

Inside this brochure you will find details of some of the various opportunities available at Christ Church for staff and students to get involved with sustainability, and how to get in touch to sign up.

Cover image: our Sept 2018 hop harvest



sustainability



Student and Staff Experience

- Student Green Office*
- Blogging and work placements
- Bicycle User Group (BUG)
- Working group membership
- Sustainability yurt

Education for Sustainability

- Futures Initiative*
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Our Environment

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- Staff and student allotments
- St Gregory's Ale*
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- WALK WAYS*
- Beekeeping
- Food composting

Working in partnership with CCSU as part of the NUS Responsible Futures initiative.

www.canterbury.ac.uk/sustainability

student and staff experience

Student Green Office

The SGO is a small but very active sustainability office run for students, by students. They design and run events and campaigns throughout the academic year in Canterbury, engage with students through social media and blogging, as well as at open days and student fairs. They have three paid part-time student staff members, and around a dozen active volunteers at any time.

Paid positions that become available through the SGO are advertised through UniTemps (<https://www.unitemps.com/>), and other roles via the University volunteering portal on the CORE.

The SGO work closely with the Students' Union and Sabbatical Officers, partnering up on many events and promoting sustainable initiatives!

"Everything we do now has an impact on future generations and their quality of life. My aim is to inspire students to be sustainable in their life now, not in ten years when it's too late."

Megan Cork, SGO Events Coordinator

Work placements

We sometimes run single-term or summer work placements for current students in project work, branding development, campaign planning and more.

Email us at sustainability@canterbury.ac.uk to find out more about any of these opportunities.



Bioversity

Bioversity is our response to the need to nurture the environment in which we work and the communities we serve, involving stewardship of our green spaces within the Canterbury UNESCO World Heritage Site, which in our case includes the outer precinct of St. Augustine's Abbey.

The *Bioversity* initiative focuses on cultural aspects of biodiversity in relation to the history of the site, explicitly linked to the fact that it has been a centre of knowledge, community and stewardship in our city for over fourteen hundred years.



WALK WAYS

A series of self-guided walks around the Canterbury campus, developed by academic staff members, which are designed to enhance wellbeing and encourage you to perceive and experience your surroundings differently.

Food Composting

We now have a food composter on our North Holmes Road site as part of a project spearheaded by the Students' Union which will be maintained in collaboration with the EcoStudents society. If you'd like to get involved, please do get in touch!

Bee-keeping

When we have active beehives, we offer free bee-keeping experiences and introductory training for staff and students during the warmer months.



our environment

Heritage, Hops & Growing

The *Heritage, Hops & Growing* project affords opportunities to staff, students and members of the wider community to explore our local heritage, engage with food security and food growing, and enhance our natural environment.

We have an allotment association across our Canterbury sites for groups of staff and students who wish to grow vegetables, herbs and flowers and a variety of engagement opportunities across the year.



"It's lovely to have somewhere to go at lunchtime, before work or after work – a spot where you can forget about the stresses of the day and recharge the batteries."

Stephanie Fidge, Allotmentee

Hop-growing & St Gregory's Ale

We grow our own heritage varieties of hops at Canterbury, and brew our ale in collaboration with the Canterbury Brewers, a local microbrewery. Our 2018 brew, developed by media and communications students, is called St Gregory's Ale, in celebration of the 100th anniversary since the signing of the Armistice.



Email us at sustainability@canterbury.ac.uk to find out more about any of these opportunities.



Sustainability Blog

Student and staff bloggers contribute to a growing sustainability blog, covering everything from SGO events, local heritage and healthy food recipes, to interviews and articles spotlighting the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Whether it's a one-off or a regular slot; you can use our blog as a platform for an issue that you're passionate about, expanding and developing your writing skills and knowledge at the same time.

<http://cccusustainability.wordpress.com>

SGO: Social media can change the world
Posted on February 17, 2018 by annapeterson Edt

As I sit in my warm bedroom with piping hot tea, my laptop on and my phone unlocked, I sit with every social media I have an account on open. Twitter and Facebook are constantly being refreshed and my laptop is making noises with the notifications flooding through. I refreshed Instagram a whole ten minutes ago, and I uploaded a photo to Snapchat probably about an hour ago. In 2016, social media is everywhere.



Bicycle User Group

If you're a cyclist, you should sign up for our new Bicycle User Group (BUG) to connect with other local cyclists.

Sustainability Yurt

We have a yurt that moves around Canterbury, which can be booked out for team meetings, events, and more (with or without beanbags!)



Working Groups

We have a suite of working groups at CCCU, covering everything from food and biodiversity to education for sustainable futures and travel, which influence sustainability governance across the University.

Membership is open to students and staff and meetings are only once per term.



facebook.com/cccusustainability



twitter.com/cccuscn

education for sustainability



Futures Initiative

The *Futures Initiative* (FI) was founded in 2011, and has to date funded over 100 projects that aim to embed sustainability within the curriculum. Each year, academic and professional staff, and students with the support of staff can seek funding from the *Futures Initiative* to support the development and implementation of a sustainability-related project at Christ Church. These projects are incredibly varied, from new modules, conferences and events, through to developing new ways of learning and investing in materials that engage the local community with our academic life.



"I wanted staff to experience the Forest School approach for themselves in the hope that they would begin to plan equivalent experiences for their students."

Alan Pagden, FI Project Lead

Project 93

A series of lectures, screenings, discussions and activities around sustainability, embedded within the formal curriculum, that aims to nurture a vibrant academic community of critical thinkers who are engaged with the world and are able and willing to make positive contributions to it.

Email us at sustainability@canterbury.ac.uk to find out more about any of these opportunities.

Futures Initiative funded conferences

Every year as part of the *Futures Initiative*, we fund sustainability conferences and offer development opportunities for Christ Church staff to engage them with, and to develop their understanding, both of sustainability in practice and how it can be applied in education and curriculum development.

Staff are invited to submit academic research papers, sustainability showcases and interactive workshops or tours for consideration for the conference.



Exploring Sustainability

Findings ways to live within planetary means is an ever more urgent and pressing issue which will affect us all as we move towards the middle of the twenty first century. *Exploring Sustainability* is an online resource for teachers and students that aims to raise questions and reflect the concerns of Western industrialised countries: www.canterbury.ac.uk/exploring-sustainability

research and knowledge exchange



Sustainability Research Network

The Sustainability Research Network (SRN) is a strategic network for sustainability research and knowledge exchange, which aims to foster a culture of cross-institutional collaboration, to showcase existing RKE activity in sustainability and to support 'research involved teaching' in education for sustainable development.

Membership is open to any academic staff with an interest.

"I have made a number of new contacts through the SRN who have helped to deepen my research interests and widen my awareness of literature relating to sustainability issues."

Liz Pichon, Senior Lecturer



Community Collaboration

We collaborate with community groups like the Oaten Hill and South Canterbury Association (OHSCA) to produce open lectures and hope to enable student research in the future.

Email us at sustainability@canterbury.ac.uk to find out more about any of these opportunities.

SDG Forum

The SDG Forum is a collaboration between local community partners that aims to discuss and address the UN's Sustainable Development Goals in a local context.

UN Sustainable Development Goals



Sustainability Resource Library

We have an online sustainability resource Blackboard, plus a small library of books, films, games and teaching resources on sustainability and related themes which students and staff are welcome to come and use or borrow.



Sustainability is one of the central challenges facing the world in the 21st Century. The UN Sustainable Development Goals now provide a unified framework for action. As a signatory to the SDG Accord we are committed to embedding the goals into our education, research, leadership, operations, administration and engagement activities.

You can read about the SDGs here: sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs and if you're interested you can email us at sustainability@canterbury.ac.uk to find out more or get involved.



framework for sustainability

Our vision

Our vision for sustainability is to develop environments in which people can explore more sustainable ways of living in the 21st Century.

In line with sector guidance we recognise four components to sustainability; global citizenship, environmental stewardship; social justice, ethics and well-being and futures thinking.

We aspire that these should be integrated across all operational areas, curriculum and research; and that they should be embedded in the culture, practices and physical environment of the University.

We see this as a long-term process which is essential to the health of the University, its community and to wider society.

The aims and objectives outlined here correspond to each of the four areas of the framework, and the opportunities in this brochure are just one of the ways we hope to address those aims and objectives.

If you would like to see where these sustainability opportunities fit in to the bigger picture, you can access the sustainability framework document, here: www.canterbury.ac.uk/sustainability under 'Strategies and Policies'.

Student and Staff Experience

Aim: to develop culture and practices based on our vision for sustainability and university values.

Objectives:

- Enhance engagement in sustainability initiatives
 - Encourage student-initiated and led activity
 - Foster connections between individuals, communities and their environment
 - Create spaces to support health and wellbeing

Education for Sustainability

Aim: engage students with sustainability issues relevant to their discipline and field of work.

Objectives:

- Embed sustainability in the development of new and existing curriculum
- Align academic infrastructure with quality frameworks for sustainability
- Maximise student involvement in the development of curriculum.

Research and Knowledge Exchange

Aim: to encourage sustainability research via interdisciplinary dialogue and dissemination

Objectives:

- Demonstrate sustainability leadership so we are known for excellent practice in the HE sector
- Facilitate development of inter and trans-disciplinary sustainability research
- Collaborate cross-sector to develop new sustainability thinking

Our Environment

Aim: to develop open, accessible and inclusive environments demonstrating good sustainability practice, and our distinctive academic profile.

Objectives:

- Develop our estate to maximise educational, research and community benefit
- Develop our campus to reflect our heritage
- Integrate our built and natural environments to embody our values
- Lower environmental impact