

# This is what we do!

## Students on sustainable university design

### Studying in the garden?

The inner city of Groningen lacks place for parks and trees. Urban heating and flooding indicate that more green is needed. The university can be a forerunner and install a vertical garden at the library building. Honours students made a design and gathered support from all stakeholders. They obtained the prestigious Green Mind Award. However, the garden is not realized (yet).

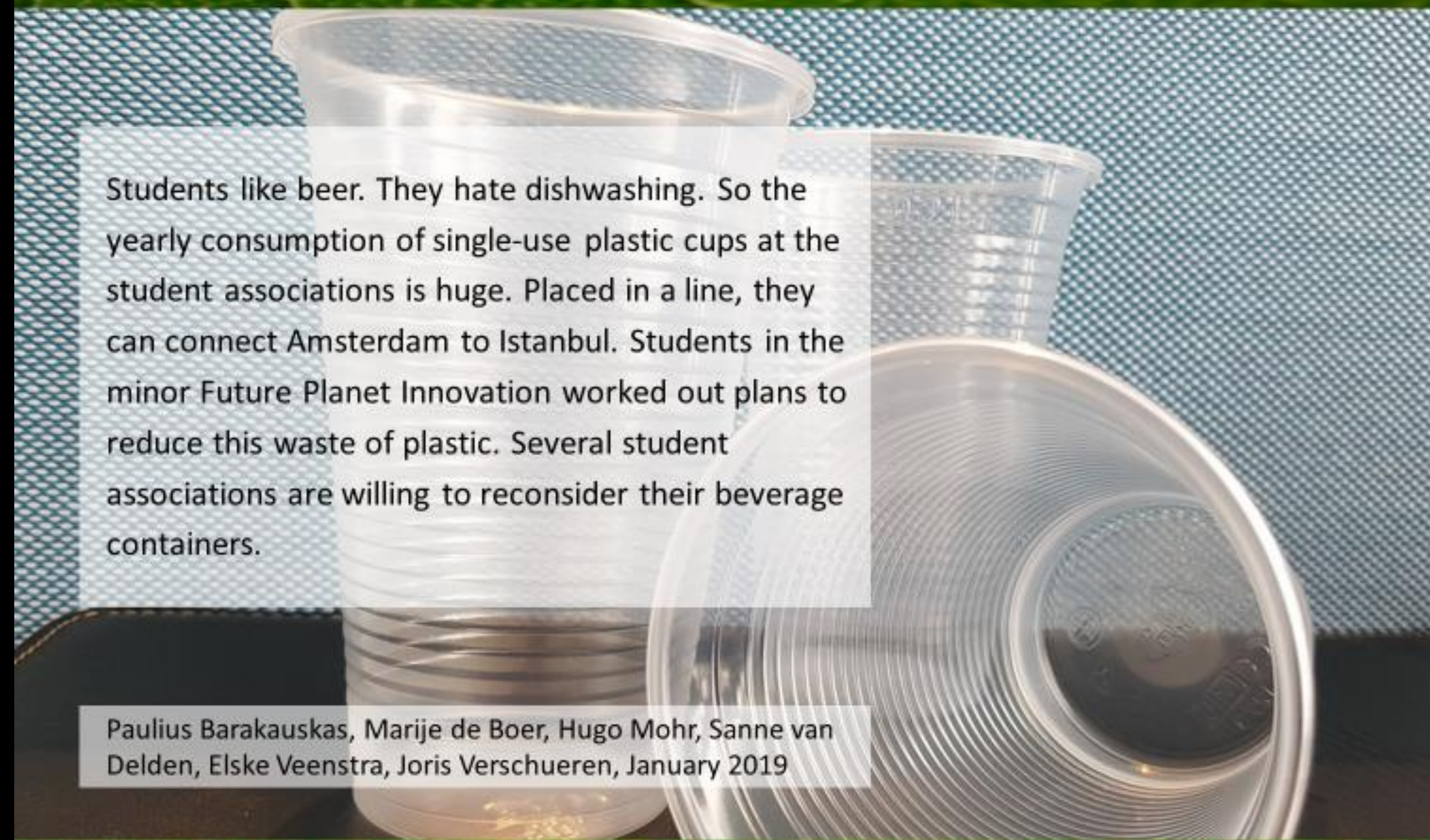
Menno Stellingwerf, Malenthe Teunis en Lisette Stevens  
 June 2014



### Plastic beer soup

Students like beer. They hate dishwashing. So the yearly consumption of single-use plastic cups at the student associations is huge. Placed in a line, they can connect Amsterdam to Istanbul. Students in the minor Future Planet Innovation worked out plans to reduce this waste of plastic. Several student associations are willing to reconsider their beverage containers.

Paulius Barakauskas, Marije de Boer, Hugo Mohr, Sanne van Delden, Elseke Veenstra, Joris Verschueren, January 2019



### Green and clean hands at the loo

After visiting the toilets, you need to wash your hands. Several drying systems are available: paper towels, cotton rolls, air dryers. What is the most sustainable option? Raveen Johnson performed a Life Cycle Analysis. Air dryers proved to be the best. UoG preferred bio-cotton rolls. However, in the LCA they performed worse than conventional cotton because of the lower yield.

Raveen Johnson, May 2018



### Eeh, a frog at Zernike!

Soil sealing is the trend at Zernike. Nature and walking areas are scarce, however necessary for our wellbeing and the ecology. Moniek Gommers investigated the nature values of the surrounding Reitdiep and Paddepoelsterweg. There's a challenge to interconnect the areas by nature corridors at the campus. Next, Sterre Koops discussed a design for the University core area.

Moniek Gommers, August 2015  
 Sterre Koops, December 2018



### KEI-GREEN

Every year the Groningen universities welcome 5000 new students in the KEI week. A good opportunity to introduce the sustainability mission statement. How green is the KEI anyhow? Carlijn Stokvis designed a Sustainable Footprint Calculator to monitor trends in e.g. energy consumption, transport and waste. An opportunity to design an all-sustainable festival.

Carlijn Stokvis, January 2019



### Balancing the heat

Underground Thermal Energy Storage (UTES) covers about 15% of the university renewable energy supply. However, the systems of most buildings are not interconnected. The needs for heating and cooling differ between buildings, so there's an imbalance. Thomas Ike looked at the UTES systems at Zernike and designed a way to resolve the imbalance, either by interconnecting systems or by additional cooling.

Thomas Ike, June 2016

