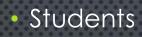
\*UK National Union of Students

# WHY ADDRESS SUSTAINABILITY?

- Emerging issues
  - Climate Emergency/Crisis
  - Human Slavery / Supply Chains
  - Biodiversity Loss
- Stakeholder expectations
- Reputation / Attractiveness
- Cost imperatives
- Long-term viability



- Academics
- Professional staff
- Management
- Government
- Partners
- External community

#### <u>UK SURVEY\*</u>

- 9 years
- 50,000 students
- 80% expect universities to act on sustainability

#### UTAS SURVEY

- 2 surveys
- 3,700 students
- 86% expect carbon neutral certification
- 80% support fossil
  fuel divestment





# CONFERENCE ATTENDEE AIR TRAVEL CARBON EMISSIONS

If all registered attendees flew direct from their capital city in

- Economy = 1,513 tCO<sub>2</sub>-e
- Business =  $3,430 \text{ tCO}_2\text{-}e$

\*conservative estimates as connecting flights fuel intensive...

In context:

- My university of >35,000 enrolled students, ~5,000 staff with intensive research programs and requiring flights for almost all out of state travel had total certifiable emissions of ~35,000 tCO<sub>2</sub>-e in 2018.
- Meaning this one conference (and only counting air travel emissions) is ~5-10% of the emissions to run a medium size university for a year.
- Ground transport and accommodation would increase this by half again on average.



Not a guilt trip – rather to encourage you to get the most out of your attendance given the investment the planet is putting into it!



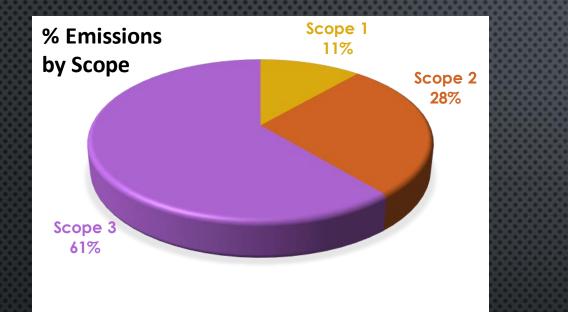
#### **POLLING QUESTION 4**

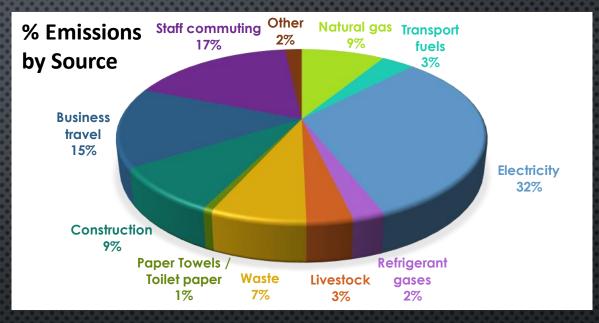
- What are your institutional carbon reduction targets by 2030 to 2050?
  - Less than 50%,
  - More than 50%
  - NET ZERO
  - CARBON POSITIVE
  - DON'T KNOW/UNSURE





### **INSIGHTS FROM MANAGING FOR 'CARBON'**





 CARBON NEUTRAL CERTIFICATION REQUIRES CONSIDERATION OF ALL 3 SCOPES...



- FOCUS EFFORTS ON:
  - PHASING OUT NATURAL GAS
  - REDUCING ELECTRICITY USE
  - REDUCING WASTE GENERATION
  - AVOIDING REFRIGERANT GAS LEAKS
  - ENCOURAGING SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL



#### **CARBON OFFSET – STRATEGIC APPROACH**

- Highest quality
- Half of value of offsets domestic, preferably Tasmanian
- International offsets target both carbon reduction and certified biodiversity conservation projects
- Offset projects in countries and regions where our international students originate or are target markets



lsangi REDD+ Wind Grouped project Hero Future Energies 🥌



Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve (includes Biodiversity certification)



ALFA Savanna Burning Various projects



Paroo River North Environmental Projec







Rice husk based thermal energy generation project at Thot Not



#### **CASE STUDIES – CARBON FOCUS**



- Charles Sturt University and University of Tasmania (Australia) only certified carbon neutral Australian universities
  Dhurakij Pundit University (Thailand) energy use and fertiliser reduction, on-site renewable energy sources
  Ulster University (Northern Ireland) 2 wind turbines (3GWh) and 8 PV arrays (100MWh) meet 17% of energy needs
  Universitas Indonesia focus on energy use reduction, smart buildings, solar power, fuel cells and wind power
  Université Laval (Canada) Montmorency Forest is world's largest teaching/research forest & absorbs 13,945 tCO<sub>2</sub>-e per year.
  University of Edinburgh (Scotland) focusing on air travel of university staff among many other things!
- University of Manchester (England) zero carbon by 2038 science-based targets consistent with Paris Agreement
  University of Newcastle (Australia heart of coal country!) 100% renewable by 2020, carbon neutral certified by 2025
  University of Otago (New Zealand) 20% drop in emissions in 5 months by transitioning from coal to wood (biomass)





# AUSTRALASIAN CAMPUSES TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY (ACTS)



- The sectoral body for all things sustainability in the Australasian region
- Green Gown Awards Australasia 8 categories in 2019
  - 2030 Climate Action
  - Benefitting Society
  - Creating Impact
  - Learning, Teaching and Skills
  - Student Engagement
  - Continuous Improvement/Institutional Change
  - ACTS Awards of Excellence staff and student
- Annual Conference (hosted at University of Tasmania in 2020)
- STARS assessment and reporting tool
- Green Impact engagement tool
- Online resources, webinars
- Strategic partnerships with EAUC, AASHE, ISSP and others







Green Gown Awards

2017 WINN



### STUDENT AND STAFF ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS

 Personal and professional choices have great impact – including travel, purchasing and waste handling

Green Impact

- online toolkit with individual and group actions
- rewards and recognition to drive behaviour change
- Available for subscription from ACTS in Indo-Pacific region
- Work Integrated Learning opportunities (internal)
  - Example: UTAS Sustainability Integration Programs for Students (SIPS)







