Promoting Education for Sustainable Development at the University of Tampere

Saana Raatikainen & Anna Heikkinen, University of Tampere, Finland
Facts about UTA 2013

- Founded in Helsinki in 1925 as Civic College, moved to Tampere in 1960
- 15,500 degree students
- 18,659 applicants
- 1,870 admitted
- 1,155 Master’s degrees per year
- 119 doctoral degrees per year
- About 2,200 staff of whom 1,100 in teaching and research
- More: [www.uta.fi/english/about.html](http://www.uta.fi/english/about.html)

“The history of the University of Tampere strongly reflects the faith of Nordic society in the equality of people.”
– Chancellor Jorma Sipilä
Strategy: Let’s shape the future

• The University of Tampere has the social mission of educating visionaries who understand the world and change it.
• The university’s strengths are multifaceted research and education on society and health.
• The University of Tampere takes an active part in debates about societal development.
Integrating SD into the Education

- A Comprehensive Educational Reform 2011-2012
- Nordic ESDAN project 2011-2013
  - A definition policy (guidelines) for SD
  - Workshops for the Schools
- Sustainable development labelling into the curricula
- Sustainable Development Study Module
  - A Course for Sustainable Development Practices
Promoting Skills for Sustainable Development

- New course: **Sustainable development practices**
- **Competencies:** aim to develop interest to sustainable lifestyle and capabilities to engage with sustainability in multicultural environments
- **Focus on attitudes and behaviour**
  → learning through doing and experience
  → own engagement with sustainable development
- **Individual and group activities**
Themes of the course

1. Consumption, reuse and recycling
2. Waste management
3. (Re)Connecting with nature
4. Buying and selling food
5. Energy, transportation and political activity

• 2015: integrating teaching and learning with UTA’s sustainability work
Thank You!

Saana Raatikainen
environmental coordinator
saana.raatikainen@staff.uta.fi

Anna Heikkinen
doctoral student
anna.l.heikkinen@uta.fi

www.uta.fi/sustainability