Sustainability Awards Programme

Wednesday 13th June 2018

4:30-5:00pm: Drinks reception
5:00-5:50pm: The Sustainability Awards
5:50-7:00pm: Two course meal
7:00-8:00pm: Green Impact Awards

Menu

Main Course
Herbed Polenta ‘Meatballs’ with Tomato Risotto
Squash, Butterbean & Chick Pea Ragout

Sesame and Chilli Garden Green Vegetables
Sea Salt and Rosemary Roast Potatoes
Khober Style Flatbreads Dips and Sauces
Heritage Tomato Basil and Olive Salad

Dessert
Vegan chocolate brownie and soaked raspberries
or Toffee apple upside down cake with vegan tonka bean ice cream

All options on the menu are vegan and gluten free (flatbreads not gluten free).
WITH SPECIAL THANKS

We would like to thank every one of you for your continued support and hard work on the sustainability initiatives across campus and beyond. Thanks to you, the University is going from strength to strength in achieving its vision to become an institution where sustainability is truly embedded through knowledge, engagement, collaboration and innovation.

We would specifically like to thank the Staff Choir, the Catering Team for the excellent vegan food and Bright Beginnings who have created another incredible selection of table decorations.
2018 MILESTONES

2018 has seen incredible progress for the University. We have developed more partnerships with third sector organisations than ever before, reflecting our commitment to being a positive partner in society.

We have continued to decrease our waste and total carbon emissions, whilst increasing sustainable travel. We have also increased our engagement presence through the delivery of more events and curricular opportunities, which has resulted in over double the number of people attending sustainability events compared to last year.

Three times as many students have engaged with sustainability initiatives compared to 2017, supporting our future graduates in becoming responsible global citizens.

Pilots of our new flagship engagement programme Blueprint are enabling us to better tailor sustainability actions to specific Schools and Services at the University, creating more strategic and impactful changes.

Collectively, the work we are delivering is having a positive impact, not just on our staff and students, but at a national and global level.

Thank you.
Embedding Sustainability through Collaboration

This award is to celebrate staff and students who have shared skills, ideas or resources across the campus to ensure sustainable practice and values are embedded into university culture. This could include working together, reusing, buying collaboratively and sharing best practice.

The Nominations:

Leeds Finance summit & The MeetInLeeds Conference Team

The sharing of ideas, skills and resources between the student organizers of the Leeds Finance Summit event and the MeetInLeeds Conference team made the UK’s largest finance conference highly impactful and exceptionally sustainable. 483 students attended the summit from 22 different universities, and a range of high profile keynote speakers volunteered their time. The mission of this event was to make leaders in the finance sector accessible to students in the North of the country and to convey that irrespective of socioeconomic background students can succeed in the finance industry. The event was a resounding success with no paper or hardcopy materials being used to advertise or promote the event; the marketing strategy used was completely digital without any flyers or posters being utilised, and a strong online network was built up in the process. The MeetInLeeds Conference team were generous with their time in sharing their expertise of running successful sustainable conferences and this combined with the student application of social media strategies resulted in a fantastic event.

Special mention goes to Beverley Kenny MBE and Sue Tattersall from the MeetInLeeds Conference team, as well as Rebecca McCaw and Sophie Tew as student organisers.
**Tim Knighton**

As line manager for the Academic and Business Services team, Tim has conducted a materiality assessment of key items purchased by the School, and reviewed associated local processes to identify areas for improvement. Examples include; using the Reuse list on a regular basis to support office relocations, identifying the opportunity to reuse out of date first aid box contents in our clinical skills teaching environment, and encouraging staff to complete the *Sustainability in Practice* training. Tim has also introduced nature-based walks into the office with clear links to sustainability (e.g. biodiversity & iTrees, air quality, art trail), encouraging further integration of staff and improving health and wellbeing. Tim has also organised charity events including a staff get together and bake sale in aid of the mental health charity 'Blurt Foundation'.

**Students Into Schools Team**

Students into Schools has been collaborating with primary and secondary schools in the city since 2000. Annually, the team place over 400 students into volunteering and placement roles, and the team currently support 17 modules across the institution. Special commendations to Anastasia Karanika, Owen Radford, and Naeemah Patel who have supported the growth of the scheme over the past decade. They have tirelessly worked to support schools and communities to ensure that opportunities are driven by the needs of the school. The team meets with partners on an annual basis and conducts evaluations with both students and schools to ensure that the programme can be improved year on year, and that it is meeting the needs of the schools it is working with.
Residences Staff at Montague Burton

Montague Burton Residences is undergoing a third phase of refurbishment affecting 240 individual rooms. After approaching Sustainability Services about the potential for reuse of furniture, Residences contacted Over2Hills for the removal and onward delivery of items to interested third sector charities. Over2Hills conducted the clearance of the accommodation blocks in January, which generated over 1,100 items for reuse.

In February, Over2Hills successfully delivered items to the following charities across the Yorkshire Region: British Heart Foundation; Dewsbury Probation Service; Overgate Hospice; and Pass it On (Sense and St Vincent’s).

In addition, further items were also shipped out to Benin in West Africa and distributed by local transport. The end result of all of this work has proved to be a great success, and shows what can be achieved through prior planning and collaboration, with both internal and external stakeholders at the University.
Building Knowledge and Capacity

This award is to recognise anyone who has helped to educate staff or students on sustainability, who has incorporated the concept of a ‘living lab’ and has shared expertise across campus or the local area. This could encompass skills linked to employability, local projects or an engaging and vibrant campus.

The Nominations:

James McKay
Dreams of a Low Carbon Future

James has spent five years creating and leading collaborative projects with a key focus on the subject of sustainability, involving dozens of staff and students across campus and in the community, reaching over 1000 children. The projects from a series entitled ‘Dreams of a Low Carbon Future’, involve two graphic novels which were shortlisted for NCCPE Engage Award for ‘Engaging Young People’.

James’s work as manager of two centres for Doctoral training have meant that he has been able to help PhD students improve their public engagement through innovative outreach. James has helped build knowledge and capacity for staff and students in every faculty.

Joanne Shiel
English for Engineering

Joanne Shiel is a module leader for English for Engineering, which helps students studying Engineering to better understand sustainability, with a third of the module dedicated to sustainability concepts. Students learn, debate and write coursework on a single theme. This is an approach which is becoming increasingly powerful and allows students to apply their engineering skills to the issues of sustainability.
Dr Catherine Scott

Dr Catherine Scott is a research fellow with a passion for the natural environment, who drives forward projects which have sustainability at the heart of research and teaching.

She is a pivotal member of the living lab for air quality, which brings together researchers from different Schools and Services to measure the level of air pollution across campus. She regularly takes her own time to add to these surveys, and the combined effort has resulted in three key routes around campus being surveyed over 20 times.

Cat runs air quality lunchtime walks as well as stalls at the University of Leeds Be Curious Festival. She is a skilled communicator and works hard to communicate results at every level from research papers, stakeholders, science festivals or to school children.

Michael Makuchete

Michael is a second year student who entered an engineering competition to create a new sustainable engineering innovation.

Michael put forward his idea of a wheelbarrow which will filter water in countries where water collection is a daily task. The water is placed in a tank which then pumps through a filter to clean the water as the carrier walks with the wheelbarrow.

Michael is now working with academics within the School to develop and fine tune his idea, and to create a highly functional device which can be used to provide clean water to rural regions in Africa. Michael’s innovation offers an incredible real solution to a problem that a lot of people the world over suffer from, which has real potential to improve the living conditions of people globally.
Being a Positive Partner in Society

This award is to congratulate anyone who has helped the University to become a positive partner in the community. This could include promoting an open and welcoming campus, developing knowledge and skills, and making Leeds a happier and better place to work and live.

The Nominations:

Emily Rampling

Emily joined the Chemical Process and Engineering team and took on the responsibility of running their Green Impact team, became a University Bee Keeper and a Staff Sustainability Architect.

But Emily also takes part in projects outside of the workplace. Her website, The Green Bean (thegreenbean1994.wixsite.com/tgbw) is all about inspiring others to live a greener life, with interesting and informative tips and tricks to being more sustainable. This work reflects her efforts not only to make change within the University but in the wider world. Emily is a proponent of sustainability in every aspect of her life and this enthusiasm has had profound impact on those around her, not just within the University but also within the wider community.

Emily is also involved in planning Buglife workshops for festivals such as the Staff Festival and Be Curious, as part of her work to create biodiversity hotspots throughout Leeds.

Emily has been instrumental in setting up a new engineering project, integrating sustainability into an engineering design. The winner of this competition, Michael Makuchete, has created an incredibly exciting invention to clean water. Emily has ensured that the project is seen through and is helping to find funding for it, while Michael works with academics to help him refine his experimental idea.
Residential services
Sensory Garden at Charles Morris

In response to recent research highlighting the benefits that green spaces bring to people, especially those with mental health conditions, the Residential Services team created and planned purpose-built amenity spaces with wheelchair accessibility. The space can be of real benefit to visitors and has also been developed to be especially beneficial to people with autism.

As a result, the space was built to be tailored towards visitors on the autism spectrum who can be either very sensitive or insensitive to certain sounds, sights and textures. The Disability Service helped in identifying things that would be beneficial such as movement, repetition/patterns, sound, shade, smell and taste. Three beds have now been planted, and signage and information guides in text and braille for blind visitors has been delivered by RNIB.

The garden has been recognised by Yorkshire in Bloom and by Green Tourism. It offers a valuable place for socialising and reflecting.

Katy Gregg
Student Office

Katy has been involved in mentoring in the community - working with a group to set up a co-housing project, transforming a former derelict piece of land into a vibrant neighbourhood. The group raised £600,000, building 29 flats and houses in Chapeltown based around values of affordability, diversity and sustainability.

Katy has also been involved in a project to support international students to volunteer in the Leeds community, and has set up mutually beneficial opportunities in organisations such as Bedford Fields Forest Garden, Candlelighters, Rainbow Junktion and Oxfam in Batley. As a result, she has been able to produce recommendations for future volunteering opportunities, aided by focus group work. Student feedback reflects her incredible level of input and hard work.
**Leeds Gryphons Refugee Forum**

The Leeds Gryphons were part of a pilot scheme this year to get students out into the community and run a programme with The Leeds Refugee Forum in Harehills. The 12-week pilot programme was run by seven students who delivered football and English language skills to children from countries such as Syria, Eritrea and Sudan. During the first hour, students helped support language teaching and paired up with refugees to help them with tasks and language skills.

The students then led football training sessions with drills, games and matches, allowing the students to develop their coaching skills, and the refugees gaining an opportunity to put the new language skills into practice outside of the classroom.

Following the success of the scheme, Leeds Sport now hope to sustain this partnership and develop links with other community groups.

**LUU Music Impact in the Community (LUUMIC) Volunteers**

LUUMIC are a group of 120 members who have given their time and skills to deliver music workshops to ten community partners in Leeds, working with the elderly, refugees, asylum seekers and children with learning difficulties.

Some of the groups that LUUMIC have worked with include MESMAC, People in Action, The Meeting Point, MENCAP and Action.

The enthusiasm, generosity and kindness of the group meant there was a waiting list for every single project they were involved with, the feedback from the groups was excellent, and LUUMIC’s talent shone through helping others to discover theirs. The group have been a credit to the University and we look forward to them carrying on their excellent work next year.
LUU Conservation Volunteers
Katharine Harbourne

Leeds Conservation Volunteers have been nominated due to their continued work benefitting the local community.

The group have worked within the local area with community groups such as Woodhouse Ridge Action Group and The Friends of the Hollies to carry out conservation work across Leeds. They have worked to improve the local area and to make a safer, more accessible environment. The group have also taken part in weekend conservation projects in The Peak District National Park, working with Peak Park Volunteers on footpath restoration to improve accessibility.

The ‘Convols’ not only carry out practical conservation on their days out, they also promote sustainability, running Meat Free Mondays and sharing vegetarian recipes every week.

Katherine Harbourne has been President of the group and has organised much of the work that they have carried out.

East African Fashion Show
Isaac Agaba, Rachel Babirye and Catherine Wairimu

As part of their committee work on the committee of the East African Society, Isaac, Rachel and Catherine organised a charity fashion show named ‘Tribal Instinct’.

The show aimed to showcase East African culture, and was inclusive as an event, which could be attended by anyone. Work was showcased from students from the University of Manchester, to create a truly inclusive experience working with other universities.

All of the proceeds from the charity event were donated to a charity in Uganda called On The Ball Uganda that trains street children in sports to keep them off the streets.

The event was for all audiences who are interested in East African Culture and provides not just education for anyone who is interested in the local community but also supports people globally.
Cleaning Services

Cleaning Services have been nominated for their incredible work which often goes un-noticed at the University. The team does an brilliant job of maintaining all of campus to be clean and tidy for students, staff and external visitors to use. Without Cleaning Services the campus would not be a safe space to bring people from the community and would not be able to operate as the centre for collaboration we aim to be.

Cleaning Services help deal with contamination of waste streams and ensure that we maintain our image in the wider community to ensure our campus maintains being a vibrant and exciting place to be. Without Cleaning Services we couldn’t hope to be the exemplar of waste management that we strive to be.
Making the Most of Resources

This award is to celebrate staff and students that have implemented policies, ideas or encouraged behaviour changes to ensure efficient and effective resource management. Nominations focus on reducing and reusing, sharing, travel, self-generated energy or performance targets.

The Nominations:

Faculty of Biological Sciences - technical and teaching Staff

After David Sharples questioned why each member of research staff and students in FBS (600+) have their own personalised, individual lab coats, a collaborative project began. Faculty technical management took the comments on board, and developed a new, simpler, more sustainable system for laundering and organising lab coats in FBS.

The system has reduced the number of laundry drop offs and allowed hundreds of old lab coats to be reused. Space has been freed up and the lab assistants no longer have to spend hours checking labels, sorting coats, chasing up missing ones and writing down records. The system is speedy, efficient, and means any new member of staff does not have to purchase a new lab coat as there will always be a clean one available in their size.
Leeds Community Project Glass Collections
George Bissett

Leeds Community Project has been nominated on the basis of its ongoing work on glass recycling. The pledge from George Bissett, the LUU Officer has become a campaign in its own right. The team collaborated with Hyde Park Picture House and Leeds Council to make glass recycling easier and more accessible to locals residents and students.

By supplying information on location of bottle banks and also supplying heavy duty reusable bags they raised awareness around the issue. Through door knocking and a Recycling Exhibition the group empowered students to take ownership of their household waste. Organising a temporary bottle bank at Hyde Park Picture House they aimed to stop all excuses. They recycled over 2 tonnes of glass and increased hundreds of households awareness of recycling issues. To encourage everyone to make the most of resources.

Residential Services
British Heart Foundation Collection Bins

Residential Services have worked with BHF over the past 2 years collecting unwanted student items with donation bins. The British Heart Foundation then transports collected items to their retail shops for re-sale. 4,312 bags of re-use items have been collected or 34.5 tonnes have been collected as a result, raising an enormous £60,368 for research into heart disease.

This amount of money could fund a post-doctoral scientist over the best part of a year. Or allow 170 young heart patients to recover and regain their confidence, post-op. All sizes of residences are now involved. St. Mark averaged 1.74 bags per resident collected.

Bins are now out for collection year round on every residence. In the biggest hand over period for residences as students leave for summer there will be plenty more money raised.
Addi and Athina  
Eco-friendly Water Pipe Raft  

In August of 2017, Addi and her nine year old daughter built the UK’s first eco-friendly water pipe raft from both University and community recycled materials.

The aim was to show how easy it is to upcycle and to raise awareness around environmental issues as they collected litter during the journey. The raft itself was made of broken chairs, plastic screens and odd bits of wood.

An old broom stick was the mast and the sail was made out of an old graduation gown. Over2Hills also helped to source equipment for the construction.

‘The pirates of the canal’ successfully made it the length of the Lancaster canal as Addi and Athina successfully paddled the 70km in just six days.

As a result of this incredible work Addi and Athina have made it on to Countryfile live shows, The Yorkshire Evening Post wrote extensively about the exhibition, and they made it into Explore Britain Stage and Waterways magazine.

Many came to admire the journey during it’s progress and gathered a lot of attention.

The raft was finally auctioned off on eBay at the end of the exhibition with the proceeds going to Addi and Athina’s charity. ‘The pirates of the canal’ is now in the capable hands of the Southport District Scouts.
Sustainable Purchasing Award

This award is to congratulate anyone who has encouraged best practice and innovation in University purchasing. Nominee’s could have been involved in the process of purchasing more sustainable equipment or products. In previous years this category has included looking into supply chains and creating sustainability procurement targets.

The Nominations:

Jon Sothard

Jon has challenged the hard-to-shake reliance of flipchart paper in the teaching spaces maintained by Faculty of Heath and Medicine. In the past the flipcharts have led to a large quantity of wasted resources and the need for constant replacements. With refurbishments of level 8 and 9 teaching spaces in Worsley Building, which included new whiteboards and touchscreen displays, Jon has actively obviated the use of flipcharts, in turn having a significant impact in reducing the amount of paper used across the teaching spaces.

Residential Services

Devonshire Hall Chickens

Eighteen ex-battery hens from the British Hen Welfare Trust are currently cared for by student residents at Devonshire Hall. During term time, 10 student volunteers have been trained in chicken husbandry to look after the chickens along with staff members Colin Manners and Colin Sykes. This activity provides a welcome change to studying, with the opportunity to get outside and learn new skills. In turn the chickens are homed in a better environment with a higher quality of life.
Chris Askew
PCB

Chris has continued to champion sustainability practises in the Print and Copy Bureau. His work on the recycled paper policy has led to overcoming logistical barriers in their offering of recycled paper products. PCB now have a full suite of new printing machines that are compatible with recycled paper stocks, capable of upholding the diverse portfolio of styles PCB must provide. From consulting with recycled paper suppliers for the best quality, to researching the machine specifications, Chris’s efforts have now made it possible for all work done by PCB to be on recycled paper as standard for all its customers.

Marie Parker

St James’s University purchases and consumes a large quantity of laboratory consumables. Lab and Infrastructure Manager, Dr. Marie Parker, has worked with purchasing teams, suppliers, and key stakeholders to create a more effective and efficient procurement programme. Not only have her efforts ensured researchers have what they need, when they need it, it has also reduced the number of deliveries onto campus, in turn reducing carbon emissions, congestion and time spent processing the orders. Significant monetary costs have also been saved thanks to Marie’s initiative.

She is now in discussion with additional suppliers who can join the scheme in the new financial year, and continues to search for others who would be interested in collaborating to make the purchasing system more sustainable.
Student Sustainability Awards

This year we have two awards which celebrate student commitments to sustainability both through curricular and research work and also through volunteering activities and co-curricular projects. The **Significant Contribution to Sustainability Award**, highlights any stand out student-led co-curricular work which has had a positive impact across the campus or Leeds community. The **Curricular and Research Innovation Award** can include any original work at the University of Leeds that has taken place this year.

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**The Nominations:**

*Significant Contribution to Sustainability Award*

**Kathryn Irish**

**Tetra Pak recycling**

Kathryn Irish is a champion for recycling, and after identifying the lack of opportunities to recycle tetra pak in LS6 and on campus, she decided to take the issue to LUU’s Leeds Better Forum where her idea to increase recycling facilities was passed making it LUU policy for three years.

Wasting no time Kathryn began lobbying Leeds Council, who offered to provide bins for the last 2 weeks of term 2, which proved to be a massive success. The work was integrated into a wider campaign of educating students through door knocking. The bins filled up within a few days of being in place and made a real case for the council introducing permeant curb-side tetra pack recycling facilities.

Kathryn has proven her ability to work with both the Union and Council to create something that is of benefit to making a more sustainable Leeds.
Arshdeep Chawla
St Marks Residences

Arshdeep Chawla is a Masters student from New Delhi who volunteers as a member of the Halls Exec at St Marks Postgraduate Residence. Arshdeep works with a small team of students, and goes above and beyond to organise events and activities to bring people together and create a community within the halls.

Some of the events Arshdeep has organised include; taking year abroad students from nine different countries to assist with practical conservation tasks at a local nature reserve, gathering 100 people for Earth Hour to share food and increase building energy efficiency, planting over 550 bulbs in the sensory garden, organising social walks to Whitby and Aysgarth Falls, movie nights, and Chinese New Year celebrations.

As a result of much of this work, St Marks won the Green Residences Award, to recognise how much more sustainable the residence has become socially, environmentally and economically. St Marks donated the highest amount of equipment to the British Heart Foundation per person. Arshdeep continues to plan sustainability events.
Linda Latuta

Linda Latuta is nominated for her dissertation work on the Macro Problem of Microplastics. Her study explores plastic pollution at the Kilnsea beach in order to establish the abundance, distribution, size, types and sources of the microplastics recorded. The results of this study show presence of microplastic particles on Kilnsea beach. This is the first study to prove the presence of microplastics along the Holderness coast and within a site of Special Scientific Interest.

The study identified a previously undiscovered factor, micro paint fragments. A recognised source of toxins which when consumed by marine life can be toxic.

The initial steps have now been taken to inform the Environmental Agency and help the land owners and local community to make a change.

Holly Benfield

Holly undertook a placement at MAP (Music and Arts Production) in Leeds, an innovative charity providing first-hand experience of the creative industries to young people at risk of exclusion from mainstream education. They offer qualifications, inspiration, and a creative ecosystem that turns young people into the creatives of tomorrow.

Holly's initial aim was to organise a fundraising event for MAP, despite difficult circumstances with the event becoming increasingly dynamic and difficult to pin down. Holly adapted to challenges to produce an incredibly useful ‘event concept document’ for the charity. Holly’s project has left MAP with a really useable and tangible resource, drawing from Holly’s knowledge, expertise and hard work. This sort of work gives valuable resources to an under resourced charity.
Mariam Shaath

Mariam undertook a placement at the local charity ‘Music and Arts Production’ (MAP) in Leeds as part of the Community Engagement Project. In this module, students co-develop a project with the host organisation. The organisation have set a target of raising £2.4 million to be able to continue with their work long term. Mariam’s artistic talent and creative vision lead her to create a fantastic video from a room full of ‘bird poop’ which she turned into a promotional tool which MAP have used to communicate with potential sponsors to help them move towards their dream of buying a foundry in Mabgate. The video worked well at envisaging what MAP are working towards.

Zoya Ahmed

Zoya utilised her artistic skills working with a third sector organisation MAP, an under-resourced charity.

She began by focussing on growing microgreens and providing the organisation with best practice guidelines around conditions for growth. But being incredibly adaptable Zoya began working on a whole array of things for the charity, from business planning and developing a newsletter, to completing gift aid applications and even getting involved with doing the cleaning.

She turned this placement into a legacy of resources for an under-resourced organisation. She went on to link her experiences to her degree course reflecting on the topics of education, gentrification and disempowerment. She shared her knowledge and expertise to create meaningful change across the third sector organisation and beyond.