a new concept – the SHED network: 'Sustainability in Higher Education Developers'.

The SHED network has two constituent parts:

1. The former EAUC ESD mailing list, which is continuing as before, with Arran Stibbe as its convenor. This was renamed the SHED Share network. The purpose of this network is to share information, announcements, post queries and so on. Anybody can use this network, whether or not they are active in ESD.
2. A new grouping called the SHED Act network. The aim of SHED Act is to allow people to develop collaborative work more easily. SHED Act has an additional function to SHED Share, and is designed for active and key people in HE to keep in touch with each other.

Members of SHED Act can use each other, for example, as a sounding board for floating new ideas, to raise concerns, seek support for initiatives, develop responses to consultation documents, develop research proposals, or to form working groups. The EAUC and the Academy's ESD Project will also use SHED Act as a form of consultation with the sector. For example, how would SHED Act advise both the EAUC and the Academy as to how best to develop new ways of

leading, training and supporting your colleagues? All activities of SHED Act will be reported on the EAUC ESD (now SHED Share) e-mail list, as well as in the Academy's bi-monthly ESD e-Newsletter.

SHED Act is primarily open to staff who are working actively in the area of sustainability at UK higher and further education institutions, either directly in sustainability-related courses or in embedding sustainability across the curriculum. The moderators reserve the right to limit membership of SHED Act to new applicants who conform to these criteria, and to review the membership of existing participants who may no longer conform to the criteria, or are not participating actively in the group's activities. We also reserve the right to limit numbers in SHED Act at any one time to ensure that the network can function and does not become over large.

When you join SHED Act, you are committing yourself to putting time into working with others on the list, either by responding to or initiating actions.

The SHED sound good to you? Just enter your details at:

[http://www.economicsnetwork.ac.uk/projects/esd/shedact\\_f.htm](http://www.economicsnetwork.ac.uk/projects/esd/shedact_f.htm)

and the co-convenors, Heather Witham and Arran Stibbe will add you to the SHED Share list and review your application to SHED Act. See you inside!

### **ESD NETWORKS AND REGIONAL NETWORKING DAYS**

Do you have experience of, or are considering, incorporating ESD into your higher education work – or incorporating higher education into your ESD work? Statutory agencies, local authorities, voluntary and community organisations, and those working within higher education are all invited to join one of the networking lists we have created to allow individuals and organisations to find one another for collaboration on community and curriculum projects. Your details, including expertise and interests, are collected, collated and then sent back to other members for networking purposes. An e-mail list allows for periodical updates and extraordinary requests for partnerships. Links to the forms are below. All responses on the forms are made available to all other respondents in that region/nation. You may choose whether or not to receive the e-mails with updates.

The ESD Networking Lists are different from the SHED Network (see above) for two reasons:

1. The ESD Networking Lists are regional. SHED is not.
2. SHED Act is for collaboration amongst all members. The ESD Networking Lists are primarily for people to find one another. Any work done subsequently is private and not reported to the other members.

The ESD Networking Lists:

In Scotland? [http://www.economicsnetwork.ac.uk/projects/esd/scotland\\_f.htm](http://www.economicsnetwork.ac.uk/projects/esd/scotland_f.htm)

In the South West? [http://www.economicsnetwork.ac.uk/projects/esd/southwest\\_f.htm](http://www.economicsnetwork.ac.uk/projects/esd/southwest_f.htm)

In Wales? [http://www.economicsnetwork.ac.uk/projects/esd/wales\\_f.htm](http://www.economicsnetwork.ac.uk/projects/esd/wales_f.htm)

In the West Midlands? [http://www.economicsnetwork.ac.uk/projects/esd/westmidlands\\_f.htm](http://www.economicsnetwork.ac.uk/projects/esd/westmidlands_f.htm)

Let us know if you find these network lists helpful as we may offer more lists in other regions... Watch this space!

Meanwhile, if you would be interested in a networking day for your region, please contact us as we may be able to offer advice and resources. Details about previous networking days are available:

East Midlands: [http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/events/detail/sustainable\\_development\\_in\\_east\\_midlands\\_2006](http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/events/detail/sustainable_development_in_east_midlands_2006)

Scotland: [http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/events/detail/sustainable\\_development\\_in\\_scotland\\_june07](http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/events/detail/sustainable_development_in_scotland_june07)

South West: [http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/events/detail/sustainable\\_development\\_in\\_southwest\\_mar07](http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/events/detail/sustainable_development_in_southwest_mar07)

Wales: [http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/events/detail/21\\_May\\_2008\\_ESDGC\\_Welshevent\\_Millenniumcentre](http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/events/detail/21_May_2008_ESDGC_Welshevent_Millenniumcentre)

## **SUBJECT CENTRE SPOTLIGHT**

### **SOCIO-CENTRIC SUSTAINABILITY FOR ENGINEERS AND PRODUCT DESIGNERS**

Funded by the Higher Education Academy's Engineering Subject Centre and coordinated by Tania Humphries-Smith of Bournemouth University, this project aims to provide a resource for undergraduate engineering and product design students that will give them a better understanding of the implications with respect to the human expectations of sustainable solutions to engineering problems. The resource will be developed from a literature review and an evaluation of existing learning and teaching resources for sustainable design.

See: [http://www.engsc.ac.uk/an/mini\\_projects/index.asp#socio](http://www.engsc.ac.uk/an/mini_projects/index.asp#socio)

## **UNITED KINGDOM NEWS**

### **A SUMMARY OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN HIGHER EDUCATION: A REVIEW OF LITERATURE AND PRACTICE**

The UN Decade of ESD has highlighted the need to incorporate sustainable development in teaching and learning. As a result, HEIs are increasingly focusing on sustainable development as a key component in their activities, while HEFCE has adopted this approach and outlined a range of performance targets for universities. Although there has been much research on teaching and learning in ESD, there are few comparisons of current practice across higher education. This report, by Rhian Locke, Simon Kemp, and Debra Humphris, summarises the approach to sustainable development in higher education, both in the curriculum and in estates and facilities management, with an emphasis on the former. While all of the universities evaluated showed good practice in incorporating sustainable development into estates and facilities management, limited progress

was observed in terms of integrating ESD in the curriculum, with research-intensive universities particularly resistant. There is evidently a need for stronger commitment to implement ESD and to implement the changes needed to achieve the performance targets set out by HEFCE. Read the document: <http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/assets/York/documents/ourwork/tla/sustainability/LockeSouthampton.pdf> (PDF 488KB)

### **GREEN GOWN AWARDS 2009 SHORTLIST ANNOUNCED**

The search is on for the UK's most sustainable institutions, with 66 universities and colleges now shortlisted for the final stage of the prestigious Green Gown Awards. In their fifth year, the awards recognise exceptional initiatives being taken by higher and further education institutions across the UK to become more sustainable. The awards have a variety of categories in which universities and colleges can illustrate their achievements, in both academia and estates management. This year two new categories have been introduced – Green ICT and Research. And the continuous improvement section has been split into two groups 'specific area' and 'institutional change'. The winners within each category will be announced at a prestigious annual awards dinner to be held at the Imperial College London on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2009 in the presence of UK Minister for Higher Education and Intellectual Property, David Lammy MP. For further information on the awards, or to purchase tickets to the awards dinner, visit <http://www.eauc.org.uk>. Categories include Carbon Reduction, Green ICT, Sustainable Construction & Refurbishment, Residences, Student Initiatives, Social Responsibility, and Colleges & Smaller Institutions. Particularly relevant to ESD are the following:

#### *Continuous Improvement – Specific Area*

University of Gloucestershire: Greener by Degrees: Supporting the development of sustainability in the curriculum

University of Hertfordshire: Improving Resource Efficiency at the University of Hertfordshire

University of Leeds: University of Leeds Transport Plan

University of Lincoln: Closed Loop Office Paper Recycling System – yoyo

Oxford Brookes University: The long and winding route of sustainable travel planning

University of Warwick: Warwick's Enhancements to its CHP – From good to great.

#### *Continuous Improvement – Institutional Change*

University of Bradford: Ecoversity: Beyond Greening

University of Dundee: Raising the Green

University of Wales Newport: Continual Environmental Improvement at the University of Wales Newport

Oxford Brookes University: From Environmental Management to Sustainability and Corporate Responsibility

Pembrokeshire College: Embracing the sustainable challenge on all fronts

University of Plymouth: A model for Institutional Change and Transformation

### *Courses*

University of Bradford: From Archaeology to Zoology, Education for Sustainable Development for All

University of Central Lancashire: Cross institution curricula development to educate students for global citizenship by integrating Sustainable Development into curricula across the University.

University of St Andrews: The University of St Andrews Sustainable Development Undergraduate Programme

University of Sheffield: An Interdisciplinary Approach to Enhancing Sustainable Development Teaching in the Higher Education Built Environment Curriculum

University of Strathclyde: Sustainable Development Education at the Faculty of Education

University of Worcester: Masters in Sustainable Development Advocacy: Integrating the Brundtland, Stern and Leitch agendas

### *Research*

University of Birmingham: Hydrogen cars drive sustainability on campus

Edinburgh Napier University: Integrated Collector Storage Solar Water Heater (ICS-SWH)

University of Gloucestershire: Improving investment and impact of education on sustainable development

Somerset College: Outside the green box: Embedding Education for Sustainable Development through the use of co-operative inquiry

University of Sussex: Informing the global deal on low carbon technologies to tackle climate change

## **SCOTLAND**

### **2008 REVIEW OF ESD IN HE IN SCOTLAND**

This report, written by Dr Alex Ryan, contains the findings of a review of ESD in Scottish higher education, carried out via two investigations during 2008. The research was organised by the HE Academy ESD Project, Universities Scotland and HE Academy Scotland. The Scottish Funding Council commissioned the review to build on initial research carried out in 2005-06 and advised on the design and development of the project. The review aligns with the programme of work across the Scottish tertiary sector to contribute to the current UN Decade of ESD, which runs from 2005-2014. Read the report at: [http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/projects/detail/esd\\_SFCreview08](http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/projects/detail/esd_SFCreview08)

## UNIVERSITY OF STRATHCLYDE

### *Engineering First*

The University of Strathclyde Glasgow is in 1<sup>st</sup> position on the complete ranking of 56 European Universities of Technology. Their entry highlighted the Postgraduate Programme in Sustainable Engineering (launched in 1999/2000 and currently being developed as a key provision within the new Graduate School of Engineering), along with plans for the David Livingstone Centre for Sustainability and the pan-university Strathclyde Masters in Sustainability. The ranking identifies the extent that sustainability is being embedded in research, undergraduate and postgraduate education within the curricula, and within approaches to institutional management. Universities are assessed across defined criteria, supported by search engine ranking and peer ranking. For details, see:

<http://www.strath.ac.uk/media/faculties/engineering/newsletter/2009/April%202009.html>

### *The Strathclyde Masters Programme in Sustainability (SMS)*

The David Livingstone Centre for Sustainability (DLCS), guided by its advisory panel of senior academic officers and senior professional members representing industry and government, are facilitating a project (led by Dr David Grierson, Director of Education at the DLCS), to develop the new university-wide Strathclyde Masters programme in Sustainability (SMS). The project will provide a framework for developing and promoting new postgraduate activity in the area of environmental, social, and economic sustainability. The project team will promote the development of networks and mechanisms for engagement, and the formation of a framework for developing new postgraduate activity in the sustainability area. Key stakeholders will be identified and consulted in prioritizing the evolving needs of industry and government in responding to the sustainability agenda. With the support of Faculty representatives (nominated by Deans), students, and a working group of industry, practice, and government representatives, the DLCS (Architecture) project management team will work towards identifying new flagship courses, skills training workshops, and appropriate CPD provision. Increased internationalization will be among the key objectives. The aim of the proposal is to define a clear structure for the integration of PGI, PGR, CPD, skills training workshops, and short course provision within the sustainability area involving input from all Faculties in the university (and supported by CAS representation), and provide an integrated framework for university-wide educational activities in the sustainability area that will enhance the learning experience of students.

The key objectives are:

- to champion critical thinking and promote interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary learning opportunities in the sustainability area;
- to grow the postgraduate community and enhance postgraduate provision in line with research priorities and new ways of working;
- to promote effective knowledge exchange, innovation and engagement

- with stakeholders that provides for regional, national and international demonstration of sustainable development principles; and
- to enhance teaching quality and the students' learning experience through a coordinated programme in sustainability (i.e., for generic skills development, a university-wide scholarship scheme, SMS induction event, etc.), the use of appropriate pedagogies and innovative technologies (e.g., greater flexibility through the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), and by forging closer links between postgraduate students, the research community, and industrial collaborators (potential employers).

## **ENGLISH REGIONAL NEWS**

### **East Midlands**

#### **LOUGHBOROUGH UNIVERSITY**

The BEST (Building Environmental Sustainability Together) Awards, including The Vice-Chancellor's Award for Sustainability, are made annually to individuals or groups of registered students or staff at Loughborough University or Loughborough Students' Union and a University contractor or supplier in recognition of exceptional service and contribution to campus sustainability, environmental awareness and environmental leadership. See: [http://www.lboro.ac.uk/admin/ar/student/prizes/university\\_nominated/best/index.htm](http://www.lboro.ac.uk/admin/ar/student/prizes/university_nominated/best/index.htm)

### **London**

#### **UNIVERSITY OF WESTMINSTER**

"Universities can provide a catalyst for change through 'thought leadership' as the world grapples with mounting problems such as climate change and dwindling food stocks". That was the message last month from leading environmental scientist Professor Michael Depledge in a keynote address at the University of Westminster. Read more: <http://www.wmin.ac.uk/page-17705>

### **South West**

#### **BOURNEMOUTH UNIVERSITY'S CENTRE FOR GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES**

The Centre for Global Perspectives (CGP), launched in November 2008, is evidence of Bournemouth University's active engagement with the rapidly changing 21<sup>st</sup>-century world. Set up with the aim of 'preparing graduates for life in a global society and work in a global economy', CGP is tasked with introducing 'global perspectives' into all aspects of the university's academic and business life. The HERO website editor asked Christine Shiel, director of CGP, about the centre's work and philosophy and put the response online. See: [http://www.hero.ac.uk/uk/business/the\\_bigger\\_picture.cfm](http://www.hero.ac.uk/uk/business/the_bigger_picture.cfm)

## UNIVERSITY OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE

*United Nations World Conference on ESD*: Ministers, government officials and a range of ESD experts gathered in Bonn on 31<sup>st</sup> March – 2<sup>nd</sup> April for the UN World Conference on ESD, an invitation-only conference marking the mid-point of the UN Decade of ESD (DESD). The focus of the conference was the First UN Global Report on ESD which maps progress and captures issues associated with advancing ESD across the sectors. Professor Daniella Tilbury chairs the UN Global Expert Group in Monitoring and Evaluation, which was responsible for framing the research that informed this report and which is planning cycle 2 of the research evaluation on the impact of the DESD. Professor Tilbury addressed the conference on 'A Global Framework for Mapping Progress in Education for Sustainable Development' and introduced the report, led a capacity-building workshop on ESD indicators and spoke on a panel associated with the UNU Regional Centres of Expertise in ESD. Further information, reports and documentation are available at: <http://www.esd-world-conference-2009.org/>

*RCE Severn*: The United Nations University Regional Centre of Expertise in ESD for the Severn region serves the West Midlands and South West, and already includes over 75 organisations across the key activity sectors defined for RCE networks. RCE Severn is hosted via the University of Gloucestershire and has recently appointed a new coordinator, Carol Rabbette, who joins the network after many years of working in sustainability in local government. The RCE held a meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> March to develop its governance structures and steering group; a further meeting will be held in May. To inquire about RCE Severn and to find out more about how to be involved in its projects and activities, please contact Carol Rabbette at: [rcesevern@glos.ac.uk](mailto:rcesevern@glos.ac.uk). The Severn RCE website can be found at: <http://www.glos.ac.uk/vision/sustainability/unurce/Pages/default.aspx> and for further information on sustainability activities at the University of Gloucestershire see: [www.glos.ac.uk/vision/sustainability](http://www.glos.ac.uk/vision/sustainability).

*Greener by Degrees*: The University of Gloucestershire publication, *Greener by Degrees: Exploring Sustainability through Higher Education Curricula* (Roberts and Roberts, 2007) has now been picked up by several UK universities for use in staff development. It's already being used in Africa by the UN, too. Most recently, Exeter University ordered 70 copies for a forthcoming seminar on institutional leadership, following Bradford and others. The book is free to download at: <http://resources.glos.ac.uk/ceal/resources/greenerbydegrees/index.cfm> and inexpensive to purchase in hard copy. Read a review by engineers here: <http://www.engsc.ac.uk/er/bkrev/eachreview.asp?review=273>

## LINKING FOR A CHANGE

The Department of Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) has guidance out to help all schools become sustainable by 2020. The South West Region has developed a unique way of supporting this change, Linking for a Change, a web-based pool of potential, linking around 100 organisations with a similar number of schools across Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Somerset, Wiltshire, Gloucestershire

and Bristol/Bath. The information on the site forms a vibrant snapshot of the state of ESD across the South West available from Learning Southwest. You may search for schools or ESD providers across the South West by postcode or ESD theme, to view examples of practice, action plans and web sites. The site looks different – the focus is collaboration and self evaluation, which is as relevant to higher and further education as it is to the schools sector. All ESD practitioners are welcome to view the site and access the research. See <http://www.linkingforachange.org.uk> – username: train1; password: french.

## **West Midlands**

### **RCE SEVERN**

The United Nations University Regional Centre of Expertise in ESD for the Severn region serves the West Midlands and South West, and already includes over 75 organisations across the key activity sectors defined for RCE networks. RCE Severn is hosted via the University of Gloucestershire and has recently appointed a new co-ordinator, Carol Rabbette, who joins the network after many years working in sustainability in local government. The RCE held a meeting on 24th March to develop its governance structures and Steering Group; a further meeting will be held in May. To inquire about RCE Severn and to find out more about how to be involved in its projects and activities, please contact Carol Rabbette at: [rcesevern@glos.ac.uk](mailto:rcesevern@glos.ac.uk). The Severn RCE website can be found at: <http://www.glos.ac.uk/vision/sustainability/unurce/Pages/default.aspx> and for further information on sustainability activities at the University of Gloucestershire see: [www.glos.ac.uk/vision/sustainability](http://www.glos.ac.uk/vision/sustainability).

### **Other Regions**

Are you in the East of England, North East, South East or Yorkshire and Humberside region? If so, let us know what ESD in HE activities are happening where you are.

## **OTHER NEWS IN THE SECTOR**

### **Publications**

#### **SOLIDARITY, SUSTAINABILITY AND NONVIOLENCE**

The January 2009 and February 2009 issues of this e-Journal are parts 1 and 2 of a planned three-part series on the "sustainable development paradox". Part 2 begins to get into the anthropological, psychological, vocational, and educational dimensions, in preparation for Part 3. The analysis is based on Paulo Freire's "Pedagogy of the Oppressed." Comments, corrections, and suggestions are most welcome. See: <http://pelicanweb.org/solisustv05n02page1.html>

### **ETHICS FOR THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Peter Fewings of UWE Bristol has now completed a book called *Ethics for the Built Environment* with a relevant chapter on the ethics of sustainability as it impacts our buildings and cities in general, and the CSR agenda of large companies. It also has chapters on professional ethics, the human capital aspects of social sustainability, diversity and equality, health and safety and quality ethics, ethical dilemmas and decision making, corruption and fair trading and includes 11 case studies. See: <http://www.routledge.com/books/Ethics-for-the-Built-Environment-isbn9780415429825>

### **CHANGING LANDSCAPES IN SUSTAINABILITY**

The latest edition of *Environmental Scientist*, Changing Landscapes in Sustainability, has been published. This journal investigates the future direction of sustainability, in an uncertain world. ESD/EfSD articles include:

- Sustainable Development, Systems Thinking & Professional Practice – S. Martin
- Globalisation & Sustainability: The Challenges for Education – D. Bourn
- Towards Sustainable Education – S. Sterling
- Skills for a Low Carbon & Sustainable Economy – M. Martin & S. Martin
- Counting on Education for a Sustainable Future – M. Haigh
- Securing the Future through Professional Practice: Getting SD into CPD – G. Strachan

An electronic copy of the journal is available at [http://www.ies-uk.org.uk/resources/journalarch/envsci2009/env\\_sci\\_feb09.pdf](http://www.ies-uk.org.uk/resources/journalarch/envsci2009/env_sci_feb09.pdf) (PDF). Paper copies are available for £8 by calling 020 7730 5516.

### **EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

In 2005, the UN launched its Decade of ESD, which recognises that education, including higher education is the key to the change in social attitudes that will be needed to protect the welfare of future generations. This international collection of research papers and position statements from special issues of the *Journal of Geography in Higher Education* and *Applied Environmental Education and Communication*, written by many of the leading practitioners in the field and edited by Brian Chalkley, Martin Haigh, and David Higgitt, aims to provide resources and practical guidance for all seeking to promote and engage in education for a sustainable future. See:

[http://www.routledge.com/books/Education-for-Sustainable-Development-  
isbn9780415460057](http://www.routledge.com/books/Education-for-Sustainable-Development-isbn9780415460057)

### **CAN WE MOBILIZE A CARBON ARMY?**

Maureen and Stephen Martin highlight the skills gap that threatens delivery of renewable energy targets in the Spring 2009 issue of *Challenge*. Download at: [http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/assets/York/documents/ourwork/ta/sustainability/martin\\_challenge.pdf](http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/assets/York/documents/ourwork/ta/sustainability/martin_challenge.pdf) (PDF 68KB).

## **RESEARCHING EDUCATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT: RETROSPECT AND PROSPECT**

Previously published as a special issue of *Environmental Education Research*, this collection, edited by Alan Reid and William Scott, includes papers published in the first 10 years of the journal, together with a series of specially commissioned critical vignettes that address the kinds of research that the journal attracts and wider aspects of the journal's work over that time. Contributors and editors also look ahead to the next ten years, discussing six major themes within contemporary research that require close scrutiny, one of which is 'Environmental Education and ESD: tension or transition?'. Read more: [http://www.routledge.com/books/Researching-Education-and-the-Environment-  
isbn9780415491334](http://www.routledge.com/books/Researching-Education-and-the-Environment-isbn9780415491334)

## **SUSTAINABILITY IN HE OCCASIONAL PAPER SERIES**

Are you interested in...

- Embedding sustainability in higher education (HE)?
- How sustainability relates to other, sometimes competing, agendas in HE?
- How sustainability relates to 'higher education institutions (HEI) operations'?

If so, then the Centre for Sustainable Futures (CSF)'s Sustainability in HE Occasional Paper series may be of interest. CSF is engaged in new, leading edge research into a number of topics connected with embedding sustainability in HE. As well as offering a literature review, each occasional paper looks at practice across the sector from the UK and overseas, and at the University of Plymouth, undertaking illustrative case studies and looking for common themes. Each paper then offers an analysis and recommendations for the University of Plymouth as well as other interested HEIs to help them integrate and advance sustainability policy and practice. The occasional papers are already being hailed as a major contribution to sustainability policy and practice in higher education, nationally and internationally.

*Titles produced to date:*

- A Big Hairy Audacious Goal: Marketing University Sustainability Credentials (April 2008)
- Moving Forward: From Travel Plan To Transport Policy? (February 2009)

*Upcoming titles:*

- Internationalisation and Sustainability in the Higher Education: Snug or Strange Bedfellows?
- Getting It Together: Interdisciplinarity and Sustainability in the Higher Education Institution
- Enterprise Earthwise: Researching the Relationship between Enterprise and Sustainability in HE
- Towards the Healthy University: Sustainability and Well-being in Higher Education Institutions

### *Upcoming themes:*

Sustainability and Governance, Sustainability Pedagogy, Sustainability Communication, Systemic Approaches to Forging the Sustainability University, Sustainability Research.

The papers are available for download from the CSF website: <http://csf.plymouth.ac.uk>. Limited hard copies are also available. If you want to be notified about the availability of upcoming titles, please e-mail Fumiyo Kagawa: [fumiyo.kagawa@plymouth.ac.uk](mailto:fumiyo.kagawa@plymouth.ac.uk).

## **Call for Contributions**

### **SUSTAINABILITY IN CONSTRUCTION NETWORK**

Peter Fewings of UWE Bristol is interested in starting up some networking for research on the delivery of sustainability in construction projects covering the project management, social, development and regeneration aspects. There is a small group already and Peter is hoping to pick up interest from others from the planning and regeneration, construction, and estate development disciplines. The research is around creating a protocol for optimising the cost benefit of sustainable measures in built environment development. The key problem is that there is intent to incorporate sustainability in the budget and planning conditions of new build or regeneration, but quite often this is delivered clumsily, unsustainably to need or inefficiently resulting in it being downgraded in the budget or as a cost saving measure at the first sign of trouble. If you are interested in joining this network, contact Peter: [Peter.Fewings@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:Peter.Fewings@uwe.ac.uk)

### **CHALLENGING GLOBALIZATION CONFERENCE**

The 2009 Annual Global Studies Association conference theme is: "Challenging globalization: new perspectives, alternative visions, emerging agendas" and will be held 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> September 2009 at Royal Holloway, University of London. The deadline for submission of abstracts is 30<sup>th</sup> April 2009. See:

<http://cgtp.rhul.ac.uk/gsa-annual-conference-2-4-sept/>

### **ARE BUSINESS SCHOOLS AND THEIR LEADERS 'FIT FOR PURPOSE'?**

John Rayment and Jon Smith of Anglia Ruskin University are researching whether business schools and their leaders are 'fit for purpose' in light of global issues including financial market turmoil. They will interview the dean and two other top managers of 12 business schools across the world focusing on what they view their mission to be and the extent to which it is reflected in their current activities. Analysis will assess whether they / their school are 'fit for purpose', e.g., providing the right education, research and consultancy to help businesses fulfil their role in 'running the planet'. To what extent are business schools to blame for the recent global market turmoil? What is their role with regard to societal and global issues, i.e., those outside the traditional Western role of an

organisation's leaders? Participants will receive an external appraisal of their fitness as leaders; validity of their mission, strategy, programmes and processes; and how they compare to others in the study. Names of individuals and organisations will be treated as confidential. If you or any of your contacts would like to participate or just want to know more, please e-mail [john.rayment@anglia.ac.uk](mailto:john.rayment@anglia.ac.uk)

## On the Web

### PP4SD SIG

A new online Special Interest Group (SIG) has been launched by PP4SD (Professional Practice for Sustainable Development) and PARN (Professional Associations Research Network) to debate sustainability issues. The forum, which is aimed at professionals working in all fields, aims to disseminate knowledge, share best practice and discuss ways of overcoming barriers to sustainability. To sign up, please email Sarah Ellis ([sarah@parnglobal.com](mailto:sarah@parnglobal.com)), who will give you a password and the address of the site.

### REFRAMING THE PURPOSE OF MANAGEMENT EDUCATION

The Globally Responsible Leadership Initiative is launching a project that will engage institutions committed to reviewing their missions and operations based on the perspective of a changed world order and enhanced responsibilities for businesses and their management. The research will include conceptual framing regarding the role of the business school, but will have a focus on the process of bringing about changed practice in the operations of the school. See: <http://www.grli.org/content/view/65/29/#title1>

## EVENTS IN THE SECTOR

### S-Lab Initiative Events

London, Bradford, Edinburgh  
27 and 28 April, 1 May 2009

Free events on sustainable laboratories have been organised for academics, managers and technicians in laboratories. All feature Allen Doyle, founder of the award winning LabRATS initiative at the University of California, and have been organised by the HEFCE-funded HEEPI project. They are being held at the Royal Society of Chemistry, London (27/4), the University of Bradford (28/4) and the University of Edinburgh (1/5). The London event focuses on laboratory operation, and deals with topics such as energy efficiency, green IT and waste management. The Bradford event is called "Greening STEM: Sustainability in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Curriculum". The Edinburgh event combines both the laboratory and the curriculum. Bookings can be made at <http://www.eventlink.org.uk>.

## **The Language of Sustainability: Shouting but Not Being Heard**

London

Monday 27 April 2009

This one-day conference focuses on the Language of Sustainability and features some of the most prominent voices in the sector.

During the morning session, a panel of invited guests will articulate how their profession views and conveys sustainability. They include: Eric Bichard, author of *Positively Responsible: How Business Can Save the Planet*, for business; David Fell, Director of Brook Lyndhurst Ltd, for consultants; Mark Everard of the Environment Agency, with the scientific approach; and Joe Ravetz, a leading thinker on sustainability from the University of Manchester, publicising the populist style. The debate will be chaired by Arran Stibbe, a senior lecturer in linguistics at the University of Gloucestershire. The session will explore each group's language of sustainability and whether they are integrated and can be understood by one another.

In the afternoon delegates will form into groups to discuss the development of an 'Esperanto of Sustainability' which would break down the barriers between different sectors and become inspirational for all. This is a fantastic opportunity to hear some respected voices debate how we communicate about sustainability, arguably the foremost goal of society.

The event has been organised to celebrate the launch of Professional Associations Research Network's (PARN) and Professional Partnerships for Sustainable Development (PP4SD) revamped online Special Interest Groups (SIGs). The Institution of Environmental Sciences (IES) invites you to attend this exciting, one-off workshop and contribute to developing the Language of Sustainability. For more information and a booking form email [enquiries@ies-uk.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@ies-uk.org.uk).

## **Researching Transformational Learning**

Cheltenham

Wednesday 10 June 2009

The Pedagogic Research and Scholarship Institute (PRSI) and the International Research Institute in Sustainability (IRIS) at the University of Gloucestershire are collaborating to host a conference on researching transformational learning in a range of contexts. There is considerable debate around the contexts to transformational learning, including ESD, internationalisation and citizenship. This conference has been designed to facilitate and capture new interdisciplinary and interprofessional discussions. See: <http://tinyurl.com/ctyfzy>

## **Education for Sustainable Development: Graduates as Global Citizens**

Bournemouth

10-11 September 2009

'In an increasingly globalised world there is wide spread acceptance of the importance of "internationalising" higher education and giving students the skills to enable them to operate effectively across boundaries.' (Bill Rammell 2007)

But what does an international education involve? How do we facilitate the development of 'active global citizens' (Lammy 2008) who also understand the need for sustainable development?

Our third 'Education for Sustainable Development: graduates as global citizens' conference addresses these overlapping but equally important themes. We adhere to the belief that these are not separate issues: holistic approaches that encompass all aspects of university life are important if higher education is to contribute effectively to global sustainability.

The conference aims to bring together participants who are taking forward sustainable development and global citizenship within the context of further/higher education. This may be through learning, teaching and assessment, student support, extracurricular activities, or initiatives that demonstrate to students and staff that universities are addressing sustainable development.

For further details on registration and submitting papers please visit:

[http://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/about/the\\_global\\_dimension/centre\\_for\\_global\\_perspectives/global\\_citizens09.html](http://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/about/the_global_dimension/centre_for_global_perspectives/global_citizens09.html)

## **All Our Futures 2: Getting Real – Investing in Our Future**

Plymouth

15 -17 September 2009

Following on from the successful All Our Futures conference held last September, the Centre for Sustainable Futures (CSF) is hosting a follow-up conference in September 2009. CSF is in touch with the Bournemouth ESD&GC conference to be held the previous week, and there are plans to link the two events.

The Plymouth conference will be looking at the response of the university, particularly in its region, to issues of sustainability. The conference will ask three questions:

- What are the pressures – environmental, social and economic – which confront us all today?
- How should we respond to these challenges?
- What really matters in a world of deepening uncertainty?

The University of Plymouth is not alone in its commitment to the triple agenda of sustainability, enterprise and internationalisation. The conference will explore the meaning of these goals and the ways they can be put into practice. It will be international in scope and regional in focus. Information on the conference is posted at <http://csf.plymouth.ac.uk> Contact: [allourfutures@plymouth.ac.uk](mailto:allourfutures@plymouth.ac.uk) +44 (0)1752 588890

**Globalisation: A Conference for Undergraduate Students**

University of Ulster  
Wednesday 4 May 2009

**Sustainability: Taking the Next Steps**

University of Warwick  
31 March - 2 April 2009

**UNESCO World Conference on ESD**

Bonn, Germany  
31 March - 2 April 2009

**ESD, Employment and External Engagement**

Stirling  
Thursday 2 April 2009

**Human Consequences: Global and Local Dynamics**

Bath  
Friday 3 April 2009

**DPR8: Power and the Academy, The 8th Conference of the Discourse, Power, Resistance Series**

Manchester  
6-8 April 2009

**Working the Disciplines in Ecological and Environmental Education Research**

San Diego, California  
13-17 April 2009

**International Conference on Environmental Education and Sustainability:  
Challenges and Best Practices**

Pretoria, South Africa

19-22 April 2009

**Anticipating Tomorrow For Change Today**

Bristol

Monday 20 April 2009

**The Green Agenda: Are We Engaging the Consumer?**

Kingston

Wednesday 22 April 2009

**The Sustainable Laboratory**

London

Monday 27 April 2009

**Greening STEM**

Bradford

Tuesday 28 April 2009

**The Sustainable Laboratory**

Edinburgh

Friday 1 May 2009

**International JTEFS/BBCC Conference: Sustainable Development. Culture.  
Education.**

Latvia

5-8 May 2009

**Fair Trade -- A Moral Economy?**

Cambridge

Friday 22 May 2009

**Connected! Visions of Transformative Post-16 Education**

Staffordshire University

Monday 1 June 2009

**The University of Utopia - Radicalising Higher Education**

Lincoln

Thursday 4 June 2009

**Researching Transformational Learning through ESD, Internationalisation  
and Citizenship**

Cheltenham

Wednesday 10 June 2009

**Internationalisation of the Curriculum Conference 2009 Theme:  
Internationalising the Home Student**

Oxford Brooks

Friday 19 June 2009

**International Human Ecology Conference**

Manchester

29 June-3 July 2009

**The Future of the Student Learning Experience**

Manchester

30 June - 2 July 2009

**UK ITE Network for Education Sustainable Development: Developing a  
Critical Perspective on ESD/GC in ITE**

London

Thursday 9 July 2009

**Weathering the Storm: Helping Humanities Students through the  
Recession: a Networking Day for Humanities Careers Advisers**

Liverpool

Friday 10 July 2009

**Education Challenging globalization: new perspectives, alternative visions,  
emerging agendas**

Royal Holloway, University of London

2-4 September 2009

**Education for Sustainable Development: Graduates as Global Citizens**

Bournemouth

10-11 September 2009

**International Conference on Engineering and Product Design Education**

Brighton

10-11 September 2009

**Is the Student Really at the Heart of Higher Education? Critical Voices,  
Critical Times**

Salford

15-16 September 2009

**All Our Futures 2 – Getting Real: Investing in Our Future**

Plymouth

15-17 September 2009

For details of all of these events, see:

[http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/ourwork/learning/sustainability/esd\\_events](http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/ourwork/learning/sustainability/esd_events)

### **AND FINALLY...**

Lest you think those working in ESD must be some of the most serious folks around, have a look at contributor James Derounian of University of Gloucestershire, and how he dressed up for Comic Relief!

<http://resources.glos.ac.uk/staff/news/comicrelief.cfm>

### **CONTACT AND FEEDBACK**

Let us know:

- if you find this e-Newsletter useful (or not!)
- if you have items for our next edition (Deadline: 1 June 2009, Publication: 15 June 2009). We prefer one paragraph with a link to more information.

Contact the editor, Heather Witham, at: [sustainability@heacademy.ac.uk](mailto:sustainability@heacademy.ac.uk)

<http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/esd>