

### PRME LETTER OF COMMITMENT

Sustainability has remained as a top-priority for Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences. We have proved commitment to a sustainable future through a whole series of activities, innovations, research, projects and company policies.

At Haaga-Helia we are constantly challenging ourselves, and continuously inventing new ways to incorporate the principles into our everyday actions through teaching, coaching, partnerships and dialogue.

While we will never be ready, we certainly have made progress that can be seen in the capabilities and skills of our students, in the results of our research initiatives and in the dialogue we are engaged in with our key stakeholders.

This year, for example, we have signed an agreement with City of Helsinki's Climate Challenge. We have agreed to reduce our energy consumption in our Campuses in the future years. We will also increase knowledge and awareness of sustainable development among both the staff and students. We'll use our expertise to contribute to RDI activities aiming to promote sustainable development and environmental responsibility.

Education is an essential tool for achieving sustainability. Therefore we'll also introduce our first sustainable reporting system during the year 2019. As a University of Applied Sciences, we have an important role to increase knowledge for the benefit of the entire society.

The PRME principles provide a compass and guide us through the inclusion of sustainability into our operations. We find them very useful and it is our intention to substantially increase our efforts in this respect within the next few years. We will make the principles more visible to all students, teachers, staff members, alumni and partners.

Helsinki, November 20, 2018

Teemu Kokko  
President, CEO

# OUR PROGRESS ON THE PRME PRINCIPLES



## 1. PURPOSE

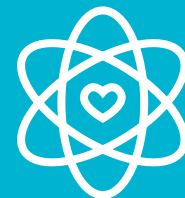
15  
credit  
study  
modules

- An organizational pledge to The Society's Commitment to Sustainable Development 2050, a Finnish initiative that takes national sustainability efforts to a whole new level, has become active e.g. through creating together with the Student Union two 15 credit study modules, which enhance the societal activity of the students and are run by the Student Union.
- PRME taskforce = Responsible Haaga-Helia Steering Group with top management and student body representation to maintain and continuously develop responsibility in Haaga-Helia.



### GOALS

- To ensure strategic responsibility commitment is implemented in practice
- To understand the direct and indirect societal impact and value creation of our whole organization and take action based on the situation analysis



## 2. VALUES

Our current strategy value states that:

**"We serve and revitalize the business community, working together responsibly and sustainably"**

- We research, review and communicate together with our staff how they are aware of our value foundation including responsibility in our actions and activities.
- Haaga-Helia has signed the diversity charter.



### GOALS

- To continue increase the share of staff that feel the values are embedded in all actions and activities
- To update the equality plan concerning both students and staff



## 3. METHOD

100%  
reach of  
students

- Core responsibility content in compulsory business studies reaches 100% of students, advanced content is available in most of our study programs.
- New Circular Economy Learning Path course (15 ECTS cr) has been created and offered to students of Haaga-Helia and to students of two other universities of applied science in the Helsinki metropolitan area (3UAS coalition).
- Dedicated CSR minor Generated over 545 credits in 2017.
- Externally funded project which achieves to create new circular economy courses and study content that will be offered to all Finnish universities of Applied sciences.



### GOALS

- To plan and create new courses in responsibility and sustainability
- To further increase the awareness of the students from the various themes of responsibility and sustainability



## 4. RESEARCH

60%  
open access  
publications

- Many of our ongoing and new research projects have a sustainability component in them from various themes, ranging from research and development concentrated on circular economy to sustainability and responsibility in travel and hotel management.
- Open science and research is an important and developing factor in our research projects. In 2017 almost 60% of our staffs publications in that year are free and accessible to anyone.
- We are officially committed to the rules and practice of responsible research ethics defined by the Finnish National board of research integrity (TENK).



### GOALS

- To develop and incorporate open science and research further and responsibly in our research and development activities
- To further incorporate responsibility themes to our research projects

## 5. PARTNERSHIPS & DIALOGUE



- Partner selection includes a test for fit against our values, including responsibility. We review our current and potential partners from the perspective of responsibility.
- We have joined the cooperative climate partners network managed by City of Helsinki to reduce emissions and share knowledge on best possible practices.
- Partnership with other universities has extended and enhanced the reach of our sustainability education.



### GOALS

- To continue participating in partnership networks and dialogue related to responsible and sustainable development
- Search and activate new sustainable and responsible networks and opportunities related to our key activities



## 6. ORGANISATIONAL PRACTICES

5/5 An environmental management system on all campuses.

- Yearly review of our KPI related to energy, waste and other environmental metrics in our campuses. Our environmental metrics and energy savings have improved in many of our campuses during the year 2017 and 2018.
- Staff and student wellbeing ensured by benefits and structures well beyond legally required levels.
- Environmental criteria considered in purchasing.



### GOALS

- To Research and review on potential new green energy solutions (such as solar panels) for our campuses
- To continue developing reporting on environmental and social metrics