



student action on world poverty and the environment

**NEWS RELEASE**  
**For immediate release**  
**21 February 2008**

51 Union Street, Oxford OX4 1JP  
telephone: 01865 245 678  
facsimile: 01865 791 927  
email: [gogreen@peopleandplanet.org](mailto:gogreen@peopleandplanet.org)  
on-line: [peopleandplanet.org/gogreen](http://peopleandplanet.org/gogreen)

**Contact Symon Hill - 07920 037 719**  
**Contact Alex Wood – 01865 245678**

## **Green Education Declaration Launched**

As part of the start of Go Green Week, the UK's first national student week of action against climate chaos, the Green Education Declaration has been launched with dozens of Vice Chancellors and other education sector representatives already signed up.

Go Green Week has finally arrived with actions and events taking place at schools and campuses across the UK. Many students will be lobbying their Vice Chancellor or Principal to ensure they sign The Green Education Declaration. Already the Declaration has a total of **nineteen** initial signatories. It calls for this year's Climate Change Bill to commit the education sector to a clear carbon reduction strategy.

Vice Chancellors from 16 universities plus the National Union of Students, the University and College Union and the Environmental Association of Universities and Colleges have become the first to sign the Declaration. An up to date list of signatories is available through the P&P website so you can keep checking back to see the latest signatories.

The universities who have already signed are Oxford Brookes, Leeds Metropolitan, Edinburgh, St Andrews, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Queen's University Belfast, Gloucestershire, University of the West of England, Buckinghamshire New University, Derby, Salford, Aston, Durham, Bradford and Glasgow Caledonian University. Nine of these institutions gained Firsts in People & Planet's Green league 2007 proving they are sustainability leaders in the higher education sector.

**Oxford Brookes** University was the first initial signatory; their Vice Chancellor, **Professor Janet Beer**, described why she was keen to put her name to it:

“signed the Green Education Declaration as I see the potential for the education sector to act as a role model when it comes to tackling climate change. At Oxford Brookes University we have led the way in sustainability issues for a number of years and our top 5 place in the Green League of universities demonstrates this.”

Students at University of Wales, Aberystwyth have already secured a meeting with their Pro-VC, who is going to publicly sign the Declaration on behalf of their VC.

**Jenny Mace, University of Wales, Aberystwyth People & Planet said:**

“We’re meeting our Pro-Vice Chancellor to ensure he publicly signs the Green Education Declaration. By signing up, he can tell the world that our university will be at the forefront of meeting the challenge of climate change.”

**XXX Ends XXX**

**Notes to Editors**

1. People & Planet is the largest student network in Britain campaigning to end world poverty, defend human rights and protect the environment. Our network covers 70% of Britain’s universities and 10% of sixth-forms. For more info visit [peopleandplanet.org](http://peopleandplanet.org).
2. The Green Education Declaration, with the full list of signatories, updated day-by-day can be read at: [peopleandplanet.org/gogreen/gogreenweek/biggreenlobby](http://peopleandplanet.org/gogreen/gogreenweek/biggreenlobby)
3. People & Planet is a founding member of Stop Climate Chaos. I Count is the campaign of the Stop Climate Chaos coalition which brings together over 70 organisations, from environment, development charities to unions, faith and women’s groups. I Count backs a Climate Change Bill which commits the UK to at least 80% reduction in CO2 by 2050.
4. The Go Green campaign aims to transform the environmental performance of the UK education sector. People & Planet’s Green League 2007 is the UK’s first league Table to rank all UK universities according to their environmental performance. In November it won Best Campaign at the British Environment and Media Awards. For more info visit: [peopleandplanet.org/greenleague](http://peopleandplanet.org/greenleague)
5. National Go Green Week will be the UK’s first national student week of action and events against climate chaos. Groups will be organising loads of different events across the whole of the country at universities, colleges and schools. Examples of actions include London students building a giant waste sculpture (pictures available on request), a city procession by students at Dundee University and a question time event held by Warwick University students. For to date information on events happening nationally visit: [peopleandplanet.org/gogreen/gogreenweek/whatson](http://peopleandplanet.org/gogreen/gogreenweek/whatson)
6. Spokespeople for People & Planet, and students involved in the campaign, are available for interview.