

Final Report: Sustainability Alliance Senior Researchers Opportunity
at the Freie Universitat Berlin
Professors Naoko Ellis and Susan Nesbit
The University of British Columbia (UBC)
June 17 – July 3, 2018

This final report summarizes the visit conducted by Profs. Ellis and Nesbit to Freie Universitat Berlin (FUB) during June/July 2018.

a) There were many fruitful conversations during the visit of Profs. Ellis and Nesbit to FUB, which were extremely well coordinated by Katrin Risch, our main contact at FUB. Discussions about sustainability in various areas including education, outreach, institutional organization and direction, and research gave us appreciation on differences and similarities in the approaches to these areas, while engaging in sustainability at higher education. In particular, sharing both institutions' trajectories in sustainable development on campus has been helpful in placing many programs in context.

b) One of the challenging aspects of the stay had to do with accommodation arrangement. Initially, we have booked two places (one week each) through Airbnb. When arriving at one place where there were only one bedroom posed a challenge in trying to find a new accommodation for the week. At the end, it all worked out; however, we wished it were smoother.

c) As listed in Appendix A, we have met with various researchers on FUB campus who work in the space of thinking deeply on sustainable development in higher education. We have gained insights into how drivers and momentum played vital roles in moving campus towards sustainability, and how communications are key to gain support from stakeholders. In particular, we were impressed with the outreach activities with Prof. Skeibe-Corette, where we saw the FUB students in action with the high-school pupils.

d) We were fortunate to be visiting when the Sustainability event by students, SUSTAIN IT!, was in full swing. We were given a tour by a few students in how they are engaging with sustainability in their lives at FUB. These types of grass roots activities led by students attract attention from students which helps build the momentum for other sustainability related initiatives.

e) During our visit, we have met with Profs. Inka Bormann and Nina Kolleck who kindly shared their fields of research. In particular, Prof. Bormann's research on trust sparked further discussions. The visit has catalyzed our interests, which has led to continuing our discussions through emails. There is an interest in understanding transdisciplinary teaching and dynamics of faculty members teaching in teams through the lens of trust relationships. We hope to continue on this collaboration in the future, and seek for further funding to support our new endeavour. Further, we found a connection between the social network interests of Prof. Kolleck and an investigation, performed by one of us, into the influence of significant conversations on shifting academic culture toward sustainability.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Who</i>	<i>Where</i>	<i>Topic</i>
19.6.	3-5pm	Andreas Wanke, Head, Unit for Sustainability and Energy Management; Katrin Risch	Schwendenerstraße 17, 14195 Berlin	Sustainability @FUB and short Campus Tour
21.6.	10 am	Prof. Skiebe-Corette, NatLab	Fabeckstraße 34-36 Raum U 307 14195 Berlin	Visit of the NatLab (there will be a group of students present so you can see the format in action), talk with Prof. Skiebe-Corette and colleagues
21.6.	12 am	Karola Braun Wanke	Schwendenerstraße 17, 14195 Berlin	Schools@University, Project Courses in the General Professional Skill Area with a focus on sustainability and ESD
21.6.	1pm	Lunch and visit of the "University Days for Sustainability and Climate Protection"; meet students of the Initiative <i>SUSTAIN IT!</i>	Main Canteen	
22.6.	1pm	Prof. Inka Bormann, Prof. Nina Kolley	Habelschwerdter Allee 45, PF EWI 12 Room JK 24/236 14195 Berlin	http://www.ewi-psy.fu-berlin.de/en/einrichtungen/arbeitsbereiche/allgeme-erziehungswissenschaft/team/bormann_i/index.html
28.6.	10am	Mandy Singer-Brodowski	Schwendenerstraße 17, 14195 Berlin	http://www.ewi-psy.fu-berlin.de/einrichtungen/weitere/institut-futur/ueber_uns/MitarbeiterInnen/Mandy-Singer-Brodowski.html
tbd		Dr. Bianca Schemel	FB Geowissenschaften AG Geoökologie Malteserstr. 74 - 100 12249 Berlin	ESD Project on Pyrolysis in the Botanical Garden http://www.geo.fu-berlin.de/geog/fachrichtungen/physgeog/geoekologie/mitarbeiter/Schemel/index.html