

ITEM NO.10

Green Campus report

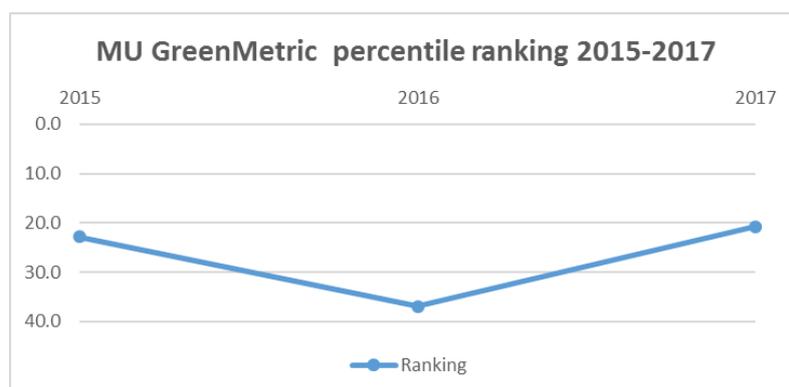
January 2018

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Maynooth University rises by 72 places in “GreenMetric” world ranking

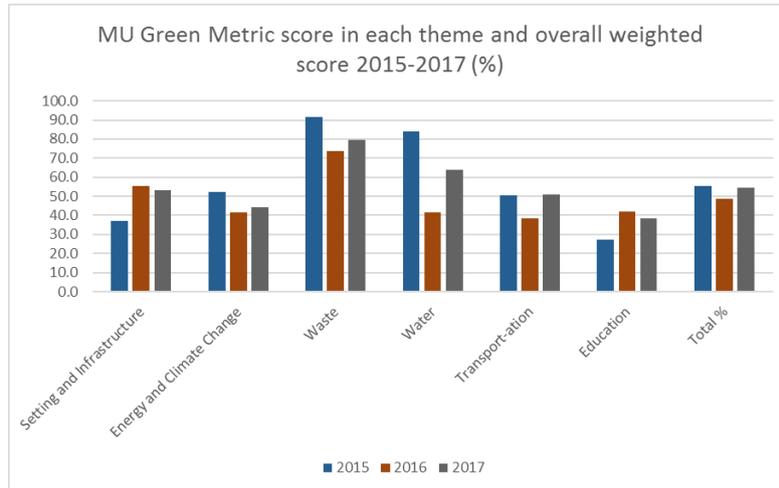
In 2017 Maynooth University was ranked 128 out of 619 universities worldwide in the University of Indonesia [GreenMetric](#) World University Ranking. This represents a step increase of 72 places compared to 2016, a major improvement in itself but even greater when we take into account an increase in the number of universities from 515 in 2016 to 619 in 2017. This puts us at the 21st percentile, our best position since we first participated in 2015. GreenMetric is an online survey regarding the current condition and policies related to Green Campus and Sustainability in the Universities all over the world. While we do need to exercise caution about rankings based on self-reporting, our engagement with GreenMetric help us to monitor some key performance indicators on environmental sustainability. Over the three years of its participation, Maynooth University’s Green Metric score has fluctuated a little – we achieved 55% in 2015 and 2017, and 49% in 2016.



The rankings look at 6 indicator areas of each university and these are separately scored, then weighted and summed to produce the final score.

Theme	Weight
setting and infrastructure	15
energy and climate change	21
waste	18
water	10
transportation	18
Education	18
Total	100

Maynooth’s score under each indicator over three years is set out below. Each of the thematic areas is scored based on returns on sub-indices. In the case of education, for example, this includes proportion of courses related to the environment taught and total amount/share in research funds dedicated to environment and sustainability, scholarly publications, environmental events, student societies and presence of a sustainability website.



[Froebel Department collaboration with Green Campus – Report](#)

The Froebel garden is on the rooftop of the Education building and the work on this front is led by Dr Brian Tubbert. The first crops in the Froebel Garden, planted and maintained by B.Ed Y2 and PMED Y1, were harvested in December – lettuce, salad leaves and radishes. These have been enjoyed by staff and students. Winter cabbage is progressing.

In collaboration with Green Campus and Biology Dept., as part of Mathematical & Scientific Enquiry module, B.Ed Y3 will act as monitors and recorders of 6 designated areas on the university campus to contribute to the National Biodiversity Database. (They will be expected to continue this work in primary schools)

[Climate Change and social Justice - COP 23 Prof John Sweeney’s Blog](#)

Thanks to Professor John Sweeney, whose blog from Bonn was, as promised, circulated around the faculties in December. It several three days of the talks and events surrounding the COP 23 meeting (i.e., the 23rd Conference of Parties under the UN framework Convention on Climate Change).

[Social Justice Week - Semester 2 – 70th Anniversary of UDHR](#)

Maynooth Green Campus supports the work of climate justice and seeks to revive Social Justice Week again this Semester. We appeal to staff in all departments to respond to the call from the Social Justice Week Committee towards Social Justice Week and a steering committee has been formed. The week is formally set between 26 February and 2 March but events around that week can be included too. We hope that the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), in 2018, will help to concentrate minds on possible topics. Information and suggestions for the Social Justice Week Programme should go to [Ian Russell](#) or [Joe Larragy](#) or Aoife Fennell, Students Union, welfare officer.

[Solar compaction of litter on campus](#)

The University has trialled some solar compacting bins and there are now 5 of these bins on campus in locations such as outside the library, John Hume and Arts buildings. The bins use solar energy to power a compacter that compresses rubbish in a wheelie bin contained in the compactor. When the bin reaches a certain threshold a message goes to campus services and the wheelie bin is replaced with an empty one. Attention has been paid to the visual aspect of the bins too. Expect to see more of these.

[Recycling workshop organised by Green Campus Student Society and Froebel](#)

On 23 November a large group of Froebel B.Ed Y1 as part of Mathematical & Scientific Enquiry module participated in a one-day recycling workshop organised by Green Campus student Society in conjunction with Voice Ireland, an environmental advocacy organisation concerned with waste and water related issues.

[WoW Bags founder, Helen Mitchell meets students](#)

Helen Mitchell, graduate of Maynooth, community worker and founder of the Wonders of Waste initiative in the Philippines visited the campus on 23 November and addressed groups of students from the BSocSc Community and Youth Work on the work. Maynooth Green Campus seeks to promote this initiative, which upcycles juice packs into wonderful high quality bags, brief cases, and other items. The initiative provides income and employment for a number of women in the Pampanga region and also supports the education of their children. Helen also dropped in to say a few inspiring words to the Froebel students at the recycling workshop mentioned above.

[Bike repair and second hand sales on campus](#)

The bike repair service and second-hand bike sales is again running in the second term on the north campus every Wednesday 10am-3pm.

RE-Use Recycling workshop

Thursday 23 November Maynooth Green Campus are hosting a group, ReUse. They present workshops on Zero Waste, and Reimaging, Repairing and Recycling of waste. The format includes demonstrations on how to create art to inspire waste reduction, Wool workshop, sustainable craft and make your own cloths, clothes and toys. Also a representative from Voice a new environmental NGO who, under the Recycling Ambassador Programme will give a talk on waste recycling, video of a recycling plant in operation and demonstrations of best practice on recycling.

WEEE electrical waste disposal service

If any department has electrical waste, they should contact Campus Services, John Saults ext 6681 or john.a.saults@mu.ie to arrange collection of obsolete electrical items. Electrical waste is stored in a designated area pending by Thorntons collect cages for WEEE disposal few times a year.

Dr Joe Larragy

Chair, Maynooth Green Campus Committee