BACKGROUND

It is widely known that matters related to sustainable development, albeit global in nature, are best handled at the local level. This line of thinking is particularly true to the higher education context, where the design and implementation of sustainability initiatives on campuses can demonstrate how a given university translates the principles of sustainable development into practice, at the institutional level.

Yet, despite the perceived need to discuss approaches and methods to make university campuses more sustainable, there is a paucity of specific events where a dialogue among sustainability academics and practitioners concerned with a) research, projects b) teaching and c) planning and infra-structure leading to campus greening takes place, so as to allow a transdisciplinary and cross-sectoral exchange of ideas and experiences on the issues, matters and problems at hand.

It is against this background that the “Symposium on Sustainability in University Campuses” (SSUC-2017) is being organised by the University of São Paulo in Brazil, Manchester Metropolitan University (UK), the Research and Transfer Centre “Applications of Life Sciences” of the Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (Germany), and the Inter-University Sustainable Development Research Programme (IUSDRP). The University of São Paulo, founded in 1934, has over 94,000 students. It is the largest university in Brazil, and one of the largest institutions of higher education in Latin America.

The theme of the “Symposium on Sustainability in University Campuses” is: “Campuses as living labs for connecting the nexus energy, climate and sustainable development”, and will contribute to the further development of this fast-growing field. The event will showcase examples of campus-based research and teaching projects, regenerative campus design, low-carbon and zero carbon buildings, waste prevention, and resilient transport, among others. Ultimately, SSUC-2017 will demonstrate the role of Campuses as platforms for transformative social learning and research, and explore the means via which university campuses can be made more sustainable.

AIMS

The aims of the “Symposium on Sustainability in University Campuses” are as follows:

i. to provide universities all round the world with an opportunity to display and present their works on campus greening and sustainable campus development

ii. to foster the exchange of information, ideas and experiences acquired in the execution of research, teaching and projects on campus greening and design, especially successful initiatives and good practice;

iii. to discuss methodological approaches and projects which aim to integrate the topic of sustainable development in campus design and operations;

iv. to network the participants and provide a platform so they can explore possibilities for cooperation.

Last but not least, a further aim of the event will be to document and disseminate the wealth of experiences available today. To this purpose, the book “The University Campus of the Future: connecting the nexus energy, climate and sustainable development in university operations”, will be published, with all accepted papers. It will be part of the award-winning “World Sustainability Series”, published by Springer, one of the world’s top five scientific publishers. The books in the series are fully peer-reviewed, and officially count as publication outputs for promotion and tenure purposes.
PROFILE OF PARTICIPANTS

Delegates attending the “Symposium on Sustainability in University Campuses” will come from a cross-sectoral range of areas. These are:

i. members of university administrations;
ii. campus facilities and operations staff;
iii. teaching and research staff;
iv. student groups;
v. project officers and consultants;
vi. other people interested in the field.

It is believed that this wide range of participants will help to outline the need for integrated approaches towards sustainable campus development.

STRUCTURE OF THE EVENT

The “Symposium on Sustainability in University Campuses” will be organised in two main strands:

STRAND 1: Poster Sessions
Participating universities and organisations will be able to put-up posters describing their works and projects and to distribute the relevant information to the participants. The posters session will be the backbone of the event and will allow close, one-to-one contacts between the participants and the exhibitors.

STRAND 2: Presentations
A set of presentations, divided into 3 main sessions will be organised, dealing with some of the issues of strategic value in designing the campus of the future. These are:

Session 1: Sustainability in Campus Activities, Facilities/Operations
Session 2: Research, Planning and Development in Campus Greening
Session 3: Student Activities and Participation in Campus Greening

A tour of the facilities at the University of São Paul will be offered, with examples of how to implement campus greening initiatives.

TIME-TABLE

The “Symposium on Sustainability in University Campuses” will be held from Sunday 17th to Tuesday 19th September 2016. The schedule is as follows:

Sunday, 17th September 2017: arrival and set-up of displays (16:00-18:00)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY, 18th SEPTEMBER 2017</th>
<th>TUESDAY, 19th SEPTEMBER 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All day: Exhibition and visit to displays</td>
<td>All day: Exhibition and visit to displays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morning: Session 1</td>
<td>Morning: Session 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afternoon: Session 2</td>
<td>Afternoon: Campus Greening: a tour of the facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evening: Reception I</td>
<td>Round-table with key experts &amp; conclusions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In order to ensure an efficient use of the time, delegates are kindly asked to organise their travel in a way that allows them to arrive in the course of Sunday the 17th September 2017 at the latest, and travel back on or after the 20th September 2016.

DEADLINES

Deadline for submission of abstracts: 30th March 2017
Deadline for submission of papers: 30th May 2017
Deadline for full, revised papers: 30th July 2017
Deadline for registrations: 30th July 2017

Since the book “The University Campus of the Future: connecting the nexus energy, climate and sustainable development in university operations” will be launched soon after the Symposium, the deadlines need to be followed.

THE VENUE

The “Symposium on Sustainability in University Campuses” will be held on the Campus of the University of São Paulo, in São Paulo, Brazil. São Paulo is the largest city in Brazil and has many international connections. A wide selection of hotels with various rates can be seen at the usual hotel booking sites.

FEES AND CHARGES

An early bird conference fee of € 200 (€ 100 for students), will be charged to delegates who register until 30th May 2017 to offset the preparation costs. After that, the conference fee will be € 300 (€ 150 for students). The fees includes free lunches and coffee breaks on 18th-19th September 2017. Registrations fees may be refunded in case of cancellations (with a 50% charge) until 30th July 2017. After that, no refunds are possible.

Organisations or individuals not able to pay this fee should contact the Secretariat so that it may be waived in special cases. Interested people and organisations are encouraged to register by completing the application form provided. This is a self-funded event and the organisers are unable to pay any travel or accommodation costs of any kind. They are however happy to issue letters of invitation to support delegates to request funding for their participation.

Registrations are now open and are possible until the 30th July 2017. Regrettably, registrations after the deadline will not be possible. Since the space for displays and the time for presentations is limited, delegates are advised to register as soon as possible. The organisers will notify any interested delegate or organisation in case there are any limitations with time for presentations or space for displays. Registered delegates will then receive further details on the payment of the fees and updated information on the preparations for the event. The decision as to which papers will be accepted for presentation will be taken by the Chairpersons, following consultation with the organising committee. Participants registering to the event will do so under the condition that they will cover their own travel, accommodation and incidental costs (e.g. visa fees) related to their trip to Brazil. Letters of invitation to enter the Federal Republic of Brazil can be only be sent to bona fide, registered delegates, who have paid their fees and need a document to show their employers.
ORGANISERS

- University of São Paulo
- Manchester Metropolitan University
- Hamburg University of Applied Sciences Research and Transfer Centre “Applications of Life Sciences”
- Inter-University Sustainable Development Research Programme (IUSDRP)

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

CHAIRPERSONS

- Prof. Walter Leal (BSc, PhD, DSc, DPhil, DL, DLitt), Manchester Metropolitan University, UK, HAW Hamburg, Germany
- Prof. Patrícia Faga Iglecias Lemos, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil

MEMBERS

Prof. Abul Quasem Al-Amin, Universiti Tenaga Nasional, Malaysia
Prof. Maria de Fátima Pereira Alves, Open University, Portugal
Dr. Nelson Amaro, Galileo University, Guatemala
Prof. Ulisses Azeiteiro, University of Aveiro, Portugal
Prof. Luciana Brandli, University of Passo Fundo, Brazil
Profa. Fernanda Rocha Brando, University of São Paulo, Brazil
Prof. Miguel Bucalem, University of São Paulo, Brazil
Prof. Sandra Caieiro, Universidade Aberta, Portugal
Prof. Adriano Ciani, University of Perugia, Italy
Prof. Izael Da Silva, Strathmore University, Kenya
Prof. Bernd Delakowitz, University of Applied Sciences Zittau-Görlitz, Germany
Prof. Baltasar D’Andrade Guerra, UNISUL, Brazil
Profa. Joana Carla Soares Gonçalves, University of São Paulo, Brazil
Prof. Dzintra Ilisco, Daugavpils University, Latvia
Prof. Simon Kemp, University of Southampton, UK
Prof. Maris Kļavins, University of Latvia, Latvia
Profa. Prof. Patrícia Faga Iglecias Lemos, University of São Paulo, Brazil
Prof. Violeta Orlovic Lovren, University of Belgrade, Serbia
Prof. Raul Machado, University of São Paulo, Brazil
Dr. Evangelos Manolas, Democritus University of Thrace, Greece
Profa. Roberta Consentino Kronka Mülfarth, University of São Paulo, Brazil
Prof. Maria Novo, National University on Distance Education, Spain
Prof. Paul Pace, University of Malta, Malta
Prof. Anita Pipere, Daugavpils University, Latvia
Prof. Diana-Mhiaela Pociovalisteanu, Constantin Brancusi University, Romania
Prof. Oswaldo Quehlas, Fluminense Federal University, Brazil
Prof. Marcelo de Andrade Romero, University of São Paulo, Brazil
Profa. Alessandra Prata Shimomura, University of São Paulo, Brazil
Prof. Jorge Alberto Soares Tenório, University of São Paulo, Brazil
Prof. Luis Vargas, University of Chile, Chile
Prof. Luis Velazquez, University of Sonora, Mexico
CONTACT POINT FOR SCIENTIFIC INPUTS, STRATEGIC COOPERATION AND GUIDANCE ON PUBLICATION

All questions related to scientific inputs and strategic partnerships, as well as the book, should be sent to:

Walter Leal (BSc, PhD, DSc, DPhil, DEd, DLitt, FSB, FRGS, FLS)
Professor of Environment and Technology, School of Science and the Environment, Manchester Metropolitan University
E-mail: w.leal@mmu.ac.uk

CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATION AND FURTHER DETAILS

Dr. Mihaela Sima
Institute of Geography, Romanian Academy
E-mail: simamik@yahoo.com

All questions related to logistics in Brazil including letters of invitations for visas should be sent to:

Roberta C. Kronka Mülfarth
Email: sga.eventos@usp.br

HOW TO SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT

An abstract should be up to 200 words, it should describe the rationale and aims of the paper, and some of its results. General descriptions of broad contexts should be avoided. The full contact details about the author(s) need to be provided. Abstracts should be written in the third person and not in the first or second one (e.g. I, me, or my paper). Please see below a sample abstract. Authors whose abstracts have been accepted, will receive further details about how to submit their full papers, and further logistical information.
SAMPLE ABSTRACT

Campus Greening: Using Living Labs to Foster Education for Sustainable Development in Higher Education Institutions

Walter Leal (BSc, PhD, DSc, DPhil, DEd, DLitt, FSB, FRGS, FLS)
School of Science and the Environment
Manchester Metropolitan University
Chester Street, Manchester, M1 5GD, United Kingdom
E-mail: w.leal@mmu.ac.uk

Abstract

The use of university campuses as learning and research areas is not as widely made as it should. Part of the problem lies on the fact that facilities are often not well structured or organized, which makes it difficult to use them for teaching, learning, or for research purposes. This paper presents the results of a study aimed at identifying the extent to which higher education institutions are using their campuses for teaching, learning and for research, and at describing the various modalities of use. A special attention is paid to the role that campuses can play as “living labs, where the integration of sustainability issues in higher education can be demonstrated. Finally, some concrete steps which may be undertaken in order to allow universities to better take advantage of university campuses as learning and research areas, are outlined. This paper will be useful to anyone interested on using university campuses as bridges between the theory and practice of sustainability in higher education institutions, across the world.
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Surname: _______________________________________________________________________

2. First Name: _____________________________________________________________________

3. Title (Prof., Dr. Mr, Ms, etc): ______________________________________________________

4. Institution: ______________________________________________________________________

5. Address: _______________________________________________________________________

6. Telephone (please include national and local code): _____________________________________

7. Fax (please include national and local code): ___________________________________________

8. E-mail: _________________________________________________________________________

9. You intend to participate by means of: (    ) Presentation (    ) Display              (    ) both

10. Title of presentation: _____________________________________________________________

11. Session chosen (please tick):
    
    Session 1: Sustainability in Campus Activities, Facilities/Operations (   )
    Session 2: Research, Planning and Development in Campus Greening (   )
    Session 3: Student Activities and Participation in Campus Greening (   )

12. Title of display: __________________________________________________________________

13. Do you need a visa to enter the Federal Republic of Brazil?  (    ) Yes*    (    ) No
(*) If you need a visa, please contact us supplying us with the following details: place and date of birth, passport number, home address, address of your employers.

13. Do you have any dietary requirements?              (    ) Yes      (    ) No

An early bird conference fee of € 200 (€ 100 for students), will be charged to delegates who register until 30th April 2017 to offset the preparation costs. After that, the conference fee will be € 300 (€ 150 for students). The fees includes free lunches and coffee breaks on 18th-19th September 2017. Registrations fees may be refunded in case of cancellations (with a 50% charge) until 30th July 2017. After that no refunds are possible. In order to prevent the misuse of the event for illegal travel to the Brazil, only bona-fide delegates whose papers have been accepted and whose fees have been paid, will receive an official invitation, with which they can apply for a visa.