

Undeb Bangor

Green Impact Sustainability Report

The Context

Every year, Undeb Bangor compiles an annual survey to inform its direction and work for the next academic year. At Undeb Bangor, we have a strong commitment to sustainability and it has been a prominent feature of both our 2012-15 and our current strategic plan. We have made significant changes to our practices to become more sustainable over the last 5 years, including ensuring our activities are appropriately resources; sustainable in the long term and worked to remove as much paper from our working day as possible. We have also been working with the University to further embed sustainability into the curriculum, and make changes to regulations, to encourage more sustainable thinking and practices (for example; through our work such as Hidden Course Costs.)

This year's Bangor Students Survey was completed by 479 students, (approximately 5% of the student population). Although this is our lowest response rate to date, a significant proportion of our respondents were our student leaders and course representatives.

In our survey this year, we wanted to know more about what our students think about our sustainability values, whether they feel informed about sustainable development, and how much of this is incorporated into Bangor University's schools and college departments.

A full breakdown of the questions and response count can be found on pages 3/4.

The Analysis

When asked about sustainable development, just under half (49.3%) of students respondents stated that they 'strongly agree' with the statement; **"Sustainable development is something which Bangor University should actively incorporate and promote."** Additionally, 34.4% of respondents also 'agree' with the same statement.

It is clear that over 80% of students responding to our survey, believe that sustainability is something which the University should incorporate and promote, but the means in which students would like the University to do so, is a little less clear.

Only 19.9% of respondents 'strongly agree' and 25.4% 'agree' with the statement **"Sustainable development is something that I would like to learn more about in my course."** However, the largest response category in this question was the 'neither agree nor disagree', scoring 34.1%.

When it came to the question **"Sustainable development is something I would like to learn more about in my day to day life"** students were much clearer in their response. Although

similar to the above question in relation to the classroom, only 19.6% of students strongly agreed with the statement; 39.5% of students did 'agree.'

Therefore, we recommend that the University and Undeb Bangor conduct further research into how sustainable development can be implemented and promoted across the University, both inside and outside of the classroom.

When it comes to thinking about future careers and prospects, students responded positively to the question; **"Knowledge of Sustainable development will be useful to me and I enter the world of work."** 65% of respondents 'strongly agree' or 'agree' with the above statement, however, 25% of students stated they 'neither agree nor disagree'.

In relation to the promotion of equality and diversity amongst the student body, 76.4% of the respondents 'strongly agree' or 'agree' with the statement; **"My school / college practices and promotes equality, diversity and pro-environmental skills/behaviours."** This displays that whilst students may be unsure about if they would like to learn more about sustainable development in their course, it is clear that they feel there is learning in relation to pro-environmental skills and equality within the classroom.

This is also supported through policies adopted within Undeb Bangor, through student-led democratic structures such as Undeb Bangor Council. For example, policies such as Zero-Tolerance to Harassment and Discrimination, a 'No-Flying' policy and Fairtrade Clothing policies have all been passed through these mechanisms.

It would, however, be prudent of Undeb Bangor, to look further into this area or research and share best practice in this area across schools and colleges.

Finally, we asked students if they have taken part in sustainable development activities whilst at University. It is disappointing to see that in answer to the question; **"I have participated in sustainable development activities during my time at University"** only 35.4% of students reported to either 'strongly agree' or 'agree' with this statement. However, what is unclear from the first stage of our research is what students understanding is of sustainable development.

The Conclusion

As a result of this initial research, we recommend a follow up project looking into what students think of the term 'sustainable development', and how they would like to see this promoted by the University and Undeb Bangor. We will be delving further into this research over the summer, to develop a full list of recommendations and priorities for the year ahead.

The Full Breakdown

Mae datblygiad cynaliadwy yn rhywbeth mae Prifysgol Bangor yn cymryd o ddifrif ac yn hyrwyddo.
Sustainable development is something which Bangor University should actively incorporate and promote.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Anghytuno'n gryfStrongly Disagree	2.6%	11
AnghytunoDisagree	1.9%	8
Ddim yn cytuno/anghytunoNeither agree/disagree	11.7%	49
CytunoAgree	34.4%	144
Cytuno'n gryfStrongly Agree	49.3%	206

Mae datblygiad cynaliadwy yn rhywbeth yr hoffwn ddysgu mwy amdano yn fy nghwrs
Sustainable development is something that I would like to learn more about in my course

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Anghytuno'n gryfStrongly Disagree	7.3%	31
AnghytunoDisagree	13.3%	56
Ddim yn cytuno/anghytunoNeither agree/disagree	34.1%	144
CytunoAgree	25.4%	107
Cytuno'n gryfStrongly Agree	19.9%	84

Mae datblygiad cynaliadwy yn rhywbeth yr hoffwn ddysgu mwy amdano yn fy mywyd bob ddydd
Sustainable development is something I would like to learn more about in my day to day life

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Anghytuno'n gryfStrongly Disagree	2.8%	12
AnghytunoDisagree	8.7%	37
Ddim yn cytuno/anghytunoNeither agree/disagree	29.3%	124
CytunoAgree	39.5%	167

Cytuno'n gryfStrongly Agree	19.6%	83
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Byddai gwybodaeth am ddatblygiad cynaliadwy yn ddefnyddiol i mi wrth i mi symud i fyd gwaith.
Knowledge of Sustainable development will be useful to me and I enter the world of work.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Anghytuno'n gryfStrongly Disagree	2.6%	11
AnghytunoDisagree	7.1%	30
Ddim yn cytuno/anghytunoNeither agree/disagree	25.1%	106
CytunoAgree	41.2%	174
Cytuno'n gryfStrongly Agree	23.9%	101

Mae fy ysgol / coleg yn arfer ac yn hyrwyddo cydraddoldeb, amrywiaeth a sgiliau/ymddygiad sydd o blaid yr amgylchedd.
My school / college practices and promotes equality, diversity and pro-environmental skills/behaviours.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Anghytuno'n gryfStrongly Disagree	1.2%	5
AnghytunoDisagree	3.8%	16
Ddim yn cytuno/anghytunoNeither agree/disagree	18.6%	79
CytunoAgree	43.9%	186
Cytuno'n gryfStrongly Agree	32.5%	138

Rwyf wedi cymryd rhan mewn gweithgaredd datblygiad cynaliadwy yn ystod fy nghyfnod yn y brifysgol.
I have participated in sustainable development activities during my time at University.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Anghytuno'n gryfStrongly Disagree	8.0%	34
AnghytunoDisagree	24.3%	103
Ddim yn cytuno/anghytunoNeither agree/disagree	32.2%	136
CytunoAgree	22.2%	94
Cytuno'n gryfStrongly Agree	13.2%	56