



rootAbility



The long ride towards sustainability at universities: How to accelerate on a bumpy road?

PANEL DISCUSSION

Date: Friday, 17.10.2014

Time: 18.00 – 19.30

Location: HU Berlin, Hörsaal 2094, Hauptgebäude – Westflügel, Unter den Linden 6

Universities play a crucial role in sustainability transition, and students, staff and academics worldwide are pushing towards changes at their institutions. However, the speed of change is not fast enough, compared to the short time frame humanity has to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, halt biodiversity loss and restore ecosystems and move from a linear to a circular economy.

It is increasingly recognized that isolated attempts by individual students, departments or professors will not bring about the required changes. On the contrary, a move towards collective action is required, drawing on the talents and energy of students, staff, academics and external stakeholders. In addition, projects and organisational structures need to be explored and found that can help to promote whole-institution approaches, linking sustainability activities in education, research, operations and community.

We invited exciting speakers from the Netherlands, Germany and the United Kingdom to discuss with us the following question: How can we create dynamic processes to accelerate sustainability transitions at universities? Join us for a vibrant discussion!

This event is part of the 1st European Green Office Summit, a convention of 50 students involved in driving sustainability at their universities across Europe. Join us after the panel discussion in a relaxed atmosphere to learn more about the projects and sustainability units that participants of the 1st European Green Office Summit are engaged in.



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PROGRAMME

18.00 - 18.15 – Welcome and Introduction by the Student Initiative Sustainability Office Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

18.15 - 18.30 – Setting the scene: Introductory Presentation on Sustainability in Higher Education, by Felix Spira

18.30 - 19.30 – **Panel discussion**

- Charlotte Bonner (National Union of Students UK)
- Alex Baker-Shelley (PhD researcher at Maastricht University)
- Anjelle Rademakers (Manager Green Office Utrecht)
- Miriam Block (Campus Grün Universität Hamburg)

The discussion will be moderated by Felix Spira (PhD at the Dutch Research Institute for Transitions in Rotterdam, and co-founder of rootAbility)

19.30 onwards – **Poster Road Show: Opportunity to learn more about student-led and staff supported sustainability units across Europe**

Supported by:

- bologna.lab
- International Office Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

For more information see: <http://nachhaltigkeitsbuero.hu-berlin.de>
