

SUSTAINABILITY BULLETIN

Promoting activity undertaken for the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and Sustainability at De Montfort University



Join the SDG Teach-in and pledge to link teaching to the global goals!

DE MONTFORT University has consistently been amongst the highest performing universities in the United Kingdom for the annual SDG Teach-in campaign. Staff can take part this year by pledging to include and link their teaching to one or more of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in their lecturing and assessment between February 21st to 4th March 2022. With so many academics currently aligning their work with the global goals we are encouraging everyone to take part. There are a number of resources to support participation which can be accessed through DMU's [Education for the Sustainable Development Goals](#) website. The aim of the campaign is to put the UN SDGs at the heart of education. The SDG Teach-In is an opportunity to highlight the great work that is already happening in DMU in supporting the global goals. Participants are asked to register all planned SDG teaching sessions on the national SDG Teach-In (**Continued p2**)



Taking an anti-racist approach

Teaching to Transform at the SLRC has SDG impact - **see p4**



First class in sustainability

DMU recognised in People and Planet university league table - **see p8**



UN praise for DMU's work

SDG promotion across HE sector is recognised at Expo 2020 - **see p9**

Join the Teach-in!

(Continued from p1) website [here](#). Please also let the DMU Sustainability Team know about your session by emailing sustainability@dmu.ac.uk. The team can upload your pledge on your behalf if you send an email with: Name; Module Name; No. students who will be reached; Which SDGs will be covered; Date and time of session. The Sustainability Team will also promote these sessions throughout the Teach-In through our social media channels to highlight what the university is doing.



Award as team makes campus hedgehog-friendly



DMU has been awarded the Bronze Award from [Hedgehog Friendly Campus](#). The Bronze Award recognises all the work staff and students have put into making the Leicester campus a safer place for hedgehogs and biodiversity. Through the Hedgehog Friendly Campus scheme, organisations are challenged to complete a series of biodiversity objectives such as raising awareness about hedgehogs, and completing litter picking events to reduce the risk of harm. Projects also include applying hedgehog warning stickers to strimmers and carrying out hedgehog surveys on campus. Videos were shared highlighting tips on how to create a [hedgehog friendly garden](#) and the dangers to hedgehogs during [Bonfire Night](#). A new campaign will start in Spring 2022. If you would like to take part please email sustainability@dmu.ac.uk

OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE TEACHING AND RESEARCH ACTIVITY TOWARDS THE UN SDGs AT DMU

THE UNITED Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) global hub for Sustainable Development Goal 16 is leading a project to identify and collate activity linked to sustainability and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) across DMU in line with the cross-cutting theme that flows through the new 'Strategy on a Page'. It is becoming apparent that there is a lot of research and teaching activity related to the SDG agenda which is going under the radar, or unrecognised, which could potentially benefit from the opportunities and support we receive from the United Nations as part of our status as the UK's only United Nations Academic Impact SDG hub and our ECOSOC consultative status. Furthermore, staff who feel their work impacts SDG 16, Peace Justice and Strong Institutions can join a specific Teaching and Research Group to engage with UNAI hub activities and be responsive to new initiatives linked to that field. Please contact the UNAI SDG16 hub via mcharlton@dmu.ac.uk if you are interested in any of the activities mentioned.



New online Course offers chance to learn and build stronger communities after Bosnian genocide

DE MONTFORT University, in partnership with Remembering Srebrenica UK, DMU has developed an online course entitled 'Building Stronger Communities'. It is a virtual delegation to Bosnia, where you will learn about the Bosnian genocide and consider the lessons we can learn to build stronger communities in the UK (SDG16). The aims of the course are to equip delegates with the confidence and skills to undertake sustained actions in their own communities to open dialogue, educate others and strengthen communities. The course starts week commencing 21st February and lasts 6 weeks. It will involve online learning (minimum 60 minutes commitment per week to access material in delegate's own time). In three of the weeks there will be a 60-minute live workshop/seminar/panel discussion, with an optional additional 4th seminar. Materials will include recorded lectures, podcasts,

videos, blogs, articles etc and a panel discussion with survivors, activists and genocide scholars from Bosnia, the UK and USA. There will be options for which day/time delegates attend the live seminars – Wednesdays 5-6pm or Thursdays 10-11am or 1-2pm. The



panel discussion in Week 6 will be held in the Wednesday session to accommodate all expert panel members from USA, Bosnia and UK. A small amount of additional commitment will be required to undertake self-evaluation/assessments. Delegates will be required to complete a short activity before the course begins, to undertake a small social action during the course and make a pledge to continue to build stronger communities after the course has ended. All those who complete the course and assessments will be awarded a Certificate of Completion from De Montfort University and will become Community Champions for Remembering Srebrenica UK. If you would like to join this virtual delegation, please contact: Associate Professor Kim Sadique (pictured) via: ksadique@dmu.ac.uk and further information will be sent out.

OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE GLOBAL GOALS TEACHING AND RESEARCH ACTIVITY FOR IMPACT

THE UNITED Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) global hub for Sustainable Development Goal 16 is leading a project to identify and collate activity linked to sustainability and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) across DMU in line with the cross-cutting theme that flows through the new 'Strategy on a Page'. It is becoming apparent that there is a lot of research and teaching activity related to the SDG agenda which is going under the radar, or unrecognised, which could potentially benefit from the opportunities and support we receive from the United Nations as part of our status as the UK's only United Nations Academic Impact SDG hub and ECOSOC consultative status. If you feel your work impacts one or more of the 17 SDGs please contact mcharlton@dmu.ac.uk



Windows, Mirrors and Teaching to Transform: taking an anti-racist approach within education



WHEN thinking about the Stephen Lawrence Research Centre's (SLRC) Teaching to Transform programme, I'm drawn to recall a [blog post](#) I read recently by Reanna Ursin, a diversity practitioner and high school English teacher in the US, *writes Sherilyn Pereira, Public Engagement Manager, the Stephen Lawrence Research Centre*. In her post Ursin talks about texts that give students the opportunity to see the world through the window of someone else's cultural perspective. These windows can also be mirrors for students who never see their identities reflected in the curriculum. In her experience, the opening of these windows evokes eager and honest discussions in the classroom. I believe the same is true of [Teaching to Transform](#), which takes up elements of the unfinished agenda of the Macpherson Report's recommendation to combat the "failure of

the National Curriculum to adequately reflect the needs of a diverse, multi-cultural and multi-ethnic society" (Macpherson, 1999). This initiative includes wide ranging of activity designed to influence and enhance the development of anti-racist, social justice oriented educational practice in Leicester, a city well known for its racial and ethnic diversity. In doing so it addresses three of the SDGs, namely Quality Education, Reduced Inequality and Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions. Two notable elements of the programme are SLRC's classroom takeovers and our anti-racist educator programme. The SLRC Classroom Takeover was developed following the success of our Stephen Lawrence Day at DMU Experience event, recognising the first national Stephen Lawrence Day, 22 April 2019. For that event we worked with colleagues in Special Collections, The Gallery and DMU Local to give around 150 children from five schools an on-campus learning experience. The Classroom Takeover initiative expanded on this to encourage schools to engage further with the centre's research target areas - which broadly focus on race, racism and social justice - while at the same time, bringing awareness to Stephen Lawrence Day 2020. Last year, due to restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, we were forced to reimagine the initiative and it evolved into a limited number of online sessions that schools were invited to apply for. Over the course of a week in April, we delivered 16 themed sessions to 14 schools within Leicester and Leicestershire, reaching around 1,500 school children.

Themes of race and social justice

The themes opened a window on everyday race and social justice, prompting dialogue, exploration and further requests for more sessions from some of the schools that took part. Themes included: The Sights and Sounds of Black Britain, Black British History and The Importance of Black Studies, Race and Privilege, Sport, Protest, and Racism, Race and Islamophobia, Colourism, Measuring Our Multicultural Society and The Policing and Media Response to UK Rap Music. In the same academic year, we piloted our CPD Teacher Education Programme - How to be an anti-racist educator, where we worked with educators within the LiFE Multi-Academy Trust to develop racial literacies and social justice-oriented pedagogies. The programme was received with outstanding results, so much so that the academy asked to participate in phase 2 of the pilot. We are currently delivering the training to a second cohort of around 16 educators at both the primary and secondary level including senior leaders who have self-opted onto the course for this academic year. With a view on long-term sustainability, we are currently working with the local authority to develop initiatives to support racial literacy work that leads to a positive change in teacher practice and delivery within schools and trusts across the city and county. There is no doubt that our Teaching to Transform programme is already inspiring change within the local education system, evidenced by the growing interest we receive from local schools and colleges to join our network of local educators. It is enabling the SLRC to create long-term impact on pedagogic practice while supporting SDGs 4, 10 and 16 and contributing to DMU's wider public engagement agenda.



Through Teaching to Transform, we will continue to open windows and share mirrored experiences of teachers and students that will help to shape anti-racist, social-justice oriented pedagogic practice and addresses inequalities in education in Leicester and beyond. To find out more or to connect with the Stephen Lawrence Research Centre contact: slrc@dmu.ac.uk



Healing by Nature - how DMU research is supporting recovery from Indonesian earthquake disaster

DMU Architecture lecturer and researcher Dr Rokhshid Ghaziani has been working on a project on the Implementation of Biophilic Design Model for the Post-Disaster School Reconstruction in Indonesia to Promote Children's Wellbeing. The GCRF Networking Grant funded project by Academy of Medical Sciences took place between March 2020-August 2021. Here, Dr



Ghaziani describes the project: "Every disaster brings negative impact to the lives of the children and their families as they lose their homes, schools and normal everyday living. During the recent earthquake in Indonesia in 2018, no less than 2,100 schools in Lombok and 2,700 schools in Central Sulawesi were damaged, leaving the children with no place to study. Most recovery and reconstruction programmes focus on the rebuilding of the temporary shelter and facilities, with the physical qualities that cannot provide positive support for the children with psychological trauma. This project aimed to develop a strategy for post-disaster school design and reconstruction to contribute to the healing and wellbeing of the children that have experienced loss and traumatic experience (SDG 3). In particular, this project explored the possibility for innovative school design model based on biophilic design principles as a means to promote healing by promoting children's connectedness to nature. The project brought together the collaborative network of academic partners from UK, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, led by Universitas Indonesia (UI) and De Montfort University (DMU) to share best practices and innovation on biophilic school design models. The network could identify the challenges and opportunities in the implementation of the design model for a post-disaster situation, and provide recommendations for adoption by the government agencies, school design professionals,

and the society to improve the well-being of the children in the Southeast Asian countries affected by natural disasters. Four Symposiums brought together the collaborative network of international academic and industry professionals to share best practices and innovation on biophilic school design models to promote children's well-being. In addition, a number of contrasting schools, which have got or lack some of biophilic patterns, were selected. Children (8-12 years old) were asked to share their views on different biophilic patterns found in schools by completing a photo questionnaire. This was achieved by rating their preferences. They also



completed a self-reported questionnaire on well-being. This project address two Global Challenge Areas, namely sustainable health and well-being and resilience and action on short-term environmental shocks and long-term environmental change. The development of the model will contribute to the recovery programme for the countries affected by the disaster, in particular for countries in Southeast Asia located in areas with high risks of disasters such as Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia." Contact: Dr Ghaziani via:

rokhshid.ghaziani@dmu.ac.uk



Opportunity to take part in DMU Dubai's new 'Partnership for Change' event to champion SDGs



DMU Dubai has joined the [Regional Chapter](#) of [PRME](#) (a UN Global Compact Initiative) and together they have established the 9th MENA PRME MENA Regional Forum and Conference 'Partnership for Change' that will be hosted at the DMU Dubai Campus, online and at the UK Pavilion Expo 2020. The Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) is a United Nations-supported initiative founded in 2007. PRME's vision is to create a global movement and drive thought leadership on responsible management education. PRME's mission is to transform management education and develop the responsible decision-makers of tomorrow to advance sustainable development. Working through [Six Principles](#), PRME engages business and management schools to ensure they provide future leaders with the skills needed to balance economic and sustainability goals, while drawing attention to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and aligning academic institutions with the work of the UN Global Compact. The Conference and Forum aim to connect networks and ideas to create real change through SDG partnerships. Ahead of COP28, businesses are increasingly expected to collaborate with other institutions from public, private, education and non-governmental organisations. SDG 17, Partnership for the Goals is a key SDG that enables the implementation of all SDGs. Achieving the goals Partnership requires a nexus approach to understand and develop methodologies for change. Businesses, governments and institutions will need to undergo systemic changes

beyond the limitations of individual organisations or industries by removing their jurisdictional boundaries that resonates especially with SDG 16, Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions. This will require higher levels of partnership focusing on linking the implementations of SDGs and engaging with all the stakeholders. The level of partnership and integration is expected to grow as we face unprecedented challenges (See: [A Nexus Approach for The SDGs: Interlinkages between the goals and targets](#)). Join the event on March 22nd and 23rd for the 9th PRME Regional Forum and Conference on the De Montfort University Dubai Campus and online and on March 24th for a Gala Session at the Dubai Expo, UK Pavilion. For general enquiries about the Conference and Forum at DMU Dubai please contact Stuart Lawson smlawson@dmu.ac.uk

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



Share your SDG/sustainability research, teaching or work

IF YOU want to promote your work or projects that linked to the SDGs or Sustainability, email mcharlton@dmu.ac.uk

Follow us for SDG and sustainability updates on Social Media platforms

FOLLOW @SustainableDMU on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and TikTok
Follow @DMUSDG16 on Twitter and Instagram

DMU leads passive design evaluation project at Outdoor Pursuits Centre



A NEW DMU project will evaluate passive design concepts that utilise renewable and recyclable sources of materials thereby emitting zero carbon and minimising materials waste at the The *Leicester Outdoor Pursuits Centre (LOPC)*. Design concepts will maximise use of natural daylight and ventilation creating a healthy built environment for users, and use renewable sources of energy which can be generated on site. The nature of the 15-acres flood plain site requires considerable environmental empathy to be built into its future development scheme.

National ambitions

LOPC has 150 years of heritage as a venue for river, target, climbing and adventure educational activities engaging Leicester-based community groups and also has ambition to become a national centre for some activities in the future. The project team, comprising the *LOPC* manager, Stuart Fraser, Tracy Harwood, Professor of Digital Culture at the Institute of Creative Technologies, De Montfort University and Zainab Mohammed, an architecture postgraduate researcher studying for a PhD in sustainable architecture at De Montfort University, will explore design concepts that address user needs on the complex *LOPC* site. The way in which stakeholder needs can be integrated into developments of this nature and how they are reflected in design processes are areas that the project team are interested in developing new insight into from the different perspectives of research and practice. The project will assist *LOPC* to prioritise plans for incremental redevelopment by identifying short and longer-term actions it may take that deliver its net zero goals.

Expert part of UNAI teaching workshop

AN ONLINE workshop organised by United Nations Academic Impact featured a talk by DMU's Dr Andrew Reeves. Dr Reeves shared the process of developing strategic commitment and supporting a wide range of student and staff led initiatives focussed on how to make Education for Sustainable Development part of Higher Education activity. The event was recorded and is available on Youtube [here](#).

Peace journalism included in degree

PEACE Journalism is now included in the new E2030 journalism programme at DMU and is led by Dr Giuliana Tiripelli. In 2016, Dr Tiripelli's book on Media and peace in the Middle East: the role of journalism in Israel-Palestine was published. The book explains the media's impact on the transformation of the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians. It discusses the perspectives of peace activists who have been involved in grassroots action since the first Intifada, and examines how their relation with the mainstream media has evolved over time. It compares these views with those of professional journalists who have been covering the conflict, and their sense of the difficulties inherent in practicing a different kind of journalism. The interviews included in this study contribute towards the model of Peace Journalism, with a view to facilitating its successful application to this conflict. Highlighting both the obstacles and opportunities associated with this endeavour, Tiripelli offers suggestions for the strategic application of this model.

Call for Submissions: SDG Awareness Week

THE University Global Coalition, in partnership with the State University of New York, is organising the SDGs Action and Awareness Week, which will take place from 28 February to 4 March 2022. Its purpose is to promote awareness of the SDGs among students in higher education and inspire them to take action in furtherance of the goals on their campuses and in their local community. To sign up to host an event during SDG Action and Awareness Week, fill out the form [here](#).

DMU recognised as one of the most consistently environmentally friendly universities in UK

DMU has been awarded a first-class degree in the annual [People and Planet University League](#) in recognition of its environmental and ethical performance. DMU has been awarded the first-class status since 2011 and this time around the university was ranked 4th overall out of the 154 institutions rated, the first time the university has been placed in the top 5. The People & Planet's University League is the largest student environmental campaign group in the UK and the only comprehensive independent league table to rank universities according to their environmental and ethical work. Universities were judged against 13 different categories covering everything from education and environmental policy to recycling waste and carbon management. They were then ranked according to their scores in each area and classified using degree-style awards. Karl Letten, Sustainability Manager at DMU said: "It's fantastic news to see DMU get a top 5 placing in the University League. "The University is committed to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and sustainability is at the heart of what we do. This extends from managing our buildings, to embedding sustainability into our teaching and learning and to engaging our staff and students on this issue and it's fantastic to have this recognised in the University League." DMU showed improvements across numerous assessment areas in the latest league. The university scored 100 per cent for both its work on reducing carbon emissions and its work on waste and recycling. The university also scored 97 per cent for its work to embed sustainability into teaching and learning across the institution, including promoting the SDGs and becoming reaccredited to the Responsible Future programme. DMU also showed improvement in its Ethical Investment performance, the university has made significant changes to its investment policy during this time period, moving away from companies associated with fossil fuel production such as coal mining and tar sands extractions and other values which do not promote sustainability. Mark Hopkins, Sustainability Assistant at DMU said: "We are immensely proud to be recognised as one of the most sustainable higher education institutions in the country. "This first-class award from the University League really acknowledges the dedication to sustainability of students and staff across the university. Looking forward, we hope to build on our sustainability rankings by remaining a highly ambitious and forward-thinking university."



SOME OF THE MEASURES TO MAKE DMU A MORE SUSTAINABLE CAMPUS:

- Giving away more than 21,000 free reusable mugs to staff and students
- Using wood pellet boilers which are carbon neutral
- Fitting the leisure centre with air source heat pumps
- Using photovoltaic panels on DMU buildings to generate electricity
- Using ground heat pumps in some buildings which draw heat from the earth
- Travel policies which see 4 times the national average of staff cycling to work
- Solar panels all across campus
- Embedding sustainability into all teaching and learning
- Delivering Carbon Literacy training to staff and students
- Gaining Carbon Literate Organisation status for the University
- Growing food on campus for use in the DMU catering outlets
- Award winning catering offering a low carbon diet
- Fitting the leisure centre with air source heat pumps
- Embedding sustainability into all teaching and learning

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



DMU praised for its sustainability work by UN at the Expo 2020 global conference



ONE of the top officials at the United Nations (UN) has praised De Montfort University Leicester (DMU) for its work promoting sustainability across the higher education sector. Speaking at a conference hosted by DMU at Expo 2020, Maher Nasser, Director of the Outreach Division at the UN in New York, said the university was active in promoting SDG work and had played a key role in supporting refugees and migrants. This work, he said, had resulted in the university being chosen, for the second time, as a global hub for SDG 16, the promotion of peace, justice and strong institutions. He said: "Because of the work we did with De Montfort with refugees and migration as part of the Together campaign, DMU was a good candidate for being chosen as a hub for SDG 16. "When we evaluate, as we do every two years, the hub status, other universities which did not necessarily fill what was expected of them were substituted but De Montfort continues to be active in that area and we hope to see it continue to do so in the future." The conference, hosted by DMU at the UK Pavilion, was a lively debate on how universities can play a significant role in achieving the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) - global targets which address issues like poverty, hunger, gender equality and social justice. It is the latest

activity DMU has put on at Expo 2020, at which it is a founding partner of the UK Pavilion, one of more than 230



national centres which fill the huge Expo site on the outskirts of Dubai city. Over the course of the day, visitors heard from a range of experts in sustainability from DMU and further afield. Dr Jessica Jin, senior lecturer in nutrition, *pictured below*, gave a clear and stark picture of how imbalanced access to good food was across the country, highlighting how the poorest populations were often paying the most for nutritious food. Dr Karthikeyan Kandan, senior lecturer in engineering, *pictured left*, also addressed the possibilities presented in reducing the massive amounts of waste plastic in the world, especially following the introduction of millions more tonnes in the pandemic, through test kits and PPE. He demonstrated his research in using waste plastic to create durable and light construction bricks, which could replace those made from stone. There was also discussions with students at DMU's new Dubai campus, who had made the trip from across the city to talk about a new 'Green Wall' they had created at the campus, in which they were growing herbs and plants, watered by newly-created automated machinery. While fashion experts from DMU – who back in October helped put on an exhibition about sustainable fashion – talked about how environmental issues and sustainable practices are worked into classroom teaching. The conference was hosted by Professor Simon Oldroyd, Pro Vice-Chancellor Dean of Health and Life Science at DMU. He said: "We are here to talk about all things sustainable, in particular how DMU is contributing to embedding sustainable development into our teaching and research activities and how we can feed those findings into the UN's SDG centre."

Strategy

Professor Oldroyd continued: "The theme of sustainability cuts across all areas of DMU's strategy, not just in teaching and research but in procurement, waste management, water management, construction and refurbishment. We are setting an annual sustainability goal, scaling up carbon literacy training and creating a standalone SDG course at DMU."



DMU supports pan-African research to cut plastic waste as part of project to foster innovation



ACADEMICS at De Montfort University Leicester (DMU) are part of a global project which aims to help foster innovation and entrepreneurship across Sub-Saharan Africa. The British Council's Innovation for African Universities (IAU) programme has chosen 24 projects that will grow universities' capabilities for developing a culture of entrepreneurship, giving graduates the skills they need to build sustainable industries, companies and services. Through stronger peer to peer connections and sharing best practices and knowledge between higher education institutions, the programme aims to enhance

students' employability and support economic development. DMU is working with the Pan African University Life and Earth Sciences Institute and Africa's largest innovation hub Co-Creation Hub, to help boost the circular economy in Nigeria. Dr Muyiwa Oyinlola (IESD) is the DMU lead for the programme, which looks at how to create ecosystems that support and develop "waste to wealth" ventures, re-using and recycling plastic into new products, reducing the need for landfill and creating new businesses. "Building a culture of innovation in universities is the first step to creating this ecosystem," he explained. "At the moment, there are different initiatives to deal with plastic waste in Nigeria, however, less than 10% of the plastic waste is recycled. An enabling ecosystem will help create, transform, and communicate knowledge therefore nurturing many innovations for converting waste into useful products. Through the project, we would establish three circular plastic innovation centres in Nigeria, (Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, University of Lagos and University of Nigeria, Nsukka). These hubs will help build capacity of students and encourage them to run businesses that can turn waste into useful products." The IAU programme will run until September. Each partnership has received up to £100,000 and has been given a particular issue to investigate. All of the issues are around innovation and entrepreneurship and building the capacity of organisations in Africa to bring together industry and academia. Mary Kinoti of University of Nairobi said the programme will "create businesses and employment opportunity among the youth in Africa". The British Council highlighted that many young Africans lack the opportunities, training and support to develop their ideas for businesses and enterprise. Sub-Saharan Africa's youth population is expected to double to over 830 million by 2050. "The IAU programme offers a great opportunity for universities in Sub-Saharan Africa to spur innovation and entrepreneurship culture and mindset among the academia and students," Kinoti said.



COP 26 president is shown DMU student's work

AWARD-WINNING student designs visualising the future of sustainable architecture have been viewed by the president of the world's biggest climate change summit. Alok Sharma served as President at last November's COP26, event, held in Glasgow, which gathered world leaders together to discuss how to tackle climate change. And now he has been shown a possible vision of how architecture could help to tackle those same climate issues in an exhibition of work by De Montfort University Leicester (DMU) Architecture students. The MP for Reading was a guest at the UK Pavilion, where DMU – a founding partner of the Pavilion, which is run by the Department for International Trade – was hosting a showcase as part of a themed week looking at how we will live in the future. He was shown the designs – many of which have won awards or commendations from the Royal Institute of British Architects – by Simon Bradbury, DMU's Pro Vice-Chancellor International and Dean for the Faculty of Arts, Design and Humanities, together with Dr Yuri Hadi, senior lecturer in Architecture.



DMU professor helps create Bosnian exhibition commemorating the Siege of Sarajevo

A **RENOWNED** expert in Balkan history has helped create an exhibition commemorating the longest siege in modern warfare and the international media who broadcast the story around the world. Kenneth Morrison, Professor of History and Chair in Modern South East European History, at De Montfort University Leicester (DMU), worked with Elma Hodzic, curator at the History Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina, to create 'Live from Sarajevo' in the Bosnian capital. The project, funded by the UK Research and Innovation's Global Research Challenges Fund (GCRF), contains artefacts showing how journalists reported on the Siege of Sarajevo and includes items donated by reporters who were covering the war in Bosnia from 1992 to 1995. The exhibition is based on Professor Morrison's book 'Reporting the Siege of Sarajevo', which he co-authored with the photojournalist and academic Dr Paul Lowe. It is part of a wider museum exhibition called 'Besieged Sarajevo' which includes hundreds of items donated by citizens at the end of the siege of the city. It includes numerous everyday objects that were repurposed during the siege, such as machines that were crudely built by hand to generate electricity and United Nations plastic sheeting citizens used to cover windows. The new section includes journalists' flak jackets, helmets, laptops, tape



recorders, television cameras, satellite equipment and other items donated by foreign correspondents who covered the siege. It is underpinned by a basic narrative derived from the book explaining

anniversary of the beginning of the siege will be later this year. "Not everyone will read a 100,000-word academic book about the reporting of the siege, so the exhibition was a way of conveying an interesting and complex story in an engaging and accessible way", Professor Morrison said. "In the museum, people can walk around for 15 to 30 minutes and see and read enough to help them understand what happened in the Balkans and learn about the siege of Sarajevo. By displaying exhibits and documents relevant to that period we reach a far bigger audience." Ms Hodzic said: "The 'Besieged Sarajevo' exhibition deals with various aspects of the siege that are presented through the perspective of ordinary citizens trapped in a conflict and includes hundreds of items donated by citizens at the end of the



war. It is a platform for dialogue about the past, an open museum laboratory with various micro-units. One such unit is the new 'Live from Sarajevo' exhibition, which brings an international perspective to the story of the 1992-96 siege. Prof Morrison says the museum plays an important role in ensuring younger generations learn lessons from the war in Bosnia & Herzegovina, which left more than 100,000 dead and displaced more than two million people. In the past six months, tensions have risen again in the country and many are fearful of what the future holds. Ms Hodzic added:



"The current situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina shows how important history is in helping to establish a healthy political environment - and that is true today more than ever."

SHARE YOUR STORIES FOR INCLUSION IN DMU'S SDG AND SUSTAINABILITY BULLETIN

If you are working towards impacting one or more of the Sustainable Development Goals at DMU, feel free to tell the bulletin about it for inclusion in future issues. Work can be related to teaching activities, research projects, campus innovations, promoting conferences and events and calls for support. Contact: mcharlton@dmu.ac.uk

Opportunity to champion SDGs via DMU Women



DMU Women has an opportunity to champion the work its members, allies, advocates and partners do to work towards achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals. DMU Women are compiling a publication to showcase what we can achieve globally, nationally and locally – and are asking for DMU Women to send in their expressions of interest to write a short article for a magazine about their work – teaching, research or professional support, which aligns with one or more of the 17 UNSDGs. They are looking for one article for each SDG. This may be based on work you are doing, or you may have ideas related to a student or external partner/ stakeholder's work (which you have their permission to nominate for consideration). If you are interested to be part of this publication project – which is intended for internal and external audiences to showcase the work DMU Women do to help meet the UNSDGs, then please send in a paragraph summarising your work, your name and the UNSDG(s) which you think most closely aligns, to heather.cadman@dmu.ac.uk by **Friday 25th February 2022**. All expressions of interest will be considered by the DMU Women Chairs in conjunction with the UNAI SDG16 Hub at DMU.

New book on Power, Media and Covid-19 Pandemic

A NEW book linked to the targets of SDG 16 co-edited by DMU's Professor Stuart Price which encompasses contributions from academics working in the fields of politics, environmentalism, citizens' rights, state theory, cultural studies, journalism, and discourse/rhetoric, the book offers an original insight into the relationship between the various social forces that contributed to the 'Covid narrative' has been published. This is one of the first comparative studies of the various rationales offered for state/corporate intervention in public life. Delving beneath established political tropes and state rhetoric, it identifies the power relations exposed by an event that was described as unprecedented and unique, but was in fact comparable to other major global disruptions. As governments insisted on distinguishing their own propaganda from unregulated disinformation, their increasingly sceptical 'publics' pursued their own idiosyncratic solutions to the crisis, while the apparent sacrifice of a host of citizens – from the most dedicated to the most vulnerable – suggested that inequality and exploitation remained at the heart of the social order. More [here](#)



Nigerian university seeks SDG 4 collaboration



A REQUEST for DMU students and staff to participate in online discussions about tackling challenges in Nigerian education has been sent to DMU via the UNAI SDG 16 Hub. Staff and students at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, want to share issues of educational infrastructures like classrooms, teaching aids, instructional materials, projectors, computers, facilities for the students with special needs, laboratories and libraries, polluted learning environments, issues of sexual harassment, violence and consequently depression and mental health, personal and academic challenges. The university wishes to hear how UK universities and campaign groups have worked to tackle social problems that impact quality education. Anyone interested in collaborating should contact the SDG 16 Hub via mcharlton@dmu.ac.uk

DMU supporting business to achieve to Net Zero Emissions

DMU staff and students are taking part in a £1million collaborative project to support Leicester small and medium enterprises to develop ambitious plans to address the climate emergency. From January to June this year, DMU and partners including the University of Leicester are offering a package of support including one-day Carbon Literacy Training, short courses on developing a climate action plan and student-led sustainability audits. The work will develop capacity for local universities to deliver this training and audits on an ongoing basis, helping the university play a sustained role in supporting a 'Net Zero' transition locally. For enquiries about receiving training or audits through the project, contact Dr Andrew Reeves on areeves@dmu.ac.uk

DMU leads new national sustainability education project

STAFF from DMU and De Montfort Students Union will work together over the coming year to lead a new Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) Collaborative Enhancement Project to develop guidance on how to reflect the sustainable development agenda within academic quality and student voice processes for taught courses. Ten other UK universities will take part as partners, drawing on membership of the Responsible Futures network, through which DMU has twice been externally accredited for its strong delivery of Education for Sustainable Development activities. For enquires contact Dr Andrew Reeves on areeves@dmu.ac.uk

SDG 16 conference keynote presenter is requested as hub partner calls for papers



UNITED Nations Academic Impact Hub for SDG 10 and partner, Mount Kenya University, Kenya, is calling for a keynote speaker from DMU to present at its 2nd International Conference on Peace, Security and Social Enterprise. The 2nd International Conference on Peace, Security and Social Enterprise will be online and in person and is expected lead to:

- Informed contribution in policy guidelines with a focus on peace, security for sustainable development,
- Formation of a publicity network of partners domiciled at all the 47 counties of Kenya with the sole purpose of peace advocacy,
- Increased networking activities amongst all 17 United Nations Academic Impact SDG Hubs through the UNAI SDG 10 Hub on Reduced Inequalities as a unifying platform.
- Formation of sustainable peace, security and social enterprise societies

300-word abstracts of full papers and posters should be e-mailed to peaceconference@mku.ac.ke Anyone interested in being Keynote Speaker can contact Mark at the DMU SDG16 Hub for more details via mcharlton@dmu.ac.uk



Bonus round added to 'SeeD' Grant scheme for DMU to take action on sustainable development

A **BONUS** round of grant applicants has been launched. The Seed Grant scheme is designed to help the DMU community take action on sustainable development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The grants are for situations where a little money and support can get a project started. Projects led by staff, students and alumni are eligible for funding. Activities can take place at DMU or in the wider community. A third bonus round of grant applicants has been launched with a deadline of 11.59am on 4th March. If you have an idea for a sustainability project that needs funding do contact the sustainability team to discuss your ideas sustainability@dmu.ac.uk or check out the DMU ESD [website](#)

Students taking part in multi-SDG collaboration

THROUGH a partnership with a network of universities in the United States, a group of students are taking the opportunity to participate in an activity to support the Sustainable Development Goals. The online event will see groups of students in the UK and the US work together in small groups to design future projects that allow young people studying at university to impact the global goals in their communities through volunteering linked to their degrees (known as service-learning in the US). The launch of the activity is on Wednesday February 16th at 6pm UK time. It will be followed by a second meeting the following Wednesday and an online presentation to UN officials in April. The SDGs in focus are: #16 - Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions; #1 - End Poverty; #13 - Climate Action. There will be an introductory speech by a UN official at the February 16th launch event. Feedback will also be given on the project ideas by UN officials in April. Staff interested in suggesting students for future participation in similar UK/US collaborative projects should contact the DMU UNAI SDG Hub via mcharlton@dmu.ac.uk

Nayaab is selected by UN to present at conference



DMU Fashion Design student Nayaab Mahomed has been selected by UN officials to speak at an event which aims at highlighting the critical role of younger generations in addressing local and global challenges. The discussion specifically focuses on the issues rising from the COVID-19 pandemic to advance the 2030 Agenda which need innovative ideas and solutions. Students have been role models on campuses and beyond, to show how small-scale projects can make a significant contribution to the SDGs. The event will hear stories from students at different UNAI member institutions and alumni of the UNAI-MCN Fellowship Program. Nayaab is just one of seven students from around the world who have been asked to speak at the [SDG Conference Bergen 2022: Ways of Knowing, Modes of Living: Dialogues across a fragmented Earth](#) for the 2030 Agenda, on February 9. Nayeab was selected for

her work with Envirogreen - a student society hoping to grow plants that create sustainable dyes for fashion. While Envirogreen wait for the opportunity to start growing in a designated green space, the group co-led by Nayeab (pictured above, second right), helped to plant 100 trees in Western Park, Leicester. Nayeab has also previously taken part in Enactus and Map the System at DMU - two projects focussed on SDG impacts.

