

RCE-GWS Meeting Minutes

24 October 2017

Attendees: Andrew Hewson Penrith City Council, Shane Judd WSI TAFE, Eric Broken Hawkesbury Earthcare/HDRA, Steve Body Brewongle EEC, Damien Feneley DEC/Principal Grose View Public School, Ian Knowd Hawkesbury Harvest, Richard Maguire ParraCAN/GWSEA, Maria Maguire ParraCAN/GWSEA, Judith Bruinsma WSROC, Rafiqul Huq, Greening Australia, Helen Angelakis Western Sydney University, Jen Dollin Western Sydney University, Brittany Hardiman Western Sydney University, Geoff Scott Western Sydney University, Stefan Diakanastasis Western Sydney University

Invited Attendees: Isabel Franco, UNU IAS Researcher, Western Sydney University students - Jessica Campion, Jenny Fitzgerald, Danielle Wolf, Kathy Nguyen, Serha Yarar, Samuel Optland, Isabelle Figatowski, Shannon Khalifeh

Apologies: Debbie McCall Campbelltown Council, Garry Baldry Hawkesbury Council, Justin Murphy Hawkesbury Council, Vanessa Keyzer Local Land Services GWS, Vicky Whitehead Longneck EEC, Anne-Maree O'Neil Macauther Centre Sustainable Living, Kartik Madhira City of Parramatta, Carmel Hamilton Penrith City Council, Christine Sercombe TAFE WSI, Greg Cheetham TAFE WSI, Mark Samaha TAFE WSI, Caroline Allen The Academy Western Sydney University

Minutes from meeting 24 October, 9.30am to 11.00am at Parramatta City campus, Western Sydney University

Minutes:

1. Welcome and Opening

- a. New member: Greater Western Sydney Energy Alliance (GWSEA). Unanimously approved by RCE-GWS Governance Committee in August. GWSEA has a diverse mix of partners focused on renewable energy and energy efficiency.

2. RCE Student Experiences

- a. Youth Leadership for Sustainable Development, Indonesia, September 2017. Western Sydney students Jessica and Jenny attended week long intensive run by RCE Yogyakarta focusing on the SDGs, communities and climate change participating in a series of lectures, group work and field trips. The trip was inspirational, had profound impacts connecting and sharing stories with international youth and has set directions for their future careers.
- b. Bridge to the World Youth Camp, South Korea, August 2017. Western Sydney students Shannon, Sam and Isabelle attending a two-week intensive run by RCE Tongyeong focusing on SDGs Zero Hunger, Life Below Water, Clean Energy and Water and Sanitation. The cultural exchange between youth was eye opening, sharing stories of nations SD journeys, making a commitment to make a difference locally and globally and lifelong friendships were some of the highlights.

3. Partner Project Updates

- a. Greater Western Sydney Energy Alliance: Newest RCE member held a successful forum in September with community and business. Looking to expand the forums to Penrith and Blacktown in the near future. A Western Sydney student intern will work with GWSEA and MP Julie Owens office to support a nation building' website and develop a summer social media campaign.

- b. Youth Eco Summit and Murama Indigenous Youth Summit: YES Secondary was held in September 2017, hosted by Sydney Olympic Park as a 1-day event for Stage 4 and 5 students with a unique opportunity to share their sustainability projects, successes, innovations and ideas in a new and exciting event format. Watch clip - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FDV8OeQGrZc>. YES Primary and Murama Indigenous Youth Summit will be held on 16 and 17 November, with 2,000 students already registered and 40 – 50 Indigenous students showcasing as part of YES.
 - c. UNU RCE Global Citizenship Graduate Award Concept: Office of Sustainability are proposing a flagship learning experience for WSU students via a co-badged graduate award with the UNU around sustainable development. The 3 tier process includes an online module for all students exploring sustainability concepts, cross disciplinary sub-major and a 60hr social action program. Each stage will involve/feature RCE partners and global RCEs. If successful, the program could be implemented by other RCEs worldwide and merged into a school/youth program in 2018-2019.
 - d. RCE-GWS will be represented at both the Asia-Pacific meeting in New Delhi in November, and the first global thematic RCE conference in Okayama in December. The purpose of the visits will also include getting approve for the UNU SD project, as well as to connect with ESD programs and build strong inter-RCE collaboration.
4. UNU IAS Visit Research Fellow, Dr Isabel Franco is conducting research on how RCE stakeholders can create impact at a local level around the SD agenda. Her research is “Understanding how stakeholder networks can better collaborate for impactful education and research for SD at the community level.” She is collecting and building case studies to assist with recommendations for worldwide implementation, starting with the Asia-Pacific.
5. Other Business
- a. Office of Sustainability is provided 2 x \$3,000 seed funding grants for RCE partners to apply for on-ground projects around the SDGs. Applications due back by 13 November. Please see application form below.
 - b. All members in attendance agreed to keep the current format of 3 face-face meeting a year, with morning meetings the preference, moved around GWS. Tentative dates for 2018 are as follows:
 - i. Tuesday, 6 March Network meeting
 - ii. Tuesday, 10 July Network meeting
 - iii. Tuesday, 9 October Network meeting
 - iv. Tuesday, 3 December End of year celebration
 - c. Emeritus Professor Geoff Scott provided an update on some useful resources, including Blue Economy projects making money from waste (<http://www.theblueeconomy.org/>), an international sustainability study - Turn around Leadership for Sustainability in Higher Education and co-created education website FlipCurric (<http://flipcurric.edu.au/>).

*Next meeting – End of year celebration (informal), 1 December 3.30pm – 5pm,
Hawkesbury campus, Western Sydney University*

RCE-GWS Seed Funding Application

The Office of Sustainability has 2 x \$3,000 seed funding grants available for RCE-GWS partners to apply for. Your project must involve at least 2 RCE-GWS members and address 1 or more UN Sustainable Development Goals. **Please complete and submit the below form by Monday, 13 November 2017.**

PROJECT TITLE	
PROJECT TEAM DETAILS Name, organisation, contact details.	Leader: Members:
BRIEF PROJECT OVERVIEW	
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT What goals and targets will your project focus on? How does your project link to ESD?	
PROJECT OVERVIEW What are the project objectives? How do the project outcomes and achievements align with the objectives of the RCE and the SDGs? Will the project continue into 2018? If so, what are the future plans? Have you found or searched for external funding to continue this project? How could you involve Western Sydney students (internships or placements) into the project?	
BUDGET BREAKDOWN (Itemised list of your spending)	

Please email your completed form and any supporting documents to b.hardiman@uws.edu.au. **Project funds MUST be invoiced to the University no later than Friday, 1 December 2017.**