

Final report: Administrative Stay at UBC
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As the coordinator of the initiative, SUSTAIN IT! I was invited to attend the 9th World Environmental Education Congress which took place September 9-15, 2017 in Vancouver, BC, Canada.

The University Alliance for Sustainability allowed me to participate in this interesting congress addressing education for environment and sustainability. In 2017 the WEEC featured the topic of Culture and Environment under the heading Weaving New Connections. It was an international meeting point for experts working with education for environment and sustainable future and we discussed in a week long program the role and importance of education at all levels; both in higher education institutions and for lower ages. It was an excellent opportunity for me to learn more about the recent projects and insights in sustainability education, to discuss with people from all over the world, to share our own work and to learn from others. The congress was organized by the Simon Fraser University and the Institute for Environmental Learning in Vancouver. Our strategic partner university, the University of British Columbia (UBC) is member of this Institute which is a collaborative of researchers and practitioners committed to high quality environmental and sustainability learning in British Columbia. Prof. Susan Gerofsky, Prof. Hartley Banack, Liz Beattie (phd) and other environmental lecturers from the UBC were part of the local organizing committee for WEEC and welcomed me as an international leader in ESD. Several of the community outreach workshops took place at UBC sites -- the UBC Orchard Garden, Landed Learning, the Cultivating Learning Network, the UBC Farm, as well as the Beattie Biodiversity Museum. UBC sponsored the conference with in-kind donations from the Faculty of Science and other faculties.

Because of my application, our initiative SUSTAIN IT! was chosen to present the interactive art lab "Takeaway coffee becomes ART TO STAY" . I presented this artistic intervention in a workshop session by pointing out the core concept, the lessons learnt and the success factors in order to inspire other universities to use, adapt and implement this ESD art lab.

During the conference the colleagues of the UBC kindly introduced me to a number of interesting people working in the field of ESD. After the conference, I took the opportunity to present my ESD education expertise in the public seminar of Prof. Susan Gerofsky in the UBC Department of Curriculum and Pedagogy.