



MONASH University

Greening up our act

David Pitt

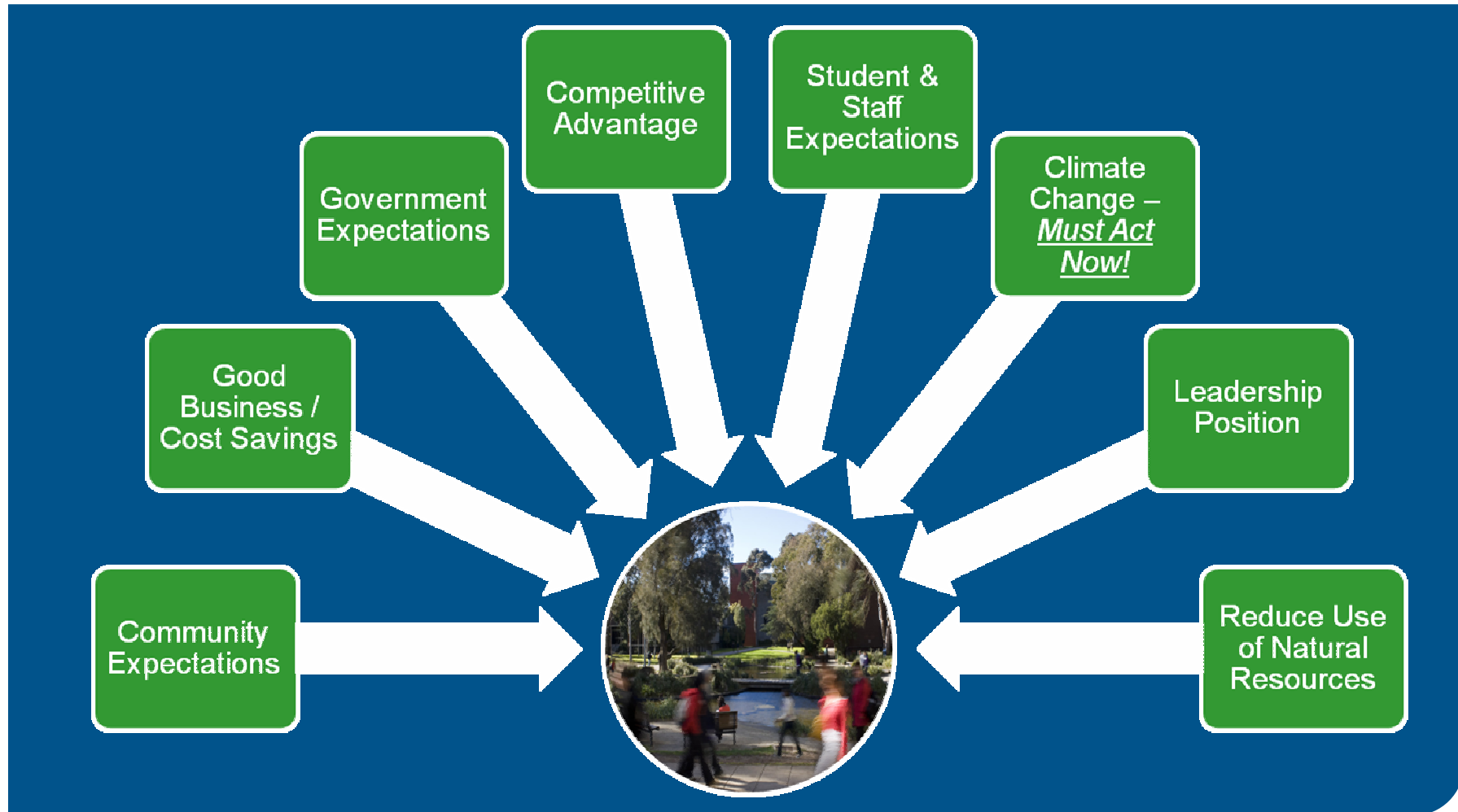
Vice President Finance & CFO

Monash University

# Towards a Sustainable Future:

The Monash University Initiative and the importance of securing environmental sustainability for Australian Universities

# Drivers for Environmental Sustainability



# Environmental Sustainability at Monash:

- **Leader in environmental teaching**
- **Leader in environmental research**
- **Leader in environmental practice**



# Journey so far – Some key milestones

- 2000** > First Environment Policy
  - > Environment added to OHS committee
  - > Cars signed up to Greenfleet
- 2001** > Water, energy and waste committees
  - > Signed up to Federal Greenhouse Challenge
- 2002** > Green Office program commenced
  - > Commenced campaign on buying “green” paper (13%)
- 2003** > First Triple Bottom Line Annual Report
  - > Green Purchasing committee
  - > First green building - Monash Science centre



# Journey so far – Some key milestones

- 2004** > 10% purchase of renewable energy
  - > Stand alone environment policy committee
- 2005** > Student environmental push
  - > Commitment to reduce energy by 20% by 2010
- 2006** > Sustainable building design guidelines established
  - > Greenfleet for % air miles
- 2007** > Green office program has 280 staff volunteers
  - > 72% paper purchased “green”
- 2008** > VCG(E) established (IT, food, transport sub subcommittees)
  - > Office of Environmental Sustainability established
  - > Commitment to go Carbon Neutral by 2011



# How can universities drive change?

- **Research**
- **Teaching**
- **Influence through spend and usage**



# The financial impacts of being green

- **Building costs**
- **Green products not always the cheapest**
- **Increased cost of insurance**
- **Whole of product life costs**



# The financial impacts of being green

- **“Green” buildings cheaper to operate**
- **As costs increase payback periods shorten**
- **Potential research funding sources**
- **Intangible benefits**



# Green procurement

- **Sustainability embedded within a Procurement Framework**
  - Environmental impacts considered prior to market
  - Environmental evaluation of tenders
  - Environmental procurement skill development



# Challenges we face

- **International Focus**
  - Overseas campus perceptions
  - International student perceptions
  - Travel
- **Funding for environmental initiatives**



# Financial professionals should:

- **Improve their environmental literacy**
- **Prepare for reporting requirements**
  - Carbon Accounting
  - KPI

