

Learning in Future Environments (LiFE)

FAQ Fact Sheet for Champions

What is LiFE about?

The [LiFE Index](#) is a structured process at CSU started in 2013 for evaluating current practices that support or impede good sustainability practices and for developing improvement plans via cross-organisational participation.

How does it work?

CSU Green supports a network of approximately 50 Champions from across CSU who have an influence over key framework areas. We coordinate an ongoing annual schedule of participatory workshops identify existing areas of good sustainable practice, opportunities for further improvement across all activity areas of our organisation, and ways of prioritising and resourcing improvement actions towards best practice.

What's in it for me and my team?

Being sustainable is increasingly mainstream, it is no longer the realm of eco-freak tree-huggers. Providing an educational experience that is greener, more responsible and healthier is what future students want. Participants in LiFE workshops contribute their knowledge and understanding to assess current practice and identify improvements. There are leadership opportunities within and beyond CSU and you can demonstrate what sustainability best practices are. LiFE provides opportunities to explore innovations and to connect with like-minded people.

What's in it for CSU?

CSU are national leaders in the sustainability space particularly for our carbon neutrality status as the first tertiary institution in Australasia, for our large roof-top installations, for the *CSUWarOnWaste* initiative. We have been externally recognized for excellence in sustainability at the local, state and national levels. This gives CSU credibility when attracting research funding and allows us to lead by example and share our learnings with our peers and in our local communities.

Talk about sustainability with your colleagues

CSU Green had developed a LiFE powerpoint presentation to compliment this fact sheet. This empowers LiFE Champions to continue communications, mentoring and coaching activities with staff and students. Perhaps you can place 'LiFE' on your regular team meetings to see what sustainability improvements can be embedded in your group?

Join your local Campus Environment Committee (CEC)

CEC's employ a collaborative approach to achieving environmental sustainability involving staff, students and neighbouring stakeholders. For more information look at the CSU Campus Environmental Committee [fact sheet](#).

Anticipated resistance and common excuses

It's human nature to resist change. Making more sustainable choices need not add to your current work load. Often it can be just tweaking what you already do. Change could be as simple as using a reusable bag when shopping, using bamboo toothbrushes, taking the bus to work once a week, car-pooling between campuses, replace glad wrap with bees wax wraps etc.

Training, mentoring and coaching opportunities

The 'Sustainability at CSU' ELMO module provides training opportunities to be informed in 30 minutes. You may book in an individual or group coaching sessions with Champions and CSU Green staff. Just invite us and we'll come.

Links to resources

- [Best practice sheets](#) – showing what success looks like are located in each framework section of LiFE on CSU Green's website;
- Working [action plan sheets](#) for each framework are sent to champions and stakeholders after every check-in workshop;

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