

ITEM NO. 12

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Maynooth Green Campus Report to Faculties 15 May 2017

Travel and Transport

Electric service vehicles: Campus Services will purchase another two electric vehicles by [Goupil](#), bringing the total to four. The distinctive narrow-gauge electric white vans, licensed for road use, perform various tasks on campus, such as moving exam papers, and delivering food by catering services.

Electric car charge points: The first of the old ESB charge Siemens points for electric cars is due for replacement. The old points are limited to use with the Nissan Leaf. The University have agreed to pilot a new, open charge point from 9 May, more suitable for a range of e-cars with varied plug types, as electric cars now come with their own cable. We hope that more will be phased in soon.

Car-share Campus of the Year: Maynooth University has won the NTA sustainable travel award for Car-share Campus of the year, 2017. This is the second year in a row that Maynooth have won the award.

The Tax free Cycle to Work scheme is proving very popular – A considerable number of staff availed of the scheme this year. Coyne Cycles, Kinnegad, were on campus on 12 April for a showcase, with a range of bikes. People availing of the scheme signed up for a bicycle of their choice and later received a voucher from HR, which goes to the vendor. There is tax relief for the purchase and the net cost is deducted at source from salary, over the course of a year. The scheme is proving popular. Provisional numbers of bikes purchased under the scheme: 2015: 30, 2016: 22 plus and, at the showcase in April 2017 15 bikes, making 67 bikes in all.

Cycle clinic: The weekly cycle clinic has been a great success over the year. At present it runs every Wednesday during term, about 9.30-3pm. Over the academic year, 43 second-hand bikes at less than €100 each. Students resold four bikes to the clinic at end of year. Forty-nine 49 bikes were repaired, a further 93 were serviced free, and all bikes brought to clinic got a free check-up.

Marchathon MGC co-ordinated the Marchathon 10,000-step challenge with NTA during the month of March. Over 14 teams took part and the winning team was from the Library, who also were on the overall leader board. Biology were in second position

Biodiversity

Food Security workshop: On April 13th, Green Campus contributed to an event on campus to recognise International Day of Peasant Struggle titled *Creating Alternative Food Futures: Food Sovereignty in Ireland and Beyond*, which was organized by Dr. Alistair Fraser in Geography, Afri (an NGO campaigning against the causes of hunger), and Food Sovereignty Ireland. Dr. Chiara Tornaghi from Coventry University gave the keynote, followed by a panel with seven food sovereignty practitioners working in Dublin and internationally, and then a final session, which examined the prospects of creating a new national land trust to help small-scale farmers in Ireland.

Food Security Lecture: Ann Tutwiler, Director of Biodiversity International will give a **Public Lecture on Nutrition and Resilience**, in the Bewerunge Room, Ground floor, Logic House, Maynooth University, from 12.30 to 1.30pm, May 16, 2017, Free to attend. Bioersvity International (a member of the [CGIAR Consortium of International Agricultural Research Centres](#))), a global research-for-

development organization focused on using and safeguarding agricultural and tree biodiversity to attain sustainable global food and nutrition security. (Supported by Maynooth Green Campus, Trócaire, Dóchas, Bioversity International and Maynooth University) All welcome.

National Biodiversity Week: Maynooth Campus is now part of the All Ireland Pollinator Plan (AIPP).

On Friday 26th May, Maynooth will host a Bioversity Day with a series of contributors on the AIPP. In the Library (seminar room B, 10am to 3pm) speakers will include Professor Jane Stout (TCD), Dr Jim Carolan (Maynooth University), Bridget Loughlin (Kildare County Council), Mary Jennings (Maynooth Tidy Town), Lisa Harlow (Intel Ireland), North-Kildare Bee Keepers Association, and Jesmond Harding (Butterfly Conservation Ireland). There will be a workshop on recording biodiversity, and guided walks around the campus to see and learn.

Green Campus Student Society

Maynooth University Green Campus Society is active and welcomes new members, and is open to staff as well as students.

Request for news and suggestions

If you have news or suggestions that you would like to highlight, for example, a module, event or research project that relates to the work of Green Campus, please feel free to share information. You can let us know by email to Greencampus@nuim.ie