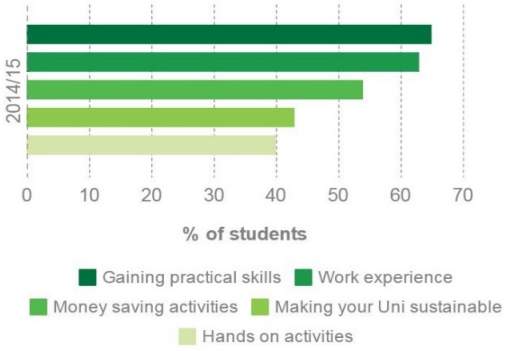
Green Academy Food for Thought 14/15 Report

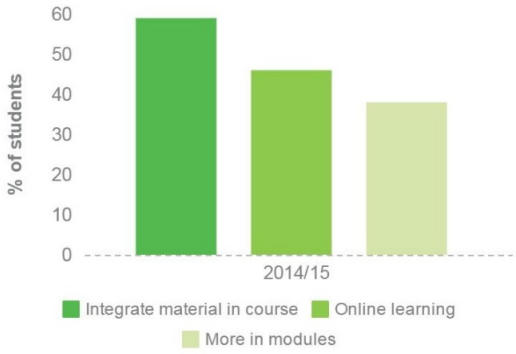
NOTTINGHAM TRENT UNIVERSITY

Now in its second year, the Green Academy has defined its mission to give our students the skills and knowledge to solve sustainability challenges. This is how Education for Sustainable Development is defined for NTU.

Encouraging participation in sustainability themed extra-curricular activities



Including social and environmental skills in academic courses



Students and sustainability survey

In partnership with NTU Environment Team, Green Academy conducted research on current students' attitudes and behaviours around sustainability and environmental issues. 815 students responded across 9 Schools.

71% agree sustainability is something all University courses should incorporate and promote.

27% agreed that sustainability is something they would like to specialise in.

59% believe that integrating social and environmental skills into existing course content was the most relevant way of integrating sustainability.

Students submitted ideas about how they thought NTU should become more sustainable

58 ideas on engagement and events

55 ideas on courses and learning

33 ideas on sustainable food at NTU

Audit dissemination

- **9** — Deans and Senior Management Teams received tailored report on sustainability in the curriculum
- **2** — Course Leader groups were presented to on the findings of the audit for their School
- **1** — School, NBS, embedded the findings of audit into course leader reporting
- **1** — School of Social Sciences published audit in a learning room focused on enhancing academic practice

Staff training workshops

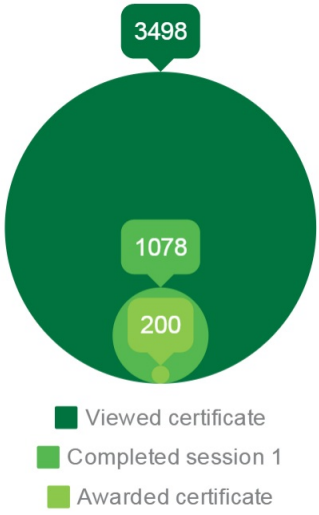
- Introduction to Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Training Session- 2 hours
- Module Specific Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Training Session- Bespoke
- Course Specific Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Training Session- 2 hours
- Enrich your Module with Existing Online Sustainability Content

Staff across 5 Schools attended

Staff across 5 Schools attended one of the new staff training workshops aimed to build staff confidence to deliver content on sustainability issues, identify specific areas in their curriculum to integrate themes or work with them on developing a new idea exploring sustainability in their subject.

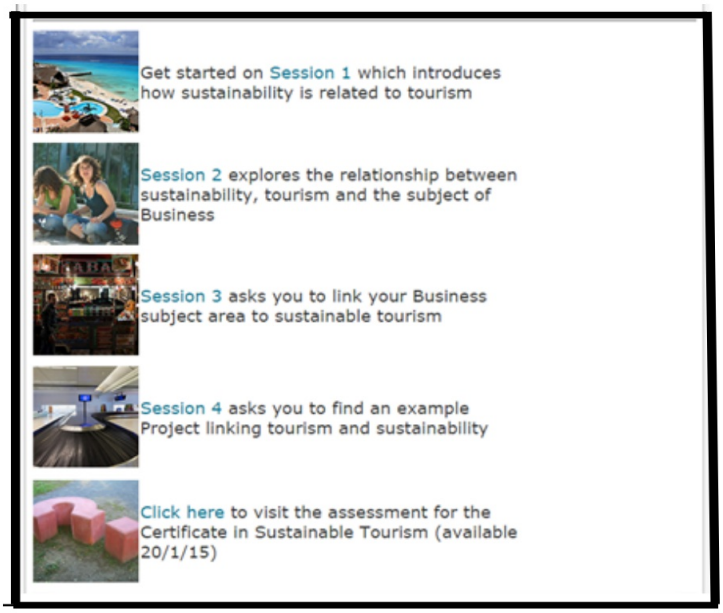
Sustainability in Practice Certificate (SiP)

The Sustainability in Practice Certificate had another successful year- 3 £100 prizes were awarded this year and students were amenable to submitting their final project in new formats.



2015

Certificate Winners



The Sustainability in Practice Certificate was embedded in a third year module for all undergraduates and a module for all 5 MSc courses in NBS.

A bespoke online certificate (left) was designed for a third year module exploring the relationship between sustainability and international tourism, completed by 123 students.

Plans are also in motion to embed the Sustainability in Practice certificate in a second year Chemistry module.

Feedback on the certificate was collected in a series of focus groups. Key findings of this research include: the need to reinforce links to employability, the desire for a practical element of the certificate, and integration with the local community.

Engagement

Thousands of staff and students were involved in engagement activities including our Global Week Swap Shop and Love Food Hate Waste training session as well as our Fresher's Fair activities.

Students successfully delivered 3 Superkitchens social eating sessions on Clifton campus to over 100 participants and the Superkitchen project is continuing into 2015/16 as a supper club for Clifton students.

Across the year, Twitter followers increased by over a third and social media was effectively used to promote events and activities. Popular followers include the EAUC, Fareshare and the Zero Waste Home project.

Webpages with increased detail about the project were developed on the newly renovated NTU Sustainability website.

Let's get cooking

foodshare
growing to give

Community

The successful Foodshare allotment engaged over 70 volunteers across the year in workshops including 'Eat Yourself Fit' and 'Climate Friendly Gardening'.

The food growing project is unique in sharing half of the site's produce with volunteers and the other half with the local charity Emmanuel House which provides support for homeless and vulnerable adults. Approximately 7.5kg of organic produce is harvested from the site monthly.

The programme was also recognised by an award from UPP for community engagement.

Responsible Futures

Green Academy have now signed up to achieve NUS Responsible Futures accreditation. This new supported change programme,designed by NUS, puts sustainability at the heart of education.
Responsible Futures works to create an enabling environment where staff and students can work together to embed social responsibility and sustainability into learning and teaching.The scheme facilitates close partnerships between student unions' and their institutions.

nus

Responsible Futures

Trent Institute for Learning and Teaching (TILT) Education for Sustainable Futures Group

A new Practice and Scholarship group has been established as part of the TILT project focusing on sustainability in learning and teaching. The group will report on progress in mid December.

Dissemination

Presentation at the NTU Course Leaders Conference to over 20 colleagues on the Certificate.

Delivery of a presentation titled 'A SPOC with a Twist: The Sustainability in Practice Certificate' at the Society for Research in Higher Education conference.

Presentation titled 'Beyond the degree: communities and students working in partnership to reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions' at the World Environment Education Conference.

'Learning from the Sharp End' event at University of Bristol was attended and a poster addressing students solving sustainability challenges was presented on.

Staff training workshops were promoted at the Annual Learning and Teaching Conference, the Course Leaders Conference and the DELITe Symposium.

Publication

Molthan-Hill, P., Dharmasasmita, A. and Winfield, F. 'Academic Freedom, Bureaucracy and Procedures: The challenge of curriculum development for sustainability' in: Davim, J.P. and Leal Filhoa, E. (Ed.) Challenges in Higher Education for Sustainability , Springer Verlag, forthcoming 2015.

The Team

Green Academy Leading Team

Dr. Petra Molthan-Hill (Lead), Helen Puntha (Deputy Lead), Grant Anderson (Environmental Manager), Josh Eloi (NTSU) and Professor Eunice Simmons (PVC Academic)

Green Academy Staff

Seraphina Brown (ESD Officer), Dr. Josephine Mmojieje (ESD Officer), Aldilla Dharmasasmita (Academic Associate)

www.ntu.ac.uk/food4thought @NTUFood4Thought