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| **Reflections on our process of planning and developing a university community garden** |
| **Background/Objectives**  ‘Greening’ the university campus through the implementation of a range of sustainability policies and initiatives is part of a broader movement toward creating *health promoting universities.* Indeed, the higher education sector has a responsibility to lead environmental sustainability initiatives in the creation and protection of biodiverse, inclusive and regenerative habitat/ecosystems. As health promotion academics, in this presentation, we reflect on our process of planning and advocating for the design and implementation of ecologically beneficial and inclusive university community garden.  **Methods**  This presentation reports on our personal reflections and professional communications (e.g. via emails and face-to-face meetings) as part of arguing for a university community garden.  **Results**  We focus on the negotiations required to progress this community garden project. We reflect on our process of advocating for, and facilitating the design of, a university community garden that is inclusive to local flora and fauna, as well as our diverse staff and student community. We acknowledge the challenges in terms of strengthening connections between people and place within university governance structures. It is this ‘balancing act’ of the social and environmental priorities that will be elucidated in this presentation.  **Discussion**  We situate these findings within broader literature around ‘health promoting universities’ and community gardens to consider the opportunities and challenges present for creating a biologically diverse and socially inclusive habitat within the higher education setting.  **Keywords**  University community gardens, biodiversity, environmental sustainability, health promoting universities, settings approach |