

BECOME A TERTIARY EDUCATION UNION CLIMATE ACTION DELEGATE

Are you passionate about advocating for climate justice and the crucial role that tertiary education should play in addressing the causes and impacts of climate change?

Become a Te Hautū Kahurangi | Tertiary Education Union (TEU) Climate Action Delegate and work with others across the union movement to collectively advance a tertiary education sector that balances the needs of people and planet!

TEU MĀTĀPONO | PURPOSE

TEU's commitment to climate justice is reflected in one of our five mātāpono.

Mana Taiao *The Union will work for foster ahikā – the interrelationship of people and the land, including supporting a sense of tūrangawaewae for all which fosters a sense of belonging. The Union will take action to transform the relationship of the Union and the tertiary education sector with Te Taiao (Papatūānuku and Ranginui) by supporting climate justice, just transitions and kaitiakitanga of the natural environment, in relationship with mana whenua and mana Tāngata*

WHY IS CLIMATE ACTION UNION WORK?

The climate crisis is not just an environmental issue – it is a matter of fairness, equity, and workers' rights.

In Aotearoa New Zealand, climate change disproportionately affects Māori, Pasifika, and other vulnerable communities, including staff and students in our tertiary education sector.

We believe that the union movement should play a vital role in ensuring our tertiary education sector is actively contributing to a just and sustainable future through high-quality research, teaching, and institutional leadership, as well as the provision of exemplary working conditions.

TIAKINA TE TAI AO | TEU CLIMATE

ACTION NETWORK

TEU's climate action network, Tiakina te Taiao, is the main avenue through which TEU members dedicated to climate justice can connect and work together to advance our goals.

Tiakina te Taiao distributes a regular newsletter and meets three times a year to share information, engage with guest speakers, and influence the objectives and operationalise the actions of the network.

Our aim is to ensure climate-conscious workplaces, just transitions, ethical investments and standards, and sustainable practices throughout our institutions and wider tertiary education sector.

BECOME A TEU CLIMATE ACTION

DELEGATE

Beyond being a member of Tiakina te Taiao, our Climate Action Delegates have a more focused set of responsibilities and tasks.

There is scope to shape the role in a way that aligns with your expertise and the interests of members at your branch; however, we encourage our Climate Action Delegates to focus on some or all of the following four core areas:

- 1. Campus** – examining your institution's climate change policies and critiquing the extent to which policy and practice are aligned, including the advancement of climate-related clauses in your branch's collective agreement(s)
- 2. Curriculum** – promoting education for climate change into course programmes

3. Community – engaging with communities within and beyond your institutions on climate change issues

4. Campaigns – organising and partnering with other groups on climate change-related actions and events (e.g., fossil fuel divestment; School Strike 4 Climate)

Additionally, general tasks may involve:

- channelling relevant information and opportunities between Tiakina te Taiao and TEU members at your branch
- attending, and assisting with the organisation of, Tiakina te Taiao meetings and events (e.g., arranging guest speakers)
- establishing connections and recruiting like-minded non-members at your branch into TEU and Tiakina te Taiao
- contributing to TEU submissions on climate-related issues
- attending TEU conference on behalf of Tiakina te Taiao

Again, these are broad parameters and there is scope to tailor the role relative to your areas of expertise and interest.

We envisage at least one Climate Action Delegate at every TEU branch and would like to emphasise that we don't anticipate these roles as being overly demanding on your time and energy – tātou, tātou e, we reach our goals through our collective strength and shared sense of purpose!

CONTACT US

For more information or to join Tiakina te Taiao and/or express an interest in becoming a TEU Climate Action Delegate, please contact jared.commerer@teu.ac.nz.



TEU | **TE HAUTŪ
KAHURANGI**