Part 3
National Trends

U.S. Partnership for Education for Sustainable Development: Convene, Catalyze and Communicate

Sector Teams: Business, Higher Education, K-12, Communities, Faith, Youth…

Trends and resources in sectors – some examples

- **Business** – Lifestyles of the Healthy and Sustainable, SOL Sustainability Consortium, Shareholders, Investors (e.g. Goldman Sachs and Swiss RE)
- **Communities** - Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, Grand Rapids model
- **K-12** – Nat. Assoc. of Independent Schools, National Summit
- **Faith** - National Religious Partnership and Interfaith Alliance, Regeneration Project
- **Youth** – Climate Challenge, Reduce Your Impact, Nike…

GREAT NEWS!!!
Growing National Trend:

Over 17 national higher education associations are creating initiatives in education for sustainable development

Engaged National Associations

1. ACE–Am. Council on Ed.
2. AAC&U – Assoc. of American Colleges and Universities
3. AACC – Am. Ass. of Community Colleges
4. AASCU – State Colleges and Universities
5. AGB – Governing Boards
6. NACA – Campus Activities
7. NAEP – Educational Buyers
8. APPA – Facilities Officers
9. NACUBO – Business Officers
10. SCUP – College and University Planners
11. ACUHO-I – Residence Life
12. ACPA – Student Affairs
13. NAICU - Independents
14. ACEED-I – Events and Conference Directors
15. NACS – Campus Stores

AND MORE

Higher Education Associations Sustainability Consortium - HEASC

- Shared professional development,
- Shared publications,
- Social and environmental responsibilities within the associations and conferences,
- Informing the public about higher education's commitment to sustainability.

www.heasc.net

Disciplinary Associations Network for Sustainability – DANS www.aashe.org/dans

- American Psychological Association
- Sociology
- Religion
- Philosophy
- Math
- Broadcasting
- Architecture
- Engineering (civil, mechanical, eng. ed.)
- Ecological Economics
- Chemistry
- Biology
- American Association for the Advancement of Science
- Computer Research
- Humanities
- Women's Studies
- Political Science
- Anthropology
- More…

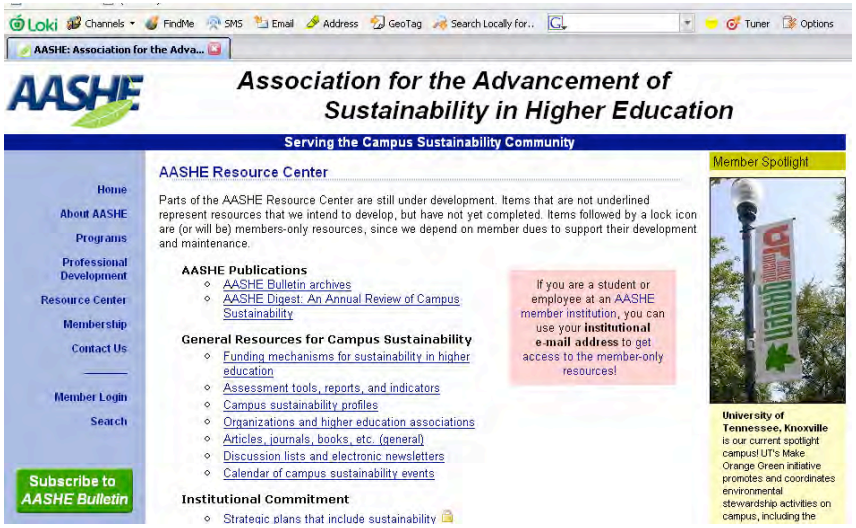
DANS – Infusing s.d. into:

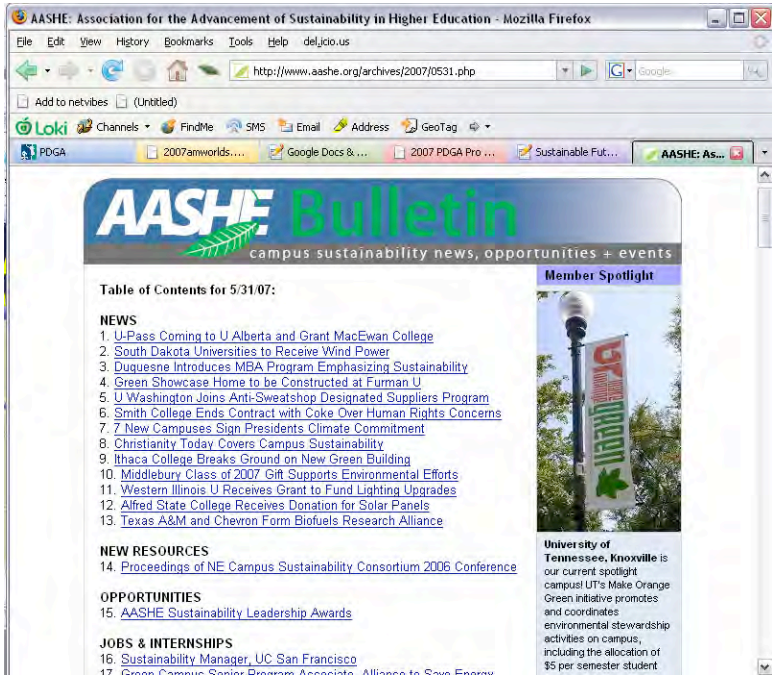
1. Curricula
2. Promotion and tenure and accreditation
3. Legislative briefings
4. Informing the public
5. Cross-disciplinary approaches
6. Funding
7. Professional identity as an academic

Very exciting!

AASHE, the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education www.aashe.org

STARS Program





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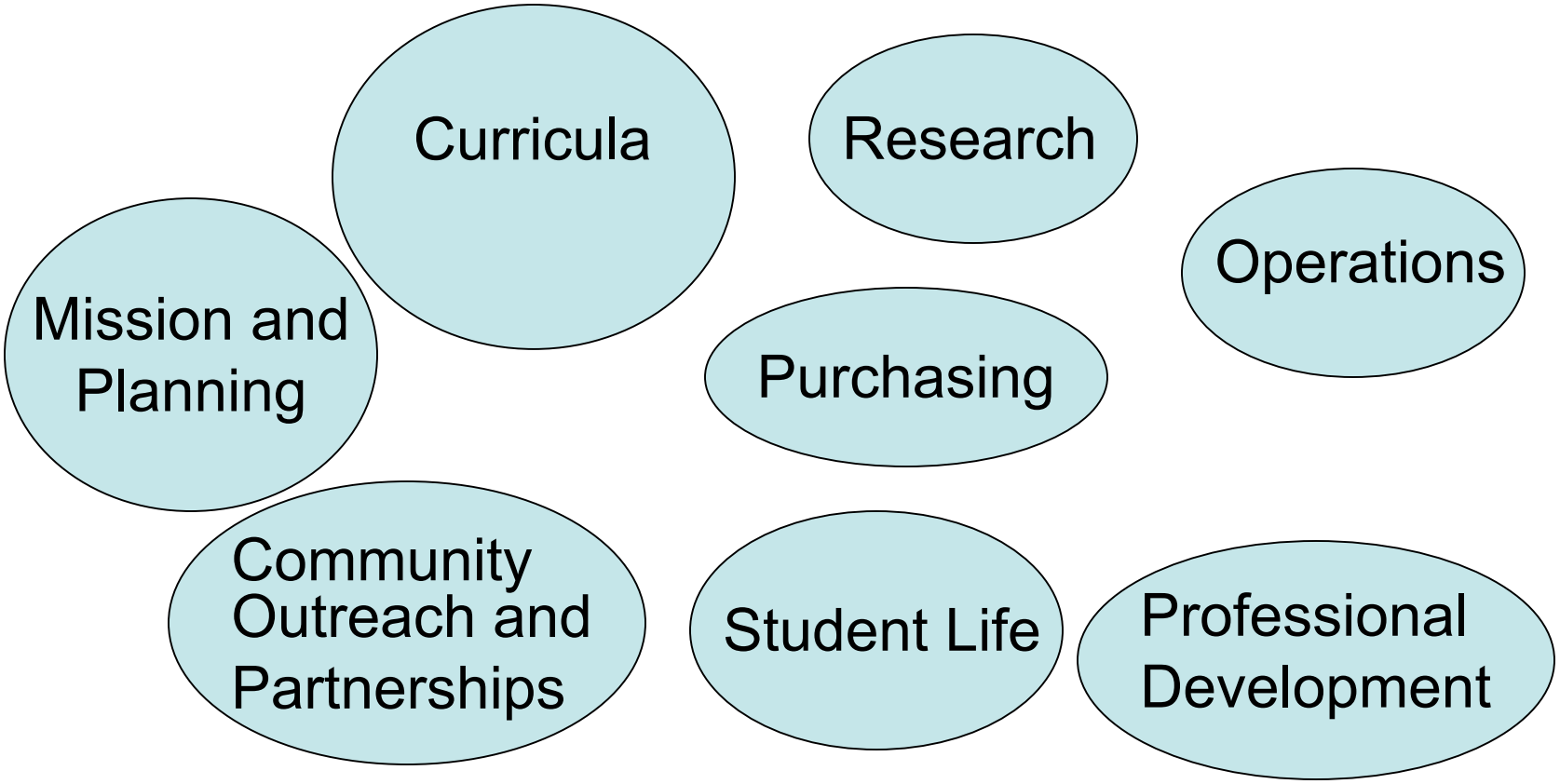
For higher education, Sustainable Development integrated into:



Key places where sustainability is emerging:

- **Mission**
- **Strategic Plan**
- **Budget**
- **Orientation**
- **Campus Map and Signage**
- **Building Policies**
- **Operations and Purchasing Policies**
- **Student Life**
- **Residential Curricula**
- **Gen Ed Required Core**
- **Infused throughout curricula**
- **First Year Experience**
- **Infused in job descriptions and annual reviews**
- **Community Partnerships**
- **Workforce Development**

Potential is enormous for social and environmental justice and health

- 4,096 U.S. Colleges and Universities (1)
- 14.8 million students (1)
- $277 billion annual expenditures; 2.8% of the GDP(1)
- HE expenditures > the GDP of all but 25 countries in the world(2)

1 *From: 2001 Digest of Education Statistics, US Dept. of Education.*

2 *From: 2001 CIA World Factbook and Dowling, Mike., "Interactive Table of World Nations," available from http://www.mrdowling.com/800nations.html; Internet; updated Friday, June 29, 2001*

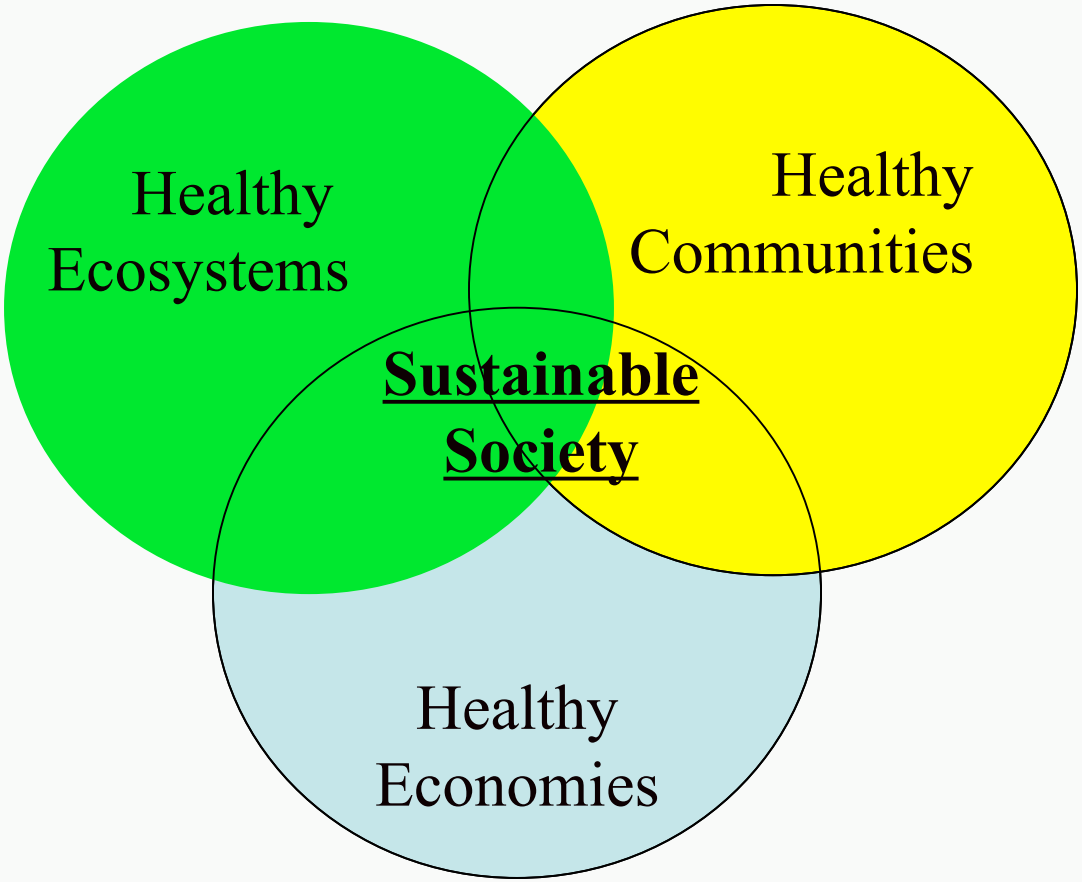
Campaigns

- Campus Climate Challenge
  - 30+ youth organizations for clean energy
  - MTV/ThinkMTV Break the Addiction campaign
- Sustainable Living
  - Eco-Reps, peer-to-peer sustainability outreach campaigns
- Student Green Fees
  - Renewable energy; sustainability projects
- Fair Trade (coffee, tea, sugar, chocolate)
- Divestment (ex: Sudan)

Pledges & Declarations

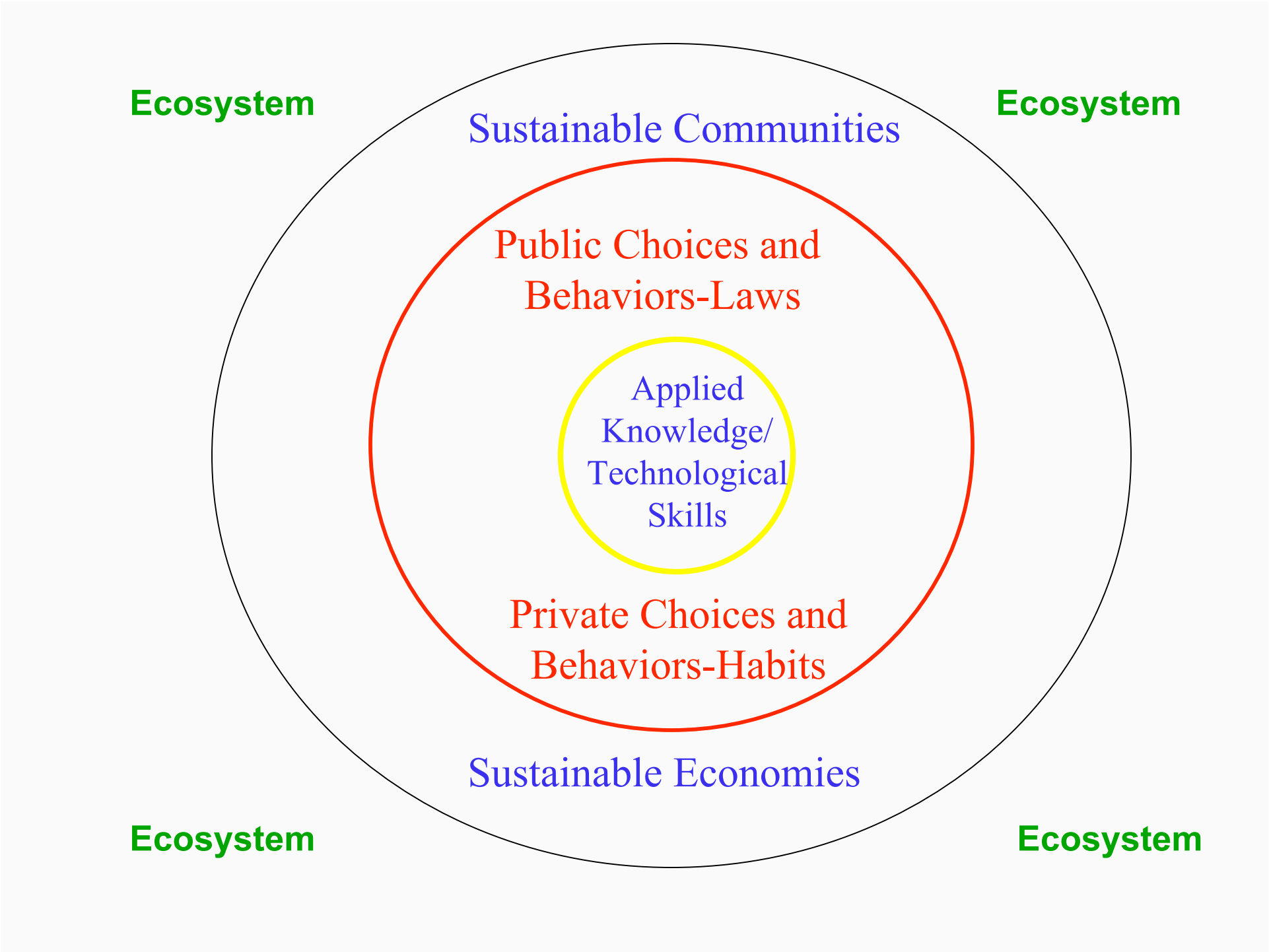
American College & University
Presidents Climate Commitment

- over 490 signatories
- climate neutrality
- students educated to create solutions



The Three Components of Sustainable Development

What Businesses call "The Triple Bottom Line"


Ecosystem
Ecosystem
Sustainable Communities
Public Choices and Behaviors-Laws
Applied Knowledge/ Technological Skills
Private Choices and Behaviors-Habits
Sustainable Economies
Ecosystem
Ecosystem

Imagine a country where all college students get credit for helping to solve our societal problems through their academic assignments.

Imagine students literate in the real world sustainability challenges and engaged in the solutions

Provide the models and opportunities for practicing the changing of behaviors and policies

Conclusions

1. The U.S. public is not educated enough about sustainability issues and solutions.
2. We need sustainability literacy and engagement for ALL. We all need skills to change consumption, investment and civic behaviors to support appropriate market modifications (legislation).
3. We need to educate ourselves and our students to be systems thinkers and solutions-oriented problem solvers.
4. This work is developing rapidly, but much more needs to be done.
5. We already have many resources and strategies.
6. We need to document, and share on our campuses and beyond our campuses.