

# UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE.

Sustainability Newsletter 02/2021



## Dear Sustainability Community,

we hope you have all got through the heavy onset of winter two weeks ago. Nobody would have imagined that this week we can sit in T-shirts in the park or on our balconies enjoying the first smell of spring. Being for weeks in the cold and with COVID-19 restrictions, the warm temperatures allow us new leisure activities outdoors. However, the sudden temperature rise from more than 41°C in just two weeks is a new mercury record. One of the effects of climate change is sudden and extreme weather changes. Weather is the current state of the atmosphere at a specific time, whereas climate is the long-term average of the weather.

Climate change is characterized by global warming caused by emissions of greenhouse gases resulting in large-scale shifts in weather patterns, which then become noticeable in extreme and sudden weather changes. Hence, we have to keep working on a more sustainable future in- and outside the UT!

This newsletter will provide you with information about sustainable initiatives, projects and stakeholders dedicated to fighting for a greener University!

Do you have someone in mind who would also be interested in reading the latest sustainability news? Please share our [subscription link!](#)

## SUSTAINABILITY SERIES STARTING IN MARCH!

Sustainability Series 2021 is an event series that does not only provide you with information but actually gives you the space to participate in an open dialogue! From March to May, and after the summer break in September, each month will have a different thematic focus offering two events with different panellists and group discussions: from the European Green Deal, Energy Transition, Circular Economy to Agriculture.

Therefore, “**Sustainability Series: Your voice**” wants to encourage participants to ask their burning questions and explore sustainability dilemmas together with experts and other attendees. We might not always find immediate answers, but we think it is important to start a dialogue, build a community and help people find their own way on a pathway of transformation to sustainability.

**The first event will be kicked off on March 18 thematising the European Green Deal!** Don't know what that is or wondering about the impact of Europe's sustainability policy plan? Join the series and dive with us into the topic!

For more information stay tuned on social media channels of [Green Hub](#), [Design Lab](#) and [Sustain!](#)

## TRANSDISCIPLINARY MASTER-INSERT “SHAPING RESPONSIBLE FUTURES”

The [transdisciplinary Master-Insert](#) is a full-time, 6-month programme that focusses on working in a transdisciplinary and responsible manner to address societal challenges (e.g., [SDG 11](#)). **It empowers students to become societal change-makers by helping to develop both their attitudes and competences.**

"Our cohort is diverse and spans multiple disciplines such as psychology, technical medicine, and computer science. The transdisciplinary projects involve fieldwork, albeit with limitations in the current situation. Everyone involved is open to learning from others, discovering differences and synergies between our disciplines. Together we create, adjust, and recombine ideas (based on feedback) in relatively short periods. This can be quite intense, but our tight-knit group is willing to go “that extra mile” for great results. It is immensely rewarding when our ideas are well received and resonate with the field experts. Personally, I learned so much from my colleagues and professors I would not have missed it for the world."

-Manoux Klaassen

Next participation opportunity is November 2021. Curious? More information on the [website](#).



## DRUM ROLLS FOR..."SCIENTIST FOR FUTURE"

This section presents different sustainability stakeholders at the UT, this time **Yuri Engelhardt** from [Scientist for Future](#).

### **Please, introduce your group!**

"Scientists4Future-Twente enables scientifically trained professionals and students (in all scientific fields) who are concerned about the future, to connect with each other, and to empower citizens and organizations in Twente (and beyond) by strengthening 'climate literacy' and advocating for a science- and evidence-based approach to the climate emergency and other environmental crises. At this point, more than 60 scientists have joined, including 27 full professors at the UT, and we are developing a diverse range of activities. We very much welcome new supporters!"

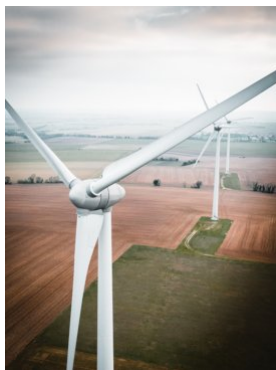


### **Sustainable transformation is a long process, if you could make one change overnight, what would that be?**

"What I would like to see is that every level of government (municipality, province, agency, ministry) and every large company or organization involves a CCEO – Chief Climate Emergency Officer – who is scientifically trained, who keeps in touch with the relevant scientific experts, and who ensures the necessary attention and science-based approach to all issues in relation to the climate emergency."

### **And who gets nominated for the next edition?**

"UT Shaping Expert Group (SEG) Sustainability."



## Event about Energy Transition on 16th of March

A Regional Energy Strategy is being devised in Twente, with the aim of halving CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 2030. How are we going to tackle all of this? How many windmills will be built? It is a transition with major technical, administrative and political challenges! The event will take place online and in collaboration with KIVI, Arago, Atlantis, Alembic, Scintilla, ConcepT and Daedalus.

[News: Event about Energy Transition](#)



## U-Today Interview with Alex Baker-Friesen

Improving the choice of vegan and vegetarian options in catering, assisting student associations with their sustainability efforts and improving the [UT's waste management](#). It is but a sample of the plans of the relatively new [Green Hub Twente](#) for this year. Coordinator Alex Baker talks about the plans, past efforts and role of the hub, as 'the central platform for sustainability at the UT'.

[News: U-Today Article](#)



## Warm yourself, not the world!

Following the motto "Warm yourself, not the world!" [Green Hub Twente](#) promoted the 15th "[warmtruiendag](#)" ([warm sweater day](#)) on the 5th of February supporting UT's sustainability goal of reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emission and energy consumption. UT's [Shaping 2030 strategy](#) towards a sustainable transformation focuses on sustainable campus solutions aiming at a reduction of the carbon footprint by at least 15% until 2023.

[News: Warm Sweater Day](#)



## Energy-efficient LED lighting in UT theaters

Due to the COVID-19 measures, many activities on Campus have been cancelled in the past period. Although this is very unfortunate, Vrijhof Techniek has put a positive spin on it by using this time to replace the old halogen lights in the theatres with LED lighting.

Thanks for caring about the environment by staying tuned about sustainability at our University!

Yours, [Green Hub Twente](#)



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