

TropEco Sustainability Awards 2016 - Guidelines

TropEco is calling for nominations for the sixth annual TropEco Sustainability Awards for James Cook University, to be held in **Cairns on Wednesday 12th October** and **Townsville on Thursday 13th October**. The awards recognise and celebrate the JCU community's achievements in sustainable activities and initiatives. All JCU staff and students are eligible for the awards, with JCU Alumni eligible for their specific category. Students, staff, alumni and members of the general public are invited to attend the ceremony.

Nominations can be made by any JCU employee, student or alumni and people may nominate themselves for an award. Groups of people, Colleges or Offices may also be nominated for all awards except the TropEco Excellence Award.

All award nominees may also apply for the People's Choice Award, which will be run through the [TropEco facebook page](#) in the lead up to the Awards. Nominee's wishing to nominate for the People's Choice Award should indicate this on their application form and provide the required information as outlined below.

This year there are nine award categories:

- **TropEco Excellence Award - Staff**
- **TropEco Excellence Award - Student**
- **Leadership & Governance**
- **Partnerships & Engagement**
- **Facilities & Operations**
- **Learning & Teaching**
- **Research**
- **JCU Alumni Award**
- **People's Choice Award**

The awards align with the sustainability priority areas outlined in the [LiFE Index](#) – a sustainability benchmarking tool designed specifically for tertiary institutions that has been adopted by JCU.

Nominating someone is simple and can be done by filling out the "TropEco Sustainability Awards 2016 – Nomination Form". Click to download the [PDF version](#) or [Word version](#) or email tropeco@jcu.edu.au to request a copy.

Completed nominations should be emailed to tropeco@jcu.edu.au

Nominations close at 5pm, Friday 23rd September.

The Award Categories

Nominations are called for the following award categories.

The TropEco Excellence Award - Staff

This award recognises a JCU staff member who has made a major contribution to sustainability at JCU in one or more areas in 2016. This is the premier staff award for sustainability achievements at JCU.

The TropEco Excellence Award - Student

This award recognises a JCU student who has made a major contribution to sustainability at JCU in one or more areas in 2016. This is the premier student award for sustainability achievements at JCU.

Leadership & Governance

This award recognises an individual or group who has contributed to developing a culture of sustainability at JCU.

The [LiFE Index](#) describes this category as: Building social responsibility and sustainability into institution-wide processes and management systems, ensuring they remain strategically important and are embedded into everyday institutional practices for long-term benefit.

This category includes the Frameworks:

- Human Capital
- Leadership

Partnerships & Engagement

This award recognises an individual or group who has engaged with and/or developed partnerships with the JCU or wider community to help promote a more sustainable society.

The [LiFE Index](#) describes this category as: Building meaningful and productive relationships and engaging with peers to facilitate sustainable outcomes and encourage innovation. These conditions are vital for creating change toward sustainable development.

This category includes the Frameworks:

- Business & Industry Interface
- Community Engagement
- Procurement & Supplier Engagement
- Staff Engagement

Facilities & Operations

This award recognises an individual or group who has contributed to a more sustainable JCU in its operations and/or facilities.

The [LiFE Index](#) describes this category as: Addressing sustainable development through effective environmental management. Delivering low carbon, 21st Century campuses that reflect institutions' commitment to social responsibility and sustainability.

This category includes the Frameworks:

- Biodiversity
- Energy
- Resource Efficiency & Waste
- Sustainable Construction and Renovation
- Sustainable ICT (Information and Communications Technology)
- Transport
- Water

Learning & Teaching

This award recognises an individual or group who has contributed to promoting the values of sustainability through Learning & Teaching.

The [LiFE Index](#) describes this category as: Realising institutions' potential to have a significant, long-term positive impact on society through formal and informal curricula, skills training and development and knowledge transfer. Ensuring students are exposed to learning experiences that maximise their opportunities to graduate as sustainability-literate citizens.

This category includes the Frameworks:

- Learning & Teaching
- Student Engagement

Research

This award recognises outstanding research into an area of sustainability and/or research that is conducted in a sustainable manner.

The [LiFE Index](#) describes this category as: both sustainable research, which relates to research that is set-up and/or delivered in a way that minimises environmental or social impacts, and; research into sustainability, which describes research that contributes to or develops knowledge or understanding of some element of sustainability.

That is, research that progresses, improves or assists the environmental, social, cultural and economic frameworks without detrimental effects.

JCU Alumni Award

This award recognises a JCU Alumnus for their efforts toward creating a better world, through environmental, social and/or cultural change. The award will recognise an individual that has made a significant contribution to sustainability in the wider community. All JCU Alumni are eligible to be nominated for the award.

People's Choice Award

All award nominees are eligible to apply for the People's Choice Award. This will be run through the [TropEco facebook page](#) in the lead up to the Awards. Nominee's wishing to nominate for the People's Choice Award should tick the box on the application form and provide a short description of their project (less than 50 words) and one photograph that captures the essence of the award submission. These will be uploaded to the facebook page and the public will be invited to vote on the People's Choice Award for a two week period leading up to the awards ceremony.

Completed nominations should be emailed to tropeco@jcu.edu.au by **5pm on Friday 23rd September**.