Successful SURF Projects 2014

The Sustainable UWS Rolling Fund, SURF, is now in its fourth year. In total 10 applications were received requesting $110,328. With implementation commencing during July 2014 a total of just over $70,000 will be spent on SURF projects.

Submissions received were across all categories of sustainability – resource efficiency, student-led projects, sustainable design and education for sustainability.

Project Outlines

**UWS Student Volunteering and Civic Engagement Conference**

*Project Team:* UWS Academy  
*Amount Awarded:* $14,921  
*Project Summary:* The SCE Conference is a pilot project proposed as a student-led annual event. The conference will encourage students to take an action-oriented and scholarly approach towards volunteering and its impact on societal transformation.

**Energy and Water Efficient Installations**

*Project Team:* UWSEL Campbelltown  
*Amount Awarded:* $12,681  
*Project Summary:* The Campbelltown Childcare Centre is looking at updating their old inefficient appliances with new energy and water saving appliances. Currently their washing machine uses 176 litres of water, 3750 sheets of paper hand towels, as well as a large amount of energy to power them all. Their existing appliances will be donated to charity.

**Sustainable Building**

*Project Team:* School of Computing, Engineering and Mathematics  
*Amount Awarded:* $15,000  
*Project Summary:* This project will provide an opportunity for undergraduate and postgraduate students from various engineering degrees, construction management programs and industrial design programs to collaborate together. They will plan, design and construct a sustainable building, with the long term goal that these students will participate in one or more international sustainable building competition.

**Stories of Best Practice in Education for Sustainability at UWS**

*Project Team:* School of Social Science and Psychology  
*Amount Awarded:* $15,000  
*Project Summary:* Using an appreciative inquires/strength based approach SASP will review the Education for Sustainability (Efs) status across the school – ‘the core business of higher education’.
The school will be looking at both the course and unit level, providing UWS will ‘best practice’ examples of EfS.

**Summer School – Food: Its History and Sustainability**

**Project Team:** School of Humanities and Communication Arts  
**Amount Awarded:** $13,882  
**Project Summary:** Food: Its history and sustainability is a Level 3 unit in the majors of History and Political Thought and Cultural and Social Analysis, as well an elective for other students. This summer school unit will teach students that the production, preservation and consumption of food is the result of specific historical processes relation to economic, social, political, technological, intellectual, cultural and geographical factors.