



HEASC News Digest

Higher Education Associations Sustainability Consortium ♦ <http://www.heasc.net>
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1. ACUPCC Update

The ACUPCC continues to grow with 4 more institutions signing on since the last digest; presently, we stand at **518** institutions, just over halfway to our goal of 1,000 signatories by the end of 2009! The ACUPCC now represents more than 4.1 million students in 48 States!

- The ACUPCC website has added another informational resource page that describes the ACUPCC - Clinton Climate Initiative (CCI) Partnership

The Clinton Climate Initiative and the ACUPCC are partnering to exponentially increase the number of large-scale energy saving retrofit projects in campus buildings. Through this program, colleges and universities will dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions while lowering their energy bills, without dipping into their capital budgets or increasing monthly operating expenses.

http://www.presidentsclimatecommitment.org/html/solutions_cci.htm

- Stephen Muzzy

2. AGB's "Trusteeship" magazine publishes article on sustainability

David Shi, President of Furman University shares the story of his institution's journey toward a sustainable future. In the article Dr. Shi sets the context for sustainable development, and what should be, higher education's responsibility for providing the knowledge necessary to create a sustainable future.

"Higher education is the seedbed of the sustainability movement. Much climate research and environmental science takes place on college and university campuses, which are, by their very nature, sustainable. They are built to last and are endowed in perpetuity. Colleges and universities are preparing the leaders of the future, talented young people who will assume great responsibilities in confronting the sobering challenges posed by global warming and environmental degradation. As higher-education

leaders, we have a responsibility to model sustainable behavior within our institutions and to inspire our students to embrace a more sustainable way of life”.

To read the article in its entirety click here:

<http://www.agb.org/user-applications/DigitalTrusteeship/DT200802.pdf>

3. ACE launches sustainability website

The American Council on Education (ACE) has developed a sustainability website titled “Solutions for our Future: Higher Education goes Green”. The website highlights green initiatives on college and university campuses, providing examples in education and innovation. It also has a feature titled “Guest Perspective” that currently showcases the University of New Hampshire and its President Mark Huddleston. To view ACE’s sustainability website click [here](#).

-Stephen Muzzy

4. Upcoming SCUP Events

- SCUP 2008 Southern Metro Mini "Planning for a Sustainable Campus"
April 24, 2008
Southern Methodist University; Dallas, TX
The conference will address such topics as cost versus benefit of going green, new projects and renovations, and projects that make campuses more sustainable. **Early registration deadline is April 20, 2008.** <http://www.scup.org/regions/so/2008/metro-mini-april/index.html>
- Creating a Sustainable Campus Through Integrated Planning Workshop
July 19, 2008,
Montreal, QC

The Society for Campus and University Planning is inviting participants for the Creating a Sustainable Campus Through Integrated Planning pre-conference workshop. The workshop will discuss creating sustainable practices that bring inter- and intra-campus communities together, developing integrated strategies that tie sustainability to its core mission, and merging the planning efforts of academic, student life, resource, and facilities professionals on campus. This workshop is for any campus planner, organizer or administrator who beginning to develop and integrate sustainability as a core value into their campus planning process.

<http://www.scup.org/annualconf/43/workshops.html>

- Planning Beyond Sustainability SCUP Southern Regional Conf.
November 5 – 7, 2008
New Orleans, LA
The Society for College and University Planning is pleased to invite registration for the 2008 Southern Regional Conference, Regeneration: Planning Beyond Sustainability. The conference will examine the concept of the regenerative and restorative roles institutions of higher education can play to better their communities and environment. The conference also plans to address how institutions deal with lost funding in the face of a needed capital project, find alternative funding sources, or build and/plan for sustainability.
<http://www.scup.org/regions/so/2008/index.html>

- Jennifer Thompson

5. [Green Community Colleges: Sustainable Campuses and Programs](#)

October 18-21, 2008; Austin, TX

The National Council for Workforce Education Board of Directors is issuing a call for presentations for the Fall 2008 Conference. NCWE seeks cutting-edge, forward-thinking, engaging presentations keyed to the

theme of the conference, "Green Community Colleges: Sustainable Campuses and Programs." Presentations on sustainability initiatives, energy programs and opportunities, and workforce curriculum and faculty development are encouraged. **Proposals are due April 18, 2008.**

-AASHE Bulletin

6. AASHE 2008: Working Together for Sustainability – On Campus and Beyond

AASHE invites submissions of abstracts for its 2nd biennial conference - AASHE 2008: Working Together for Sustainability – On Campus and Beyond, Nov 9-11, in Raleigh, NC.

All proposals except posters **are due by May 1** and may be submitted in three categories: Education & Research, Operations, and Administration & Finance. Poster submissions are due by September 1. We invite all your members to submit presentations. For more details please visit the conference website: www.aashe.org/conference, or email conference@aaashe.org.

Reflecting this year's theme of working together for sustainability, AASHE is partnering with Sustainable North Carolina to offer a "Sustainable Solutions Expo: Green Solutions for Campuses, Businesses and Institutions." Other events include a career fair, keynotes by Lester Brown, Peter Senge, Van Jones, and Vandana Shiva, special panels on climate, policy, and other topics, and tours of local campuses. If you would like a conference announcement for your newsletter, please contact Lisa Satin, AASHE Conference Manager, at lisa@aaashe.org.

-Judy Walton, AASHE

7. AASHE Releases Draft of Campus Sustainability Rating System

AASHE has released the next draft of its rating system for sustainability in higher education called STARS (Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System). The release of STARS version 0.5 opens a public comment period that will last until May 9, 2008. STARS is designed to: help gauge the progress of colleges and universities toward sustainability in all sectors, from governance and operations to academics and community engagement; enable meaningful comparisons across institutions as well as benchmarking within institutions; create incentives for continual improvement toward sustainability; facilitate information sharing about sustainability practices and performance in higher education; and build a stronger, more diverse campus sustainability community. Over 90 colleges and universities are pilot testing STARS. They will provide feedback to AASHE throughout 2008 and inform the development of STARS version 1.0, planned for release in spring 2009.

See also: [STARS 0.5 Document](#) (pdf)

-Via the AASHE Bulletin

8. Legislative Watch

3 University Leaders Testify in Senate to Limit GHG Emissions

University of California at Berkeley Chancellor Robert Birgeneau, University of Minnesota at Morris Chancellor Jacqueline Johnson, and Yale University (CT) President Richard C. Levin recently testified at the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works Hearing, "Examining Strategies to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions at U.S. Colleges and Universities." Each university leader discussed the important role of colleges and universities in battling climate change and the necessity for the federal government to enact legislation limiting greenhouse gas emissions nationwide.

- Via the AASHE Bulletin 4/6/08

Senate passes one-year extension of renewable-energy tax credit

The U.S. Senate passed an extension of the renewable-energy production tax credit Thursday (4/10) as part of a bill intended to address the ailing U.S. housing market. The renewable-energy credit

provides a per-kilowatt-hour incentive for the first 10 years a renewable-energy project is in operation -- a credit considered to be a vital driver of clean-energy expansion. The credit is worth an estimated \$6 billion and will be extended for another year, through 2009, if the legislation makes it past the House of Representatives and President Bush. Homeowners and businesses will also be able to offset up to 30 percent of the cost of solar and fuel-cell equipment under the bill, and homeowners who install efficient insulation, furnaces, and windows will get additional credits. "It would be difficult for taxpayers to find an investment that offers a better return," said Melinda Pierce of the Sierra Club. "This package of incentives will pay us environmental and economic dividends for years to come."

-Debra Rowe via

<http://lists.grist.org/t?r=2&c=2780&l=16&ctl=22DEA:277D6CE372C55EB4F7A1B52A20873D75>

9. Five Simple Ways to Help Your IT Infrastructure Go Green

(from GreenerComputing.com)

No-Cost and Low-Cost Ways to Green Your Data Center Right Now

Greening your data center, IT department, and PCs can seem an overwhelming task, requiring months of planning and corporate buy-in, as well as big-budget items that will pay off in the long run, but cause financial pain right now. But it needn't be that way.

Five simple ways to get started going green. You'll be surprised how simple it is to get started, and how quickly you'll start seeing results.

Read more here http://www.greenercomputing.com/columns_third.cfm?NewsID=55645

-Via ASU's Global Institute for Sustainability, Sustainability Digest (4/4/08) and GreenerComputing.com

10. Upcoming Events

- **Chill Out: Campus Solutions to Global Warming Broadcast**
April 16, 2008; 7pm EST; Webcast <http://www.nwf.org/campusecology/chillout/>
- **National Conference on Sustainability for Community Colleges**
April 16th & 17th, 2008
Lane Community College Eugene, OR
www.lanec.edu/sustainability/conferences/national.html
- **Upper Midwest Association for Campus Sustainability** Luther College – Decorah, Iowa
April 18-19, 2008 <http://www.umacs.org>.
- **SCUP 2008 Southern Metro Mini "Planning for a Sustainable Campus"**
April 24, 2008 Southern Methodist University; Dallas, TX
<http://www.scup.org/regions/so/2008/metro-mini-april/index.html>
- **Creating a Culture of Sustainability Conference** (Sponsored by AASHE)
May 28-30, 2008 Denver, Colorado
<https://www.academicimpressions.com/conferences/0508-sustainability.php?q=aashe&c>
- **AASHE: Sustainability Across the Curriculum Leadership Workshop**
June 12-13, 2008 San Diego, CA <http://www.aashe.org/profdev/curriculum.php>
- **ACPA Sustainability Institute at Harvard** - June 11-14th
<http://myacpa.org/pd/sustainability/>

Your articles, announcements, news blurbs are always welcome for inclusion in the HEASC News Digest. Please send to smuzzy@secondnature.org. Thank you!

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