Global Environment and Society Academy (GESA)

THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH
Global Environment & Society Academy

Director - Peter Higgins
Moray House School of Education

Global Environment and Society Academy (GESA)

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Global Environment & Society Academy

Running order for this evening

- GESA Director, Peter Higgins, Welcome
- Dave Reay, GESA achievements
- Al Powell, Student Representative of EUSA
- Dave Gorman, Department for Sustainability and Social Responsibility
- GESA Deputy Director Elizabeth Bomberg, GESA activities
- Peter Higgins - Closing remarks

Global Environment and Society Academy (GESA)

THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH
Global Environment & Society Academy

We aim to provide integrated responses to the pressing global challenges posed by ***humanity's*** evolving interaction with the environment.

THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH
Global Environment & Society Academy

"We bring together expertise from across schools within the university to provide integrated perspectives on the human dimensions of environmental change"

You

Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation

Social Responsibility and Sustainability

EUSA

Institute for Academic Development

School of Engineering

School of Informatics

School of Chemistry

School of Business

School of Economics

School of Biological Sciences

School of Literatures, Languages & Cultures

School of Social & Political Sciences

School of Art

School of Geosciences

School of Law

School of Education

Global Environment and Society Academy (GESA)

THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH
Global Environment & Society Academy

Blog: http://blogs.sps.ed.ac.uk/global-environment-society-academy/

Edinburgh University Students' Association

Edinburgh University Students' Association

Here for students

- Help students get the best out of their studies
- Help students make friends and have fun
- Support students if they need advice
- Help students develop skills for their career

Edinburgh University Students' Association

Representation

Sabbatical Officers 2017/18

Bobi Archer, Patrick Kilduff, Oliver Glick, Esther Dominy and Kai O'Doherty

Elected to represent students

Find out more at
eusa.ed.ac.uk/representation

Edinburgh University Students' Association

Ollie Glick, VP Community 2017/18

Student outreach in the community

- Giving students the power to develop campaign, research and activist skills
- Working with student groups and societies to shape sustainability campaigns and policies

Fair Housing

- Lobbying for increased access to affordable rooms
- Pushing for regulation on private purpose built student accommodation
- Develop opportunities for student accommodation co-ops

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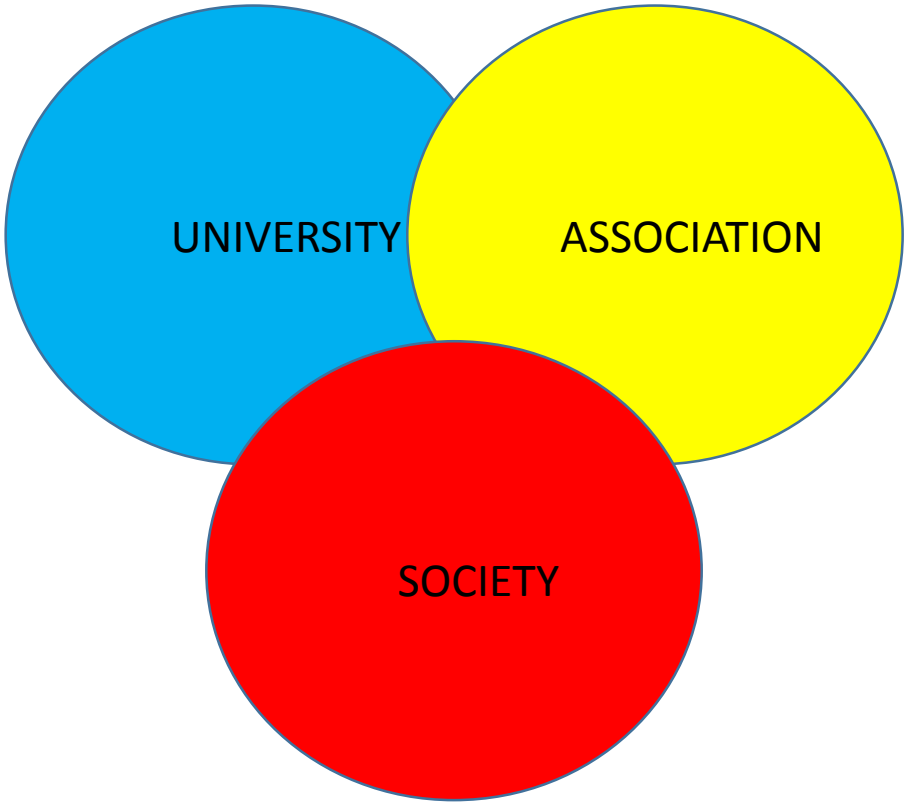
Sustainability

- Developing a shared vision with SRS
- Reducing commercial outlet food waste

Collective Representation - Student Council



Current Ethics & Environment Policy

- Commitment to a Conflict-Free Campus
- Supporting People and Planet's 'Divest the Rest' campaign
- Say No to Arms
- Financial Services - Opposing Pay Day Lenders

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Historic Ethics & Environment Policy

- Energy Efficient Rented Homes (2009)
- Fairtrade/No Sweat Clothing (2004)
- Ethical Investment (2002)
- Renewable Source Electricity (2001)
- Students' Association Sustainable Development (1999)
- Boycott Nestle (1982)

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Shaping Direction & Campaigns

- Submitting ideas for discussion
- Submitting motions to Student Council
- **www.eusa.ed.ac.uk/representation/your_ideas/**
- Email or meet up with Ollie
- **VPcommunity@eusa.ed.ac.uk**

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Thanks for listening!

Do you have any questions?

Edinburgh University Students' Association

al.powell@eusa.ed.ac.uk

Social Responsibility & Sustainability at the University of Edinburgh

An Introduction

THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH
Delivering impact for society
Strategic Plan
2016

SRS areas for the University

Effective use of space & energy

Policy and behaviour change

Investments in, or purchase of, renewables

Changes to our investments

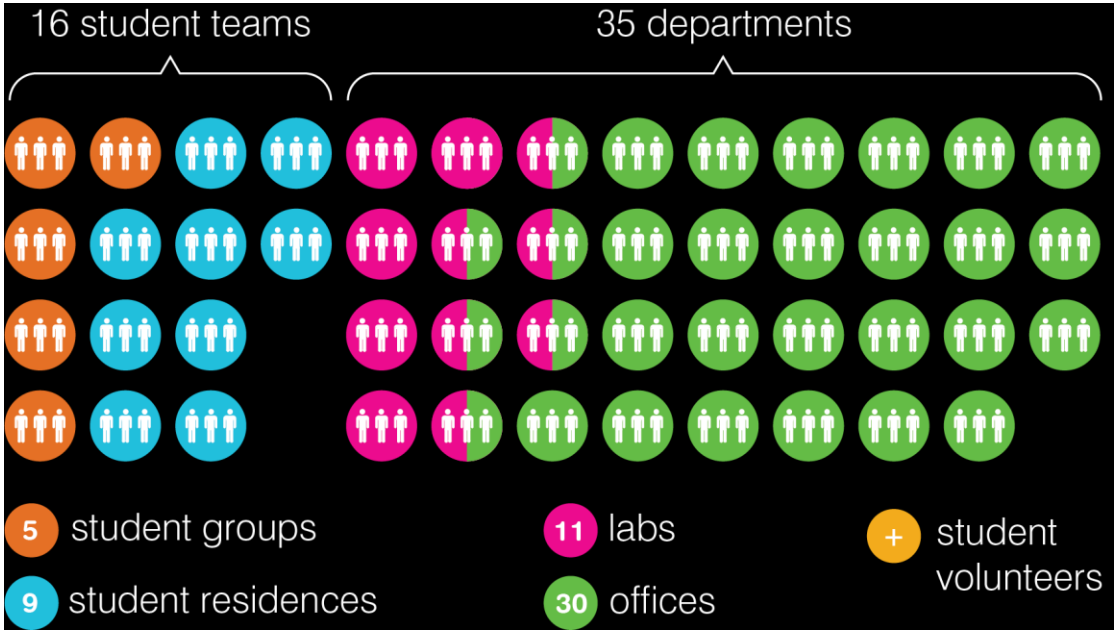
Learning & research into Challenges / Solutions

Whole institution approach to climate change

Sustainable
Campus Fund

SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS

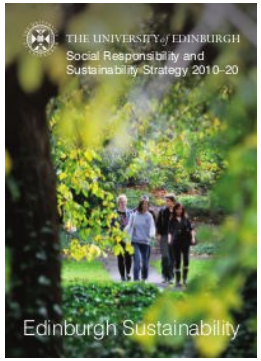
BE SUSTAINABLE

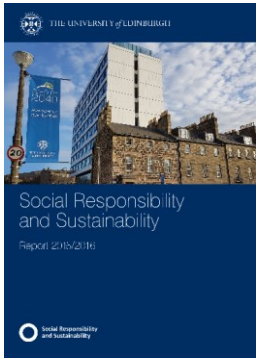


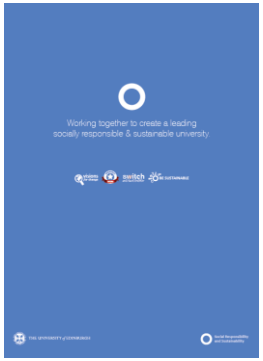
The University as a Living Lab

Questions?

Dave.Gorman@ed.ac.uk

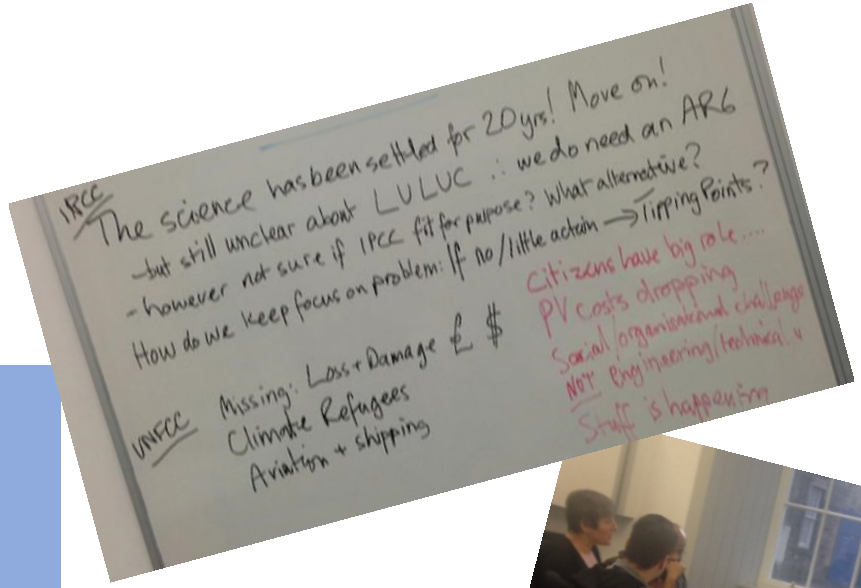






GESA Activities

- MASTERS READING GROUPS
  - 15 Nov, 5-6pm, fracking
- INFO HUB
  - Website and mailing lists provide link to wide array of events
- NETWORK FACILITATOR



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH
Global Environment & Society Academy
Blog site

2018 Environment & Society Practitioner/Research Mixer

- Opportunity for students and practitioners to share ideas and to network
  - Students pitch their research interests and ideas; practitioners discuss their role, sector news and potential research ideas

- Some sectors covered in past years
  - Climate Management
  - Energy
  - Ecosystem Services & sustainable landscapes
  - Environmental Policy & Politics
  - Social Responsibility & Sustainability
  - Food Security
  - Environmental & International Development

Mixer will take place early next semester; date will be announced on web page: http://www.ed.ac.uk/global-environment-society

GESA – what our past students say

- I've met tons more students than I otherwise would have done….we're all studying environmental stuff but in lots of different ways

- As an interdisciplinary researcher, it was great to meet with other students working through the Global Academies networks
- There was always something relevant, interesting, or important going on at GESA
- GESA's help with our CGI [Clinton Global Initiative] was much appreciated!

- The [Research-Practitioner] mixer was the best – I met all kinds of real life contacts