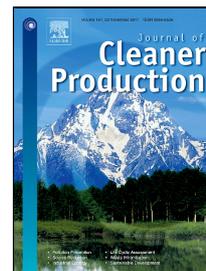


Accepted Manuscript

University Culture and Sustainability: Designing and Implementing an Enabling Framework



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PII: S0959-6526(17)32323-5
DOI: 10.1016/j.jclepro.2017.10.032
Reference: JCLP 10824
To appear in: *Journal of Cleaner Production*

Received Date: 09 January 2017
Revised Date: 26 September 2017
Accepted Date: 04 October 2017

Please cite this article as: Richard Adams, Stephen Martin, Katy Boom, University Culture and Sustainability: Designing and Implementing an Enabling Framework, *Journal of Cleaner Production* (2017), doi: 10.1016/j.jclepro.2017.10.032

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University Culture and Sustainability: Designing and Implementing an Enabling Framework

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Word count

- Paper excluding references and appendix 7,690
- Paper including references and appendix 11,468 words

ABSTRACT

Universities across the globe are giving increasing priority to the challenges of sustainability, encouraged by a variety of drivers including international and national policy, student and societal pressures. Many extant initiatives focus on a relatively narrow set of activities including: Technological solutions; Integrating sustainability across the curriculum; Integrating sustainability as an operational, strategic and outreach principle. These have met with mixed success, and have overlooked the importance of cultural change in embedding sustainability. Drawing and building upon previous studies in the cultural change and sustainability literature, the purpose of this article is to propose a conceptual framework for designing interventions and measuring and monitoring progress in building and embedding a university sustainability culture. Initial staff and student survey data from a UK university has been applied to the framework and their interpretation and implications are explored.

KEYWORDS

University sustainability; Organizational culture; Environmental accountability; Wicked problem

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