



The University of Leeds

Student Sustainability Research Conference 2019

The University of Leeds Annual Student Sustainability Research Conference offers University of Leeds students at any level and from any discipline the opportunity to showcase their latest research in cross-disciplinary sustainability studies and research.

The conference brings together students, staff, businesses and members of the public to experience the diversity of Undergraduate and Postgraduate research, which reflect aspects of positive social, economic and environmental development.

Entry Guidelines

1. To apply you must be currently enrolled as a University of Leeds student (undergraduate, postgraduate taught or postgraduate research).
2. Presentations of complete and 'in progress' projects are accepted; your work does not have to be finished or in its final stages, however it should have clear aims and have some relevance to having a positive sustainability impact.
3. Work conducted in groups can also be presented, please be sure to note this in your application.
4. All applicants, apart from those submitting art or performance pieces, must produce a poster presentation of their work, which will be displayed in Parkinson Court during the conference. You can also request to deliver a short presentation to conference delegates. This is a fantastic opportunity to practice your verbal communication skills, discuss your ideas with others and to answer questions around your topic area.
5. Following the launch of the University's [#2023PlasticFree campaign](#), we encourage submissions of applications on the topic of plastics or including plastic free solutions as well as best practice examples. We also do not allow the use of single use plastic items in any of the presentations, workshops or performances.
6. Submissions of performances, art pieces and practical demonstrations are also encouraged. Please provide additional details in the space provided on the conference application form regarding your submission and any needs you may have.



7. You must be available for the conference event on **Friday 29th March 2019 between 9:00am – 4:00pm.**

Application Guidelines

1. Your application must be submitted to sustainability@leeds.ac.uk by **midnight on Sunday 16th December 2018.**
2. To apply to present your project or research, you will need to complete the short application form available at sustainability.leeds.ac.uk/ssrc19/ including a project description. Please remember to include your name, course title, School, level (UG, PGT or PGR), and e-mail address on page 2.
3. Your project title and description will be published in the delegate handbook in advance of the conference. This will be what people see when deciding what to attend on the day, so remember to make it eye catching and inspiring. A few things we will be looking for in your project description;
 - i. A catchy, creative title. It should be engaging and attractive to a non-specialist audience.
 - ii. A clear outline describing the originality of your project, its aims, any findings you have discovered and the possible impacts it may have with regard to future solutions for a sustainable society.
 - iii. Jargon-free text and technical terms explained where necessary.
4. You can include results and conclusions in your submission if you wish, however this is not compulsory.

Presentation formats

Presentations

If chosen to present, presenters will be allocated 10 minutes to present their project or research to a non-specialist, mixed-discipline audience using slides if they wish (PowerPoint, PDF, Prezi etc.), followed by 10 minutes for questions and discussion. We encourage presentations in alternate formats for example, those without slides and workshop-based approaches.

Any presentation slides should be sent to sustainability@leeds.ac.uk **by Friday 15th March 2019.** Helpful tips on presentation planning and design can be found at <https://library.leeds.ac.uk/skills-presentations>.

Performance, Art Installation, or Practical Demonstration

Students whose project or research takes the form of music, dance, a spoken word performance, art installation or practical demonstration are encouraged to apply. Please ensure that you provide as



much detail as possible in the application form with regard to timings, space required, resources, and audience participation. A member of Sustainability Services will be in touch after the deadline to arrange any further planning.

Poster Submissions

1. As soon as you have received confirmation of your place at the conference, you can start creating your poster. Academic posters are a quick way of presenting research and projects in a visually attractive and informing format. They are designed to give a taster of what your work is about; more detailed than an abstract, but not an in-depth explanation. Often you will need to present dissertation or research topics as an Academic poster as part of your course of study, therefore this is a great way to practice your skills.
2. Your poster should be designed as an **A1 poster**, in either portrait or landscape orientation.
3. Your poster should contain a mix of text, images and graphics to make it appealing to a non-specialist audience. Ensure that any images you use are at a suitable resolution to be clearly seen and that you have copyright permissions required to print them.
4. As a rough guide, posters must be readable from a distance of 1 meter. A minimum font size of 24 is recommended if using Arial, however this is dependent on your choice of font. The structure of your poster should be clear and logical so that the reader's eye naturally follows the flow of information you display.
5. Your poster must display your **name** and poster **title** clearly, along with the **University of Leeds logo** in the bottom right-hand corner.
6. Supporting colleagues, departments, Research Councils, businesses or other external partners should be acknowledged at the bottom of your poster.
7. A handy Poster Checklist is available at sustainability.leeds.ac.uk/ssrc19-apply/
8. **You do not need to print your poster for the conference.** Sustainability Services will be printing it on your behalf.
9. An electronic copy of your poster must be sent to sustainability@leeds.ac.uk **by midnight on Friday 11th February 2019.**

Questions

If you have any queries about the application process or the conference in general please e-mail sustainability@leeds.ac.uk

Please see the following page for key dates and deadlines



Key dates:

Call for submissions open	16 th November 2018
Submissions deadline	16 th December 2018
Applicants notified of place and whether they have been offered a presentation/workshop slot	11 th January 2019
Electronic poster deadline	11 th February 2019
Deadline for PowerPoint slides to be sent to sustainability@leeds.ac.uk	15 th March 2019
Student Sustainability Research Conference 2019	Friday 29 th March 2019

