

Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges
EAUC-Scotland Annual General Meeting Minutes
University of Edinburgh, 11 March 2016

Attendees:

Abi Cornwall	AC	Learning for Sustainability Scotland
Angus Allan	AA	South Lanarkshire College
Billy Grace	BG	Dundee and Angus College
Christine Laing	CL	Fife College
Fraser Lovie	FL	University of Aberdeen
Gillian Gibson	GG	EAUC
Jackie Beresford	JB	Dundee and Angus College
Jenny Jamieson	JJ	Scottish Funding Council
John Thorne	JT	Glasgow School of Art
Katie Bruce	KB	Leaffield Environmental
Martin Webb	MW	Edinburgh College
Matthew Lawson	ML	University of Edinburgh
Michelle Brown	MB	University of Edinburgh
Pauline Donaldson	PD	Forth Valley College
Ray Walkinshaw	RW	Ayrshire College
Rebecca Petford	RP	EAUC
Sarah Lee	SL	EAUC
Severine Monvoisin	SM	Edinburgh College

Apologies:

Hassan Waheed	EAUC Intern
Iain Patton	EAUC
Jamie Pearson	Edinburgh Napier University
Kate Fitzpatrick	SRUC
Ron Mackay	Edinburgh College

Item	Minutes	Action
1	<p><u>Welcome and apologies (AA)</u></p> <p>Thanks to everyone for attending. Memorable events over the past year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As of 1 March 2016 – EAUC staff are employed by EAUC and no longer through the University of Gloucestershire. • Scottish Conference - first time paying for conference. The feedback was positive from participants and exhibitors Next EAUC-S conference planned for Feb 2017 • UK Conference 25-26th May at UWE - strong Scottish contingent last year and would be good to see the same numbers again if possible) • UK board are undertaking a strategic review - member consultation is planned with 3 vacancies on the UK Board. Active Scottish sustainability practitioners would be encouraged to apply. • Company membership doing well as well as numbers for Educational members which are higher than the average UK. <p><u>Minutes of the last meeting (AA)</u></p> <p>No outstanding actions – all completed Minutes from previous meeting approved by AA, seconded by MB.</p> <p><u>Scotland Office Report (SL)</u></p> <p>The Scotland Office Report can be viewed here EAUC-Scotland currently working to SFC outcome agreement - meet with SFC quarterly to update on activity and impact in the sector. The UCCCfS have been signed by all HE/FE institutions in Scotland. Still looking for everyone to have their CCAPs up to date and reporting now mandatory through Scottish Government Climate Change Duties. Working in partnership with RES, ZWS, SSN, SAUDE.</p> <p>AA: SLC now in 5th year of their CCAP and looking to update and renew - this is potentially big focus across the HE/FE sector in Scotland for those that will need updating SL: EAUC-S is here to support people updating Plans and the format is more flexible, creating a dynamic working document that fits your institution and aligns to reporting rather than the old CCAP template. FL: Are the SFC happy with this flexible arrangement, as the universities outcome agreements specify that a CCAP is needed. Problematic area is finding funding for projects on project register. SL: CCAPs are still necessary however it doesn't need to be the previous template outlined, such as Carbon Trust version.</p>	

BG: Will the Salix loan be applicable for FE at any point?

SL: At the moment no unfortunately due to the college classification, the Minister would have to sign off every application.

ML: Workshop on decarbonisation and targets/ planning would be useful

SL: Working with Carbon Credentials and RES/SSN to help with this work and is in our yearly work programme.

MW: Currently working on SFC Central Energy Efficiency Pathfinder project as there is no capital or Salix funding for the college.

JT: Would be good to be kept up to speed on legal requirements.

ML: University of Edinburgh are currently running three projects through SFC: high level carbon production tool, sector best practise, business model for renewables.

SL: EAUC-S has also produced a technologies catalogue with RES, it can be found on the Sustainability Exchange [here](#).

AA: SLC received feedback on the Climate Change Duties Required Reporting from SSN. It was fair and a lot of the sections in the report were to be completed the next year.

SL: 110 bodies submitted reports from 151 public bodies, therefore SSN couldn't give individual feedback on everything. We will be working on collating the data for FE/HE to create a report for SFC on sector progress this will be circulated in the next month once submitted.

MW: It would be preferred to have it peer review, rather than a league table from the reporting

SL: Analysis will be happening on all the data as sectors and there is no intention for a league table will be produced.

AA: Risk in some areas where data can and cannot be quantified easily which could produce errors/variation and subsequently reflect badly on the real data. E.g. travel/business travels.

Final comments from SL:

- As EAUC-S review the programme and member survey a continuation of honest feedback from the sector is appreciated.
- Moving away from primarily estates and carbon activity, looking to incorporate more into Learning for Sustainability. Exploring a wider scope that sustainability can be implemented into.
- Topic Support Network for ESD for HE and FE. Good turnout of people attending the next HE meeting, higher than average for TSNs.

JJ: SFC colleagues have discussed that EAUC-Scotland are doing a great job!

Convenor and Office Bearers Nomination and Voting (AA)

Current OBG members:

- Angus Allan (Convenor)
- Michelle Brown
- Jamie Pearson
- Christine Laing (co-opted onto OBG for the final meeting before AGM)

These 4 people support the EAUC-S team.

The college position needs to be officially filled, two applications were received and voted on by the 8 institutional representatives at the AGM :

- Christine Laing - Fife College (8)
- Ray Walkinshaw - Ayrshire College (1)

Congratulations to Christine!

Ray Walkinshaw has agreed to take over as Construction TSN Convenor Many thanks to Ray!

2

Planning Workshops (SL)

Attendees participated in three exercises to help direct the EAUC-S office work.

Current

March 2016 – March 2017

- Change management
- Community engagement
- Develop links/collaboration with other sector organisations
- Discussions/presentations with senior management
- Energy Management Colleges – a way of measuring & establishing good practice and building it into mandatory practise (current practise is absent or ad hoc)
- FE access to sustainability grant funding (e.g. Salix)
- FE ESD – pressure from outside (e.g. SFC, Scottish Government) to have formal frameworks in place for ESD i.e. equivalent to Responsible Futures
- FE sector credit achievement
- Framing of climate strategies/steers on targets/better understanding of grid factors
- Guidance documents on policy briefs
- Help identify ways for LfSS to strengthen individual and institutional membership within FE/HE sectors
- Help sector reflect on how to report different data
- Help with funding sources for FE sector
- Helping procurement colleagues understand sustainability
- Identify FE/HE news, events etc. for LfSS to strength their FE/HE comms on

website and bulletin.

- Keep supporting local networks and assist with collaboration
- Learning & Teaching: produce and share online intro to sustainability across Scottish sector using EAUC funded material.
- Linking carbon reduction with Learning & Teaching e.g. “Universities as Living Labs”
- Lobbying
- Mandatory sustainability training for students for credits
- Middle management engagement and training
- Project registers (template & approach)
- Reporting requirement guidance
- Shared understanding of adaptation
- Social return on investment for annual report
- Specific training on completion of public sector reporting – scope, guidance and training
- Workshops to link sustainability to enterprise and employment officers

Strengths

- Brilliant networking & advice
- Commitment & skill of the very strong EAUC-S team
- Create good networking links
- Excellent communication
- Excellent training opportunities for practitioners
- Networks
- Support & Training
- The EAUC-S team
- Topic Support Network
- Trusted
- Very good team
- Willingness of staff to visit institutions

Weaknesses

- FE cannot access sustainability grant funding
- Lack of involvement of managers with no direct remit for sustainability in their job descriptions.
- Lack of leadership on sustainability in institutions
- Most colleges lack the full-time resource
- Not in everyone’s job description
- Reliance on grant income
- Small team
- Sustainability in procurement

Opportunities

- Delivery of Scottish Government goals – high on their agenda
- Different partnership funding arrangements
- Formal FE tools and qualifications (e.g. the FE ESD workbooks but for other sectors)
- Greater influence with SFC support
- Income generation from training & consultancy to replace grant
- Links to HR priorities
- Networks – HE/FE/CDN etc.
- Retaining membership fees in Scotland
- Sharing skills due to diversity in membership
- Student enthusiasm for ESD

Threats

- Alternative support available (e.g. SSN)
- Budget squeeze resulting in membership reduction
- Commercial based organisations attempting to provide similar services with less expertise business strategy rather than values strategy
- Demand on services of small team
- Demands on institutions’ officers’ time
- Green overload, misinformation based on poor science
- Lack of funds to market across UK/share good practise
- Lack of urgency in the sector
- Reduced priority on ESD due to funding environment
- Scope of sustainability increasing but not capacity
- Unrealistic targets (e.g. 80%carbon emission reduction)

Future

Post 2017- until 2020

- Advocate changes to match policies on the ground
- As climate change action plans are implemented, greater focus on other areas of sustainability (e.g. Fairtrade)
- Career pathways
- EAUC to spend time in member organisations for staff swaps, learning/capacity
- Going beyond already engaged managers and move to full engagement
- Guidance helping organisations interpret policy briefs
- Integration of sustainability (not “others”)
- Links with employers to work with FE & HE to roll out sustainability into the work place (CRS)
- More interaction with senior management

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More non-estates engagement • PR promotion • Professional accreditation • Promote EAUC-S with students, more interaction with student association • Real data 'audit' (e.g. eco-flag certificate) • Simply maintaining positive momentum • Strong, well-financed membership organisation serving FE/HE in Scotland • Sustainability as a fundamental element of all HE & FE courses 	
3	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <p>No other business.</p> <p>Thank you to everyone that attended</p> <p>The next meeting will be an EAUC-S Forum conducted by video conference in May – GG to circulate information when available.</p>	

Minutes by Gillian Gibson, EAUC Project Administrator.