

*“Leadership in a  
Changing World:  
Higher education,  
sustainability and  
the new Global  
Action Programme  
on ESD”*



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**COPERNICUS  
ALLIANCE  
CONFERENCE**

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Friday 10 – Saturday 11  
**January 2014**

Conference Room TC007  
Elwes Building  
University of Gloucestershire  
Park Campus  
GL50 2RH – Cheltenham  
United Kingdom

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## INVITED KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

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### **Dr. Alexander Leicht (TBC)**

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), Chief of ESD Section, France

Alexander will present the Global Action Programme on ESD and UNESCO ESD plans after the end of the DESD.

### **Mahesh Pradhan**

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Founder its Global University Partnerships on Environment and Sustainability (GUPES), Kenya

Mahesh will share the ambitions and achievements of UNEP's GUPES.

### **Dr. Geoff Scott**

Emeritus Professor of Sustainability at the University of Western Sydney and Co-Chair of the Sustainable Futures Leadership Academy (SFLA), Australia

Geoff will share the findings of the Turnaround Leadership for Higher Education study that captured the realities of embedding ESD into the curriculum and identified leadership development strategies.

### **Prof. Javier Benayas**

Co-ordinator of RISU (network of sustainability indicators in higher education) at the Iberoamerican Network of Universities for Sustainability (ARIUSA) and Executive Secretary of CADEP-CRUE (sustainability working group within the Conference of Rectors of Spanish Universities), Spain

Javier will present the work of ARIUSA, a partnership which brings together 23 higher education networks in Latin-America, and share progress on one of its flagship projects on sustainability indicators.

### **Prof. Daniella Tilbury**

Chair of the UNESCO Monitoring and Evaluation Group for the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESF) and President of COPERNICUS Alliance (CA), UK

Daniella will share the headlines from the UNESCO Higher Education Report that will inform the DESD Final Report and dialogues at the World Conference on ESD to be held in Nagoya in November 2014.

### **Dr. Lorna Down**

Teacher Education Expert at the University of West Indies, Jamaica

Lorna will present the outcomes of a Teacher Education project in Jamaica that supports teacher development for curriculum innovation in the area of sustainability.

### **Jamie Agombar**

Ethical & Environmental Manager, National Union of Students (NUS), UK

Jamie will outline the results of a study funded by the UK Higher Education Academy (HEA) and NUS that captures a national picture of university student expectations in ESD as well as the new Green Fund and Intelligent Energy Europe project that support student-led initiatives in the area of sustainability.

### **Prof. Clemens Mader**

Visiting Professor for Environment and Sustainability in the Region at Leuphana University of Lüneburg and Vice-President of CA, Germany

Clemens will share insights on the transformational role of higher education as outlined in the Rio+20 Treaty on Higher Education, an initiative coordinated by CA.

### **Dr. Ingrid Mulà**

CA Co-ordinator, UK

Ingrid will outline the ambitions and plans of the UE4SD project that brings together 55 partners from 34 countries to address professional development needs of university educators.

### **Felix Spira**

Co-founder of RootAbility, Germany

Felix will share the award-winning, and student-driven Maastricht University Green Office concept.

### **Dr. Zoe Robinson**

Director of Education for Sustainability at Keele University, UK

Zoe will present the report of the international conference on Student Action for Sustainability held at Keele University in October 2013.

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# COPERNICUS ALLIANCE CONFERENCE

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The Rio+20 outcome document, 'The Future We Want', acknowledged the critical role of higher education in the attainment of sustainable development. This international conference takes place in the year when the UN Decade on Education for Sustainable Development (DESD, 2005 - 2014) comes to an end and the Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) begins to take shape.

## It asks questions such as:

What have been the major changes and shifts in higher education towards sustainability over the last ten years?

What does the future hold for universities and colleges engaged with this agenda?

What role will the new Global Action Programme on ESD play in advancing change for sustainability in higher education?

How do we extend the circle of the committed and build partnerships for change?

How do you understand transformation for sustainable development in higher education?

This international conference will bring together members of CA and signatories of the Rio+20 Treaty on Higher Education. It welcomes participants interested in the future of higher education for sustainability.

The reflections and proposals arising from the conference will be presented to the organisers of the World Conference on ESD to be held in November 2014 in Nagoya, Japan.

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## COPERNICUS Alliance (CA) is:

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- Host of the CRE COPERNICUS Charta launched in 1993 and signed by 326 European universities and COPERNICUS Charta 2.0 launched at the Global University Network for Innovation (GUNI) Conference 2011.

- Co-ordinator of the Rio+20 Treaty on Higher Education presented in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012 and signed by over 80 international higher education organisations.

- Co-ordinator of the recently awarded ERASMUS Academic Network "University Educators for Sustainable Development (UE4SD)".

Find out more at:

[www.copernicus-alliance.org](http://www.copernicus-alliance.org)

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## Abstract Submissions

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We welcome contributions that can provide fresh perspectives and share innovative practice, and can respond to the core questions underpinning this conference:

**Q.1** What have been the major changes and shifts in higher education towards sustainability over the last ten years?

**Q.2** What does the future hold for universities and colleges engaged with this agenda?

**Q.3** What role will the new Global Action Programme on ESD play in advancing change for sustainability in higher education?

**Q.4** How do we extend the circle of the committed and build partnerships for change?

**Q.5** How do you understand transformation for sustainable development in higher education?

Please send us your abstracts of between 200-300 words as word attachments before **9 December** 2013 to Barbara Rainbow: **brainbow@glos.ac.uk**

Abstracts must include the following details:

**Title:** no more than 15 words

**Authors:** names for each author with surname first, presenting author underlined

**Institutional Affiliation:** name of institution, agency or association

**Contact Details:** email address and telephone number for the presenting author

There are limited spaces for presentations during the event. A selection of contributions will be made by the organisers and communicated to authors by **13 December** 2013.

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## Conference Fees and Registration

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### **Full Conference (10-11 January):**

£80 per person, £40 students, free for CA members

### **Friday, 10 January 2014**

£60 per person, £30 students, free for CA members

### **Saturday, 11 January 2014**

£40 per person, £20 for students., free for CA members

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To reserve, please complete the booking form by **9 December** and send it to Barbara Rainbow: **brainbow@glos.ac.uk**

To make the payment, please click **here**.

NOTE:

If you want to become member of CA prior to the conference, please contact us at: **office@copernicus-alliance.org**

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Friday 10 January 2014, 9.30 – 17.30h, Room TC007

## University Leadership for Sustainability

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**9.30 / 10.00:** Registration and coffee

**10.00 / 10.05:** Welcome by Steven Marston (Vice-Chancellor of UoG, UK)

**10.05 / 11.20:** Welcome address by **Prof. Daniella Tilbury** (CA, UK)

**10.20 / 11.20:** Keynote presentations by:

**Dr. Alexander Leicht** (UNESCO, France) (TBC)

**Mahesh Pradhan** (UNEP – GUPES, Kenya)

**Dr. Geoff Scott** (University of Western Sydney, Australia)

**11.20 / 11.45:** Interactive panel discussion chaired by Dr. Alex Ryan (CA, UK)

**11.45 / 12.30:** Discussion Groups

**12.30 / 13.30:** Sustainable lunch opened by **Karen Morgan** (Council member of UoG)

**13.30 / 15.40:** Parallel sessions chaired by Dr. Jana Dlouhá (CA, Czech Republic) and Marlene Mader (CA, Germany and Austria)

**15.40 / 16.00:** Summaries of the parallel sessions by Dr. David Clemson (CA, UK) and David Alba (CA, Spain)

**16.00 / 16.50:** Keynote presentations by:

**Dr. Lorna Down** (University of West Indies, Jamaica)

**Prof. Javier Benayas** (ARIUSA and CADEP-CRUE, Spain)

**Dr. Ingrid Mulà** (CA, UK)

**16.50 / 17.10:** Interactive panel discussion chaired by Dr. Simon Burandt (CA, Germany)

**17.10 / 17.30:** Summary of dialogues and outcomes for day 1 by **Prof. Clemens Mader** (CA, Germany)

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Saturday 11 January 2014, 9.30 – 16h, Room TC007

## Student Leadership for Sustainability and COPERNICUS Alliance

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**9.30 / 10.00:** Registration and coffee

**10.00 / 10.10:** Welcome and overview of the day by Dr. Ingrid Mulà (CA, UK)

**10.10 / 10.40:** Keynote presentations by:

**Jamie Agombar** (NUS, UK)

**Felix Spira** (RootAbility, Germany)

**Dr. Zoe Robinson** (Keele University, UK)

**10.40 / 11.00:** Interactive panel discussion chaired by Dr. Fred Luks (CA, Austria)

**11.00 / 12.00:** Sharing of student sustainability projects chaired by Jiri Dlouhý (CA, Czech Republic)

**12.00 / 12.30:** Discussion and wrap up

**12.30 / 14.00:** Sustainable lunch

**14.00 / 16.00:** CA Annual General Meeting (for CA members only)

## The Venue – University of Gloucestershire and Cheltenham



Situated in the town centre of Cheltenham Spa, an inland spa resort of handsome Regency architecture, broad avenues and fine parks, the University of Gloucestershire (UoG) has been recognised as a UK sector leader in the area of sustainability for its pioneering and visionary approach in this area. UoG pursues sustainability as 'core business', across academic and corporate portfolios and ESD is an institution-wide priority, aiming to expand organisational capabilities, student learning, research, outreach and professional development. The University has a large expertise in co-ordinating and managing national and international academic platforms, including CA, the United Nations University Regional Centre of Expertise in ESD (UNU RCE Severn) or the Postgraduate Researchers Interested in Sustainability Matters (PRISM) student network.

Please click [here](#) for more information on how to get to the Cheltenham and UoG / [www.glos.ac.uk](http://www.glos.ac.uk)

Other websites:

**The train line:** [www.thetrainline.com](http://www.thetrainline.com)

**National Express (bus):** [www.nationalexpress.com](http://www.nationalexpress.com)

## Accommodation in Cheltenham

HOTEL	PRICES PER NIGHT	WALKING DISTANCE TO UOG
Mercure Queen's hotel	£70 - 125	15 min
The Abbey	£40 - 105	20 min
The Big Sleep Hotel	£45 - 80	20 min
Holiday Inn Express	£50 - 60	25 min
Garden House B&B	£65 - 100	20 min
Montpellier Chapter	£140 - 200	15 min
YMCA Youth hostel	From £18	15 min

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## COPERNICUS Alliance

### Over 20 years of experience and commitment

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**CA** is a European network of higher education institutions which promotes transformational learning and change for sustainable development within the higher education sector. Working closely with its members and in partnership with strategic stakeholders, CA seeks to inform and influence international and European higher education policy developments as well as support individual higher education institutions in their journeys of embedding change for sustainability.

CA has a long history and established reputation for its work in incentivising the higher education sector in Europe.