

## **Greenwich Sustainability Hub**

### **Introduction**

The Greenwich Sustainability Hub (Hub) is a student-led and staff-supported project based in the Students' Union (SU) in partnership with the Sustainable Development Unit (SDU). The Hub leads on projects and organises events and campaigns across all campuses engaging with students to increase pro-environmental behaviour, whilst enabling students to have an impact working towards greater sustainability.

In September 2015 Harry Hodges President of the SU summarized the Hub's impact, "For the past two years, the Hub has achieved many of its original aims and goals, alongside a number of noteworthy achievements. With close to 3,000 students directly engaged in Hub activities, five external institutions participating in the Green Impact Enterprise programme targeting 1,000 employees, 186 primary and secondary school students taught about the environment, and a recent Gold 'Green Impact' certification for the Students' Union—the Hub has produced a remarkable and lasting impact for students, the University, the community and our Students' Union."

### **Budget 2013-2015**

The Hub received £171,572 from the NUS Students' Green Fund from September 2013 until December 2015. The Hub has received a further £32,000 from the University from January 2016 to July 2016.

### **Hub Student Engagement Activities**

- The Hub brought the prestigious Whole Earth? Exhibition on the Greenwich and Avery Hill campuses in the Autumn 2015. The Exhibition launch events announced six £1000 Whole Earth? Fellowships for student projects centred on one or more of the University Challenges inspired by the Whole Earth? Exhibition. The Hub awarded the Fellowships in October and since then has supported the six winning students to deliver their project aims. As a way to disseminate their projects' findings a week-long poster exhibition and [video](#) of the six Fellowships was featured at the Crystal Museum café and was accessed by 880 members of the public.
- WHOLE EARTH? Exhibition Launch Event @ Avery Hill – Thursday, October 1st at 4 pm, area between Bronte Building and David Fussey Building
- Improv, Step Forward and Make a Difference – Workshop with Belina Raffy on Monday, October 5th at 5pm, Greenwich Campus, Room QA063
- Sponsored the Food Festival and 150 bike powered organic fruit smoothies given out to students.
- Dr. Bike talked to 13 students and check up on 3 bikes during Freshers 2015
- Grow at Home project made and delivered over 700 grow-at-home kits and engaged with students on the topic of food security.

- Subsidized at £5 (instead of retail £20) twenty Mooncup reusable menstrual cups, and engaged with about fifty women on the topic of healthy alternative to tampons and pads.
- Promoted the Behind Your Screen event to introduce Electronics Watch, an initiative working to achieve respect for labour rights in the global electronics industry hosted by the Business, Human Rights and the Environment Research Group at the School of Law.
- Collaborated with SDU's Ethical Food events and hosted a Fair Trade Wine and Cheese night at Bar Latitude in March 2016.

### **Education for Sustainable Development**

- Using NUS Responsible Futures framework to embed sustainability across curriculum and research activities. Training student programme representatives as sustainability champions and students as sustainability researchers. The Hub's enrolment into the NUS Responsible Futures programme has meant progress on many criteria, which are part of the framework for more Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). In the autumn the Hub delivered ESD training to student Programme Representatives and 96 students officially supported increasing ESD at the University of Greenwich afterwards. Close to 60 students have been trained as Sustainability Researchers to complete a sustainability programme assessment. In January 2016 a motion to Student Council was passed supporting ESD and Responsible Futures. To date 125 undergraduate programmes have been assessed from a total of 137 programmes.

### **Hub Events**

- Future Fair: to educate students through various speakers and panel discussions, inspire action with an exhibition of sustainability projects, and create employment opportunities and provide career advice by hosting interactive stalls with businesses and organisations promoting sustainability.
- Freshers Fair: to promote sustainability and Hub volunteer opportunities, campaigns, projects, and events to new students.
- Sustainability Forums: Build partnerships with faculties to support cutting edge sustainability events and workshops to students.