



Education for a Sustainable Future What You Need to Know

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Today's Topics

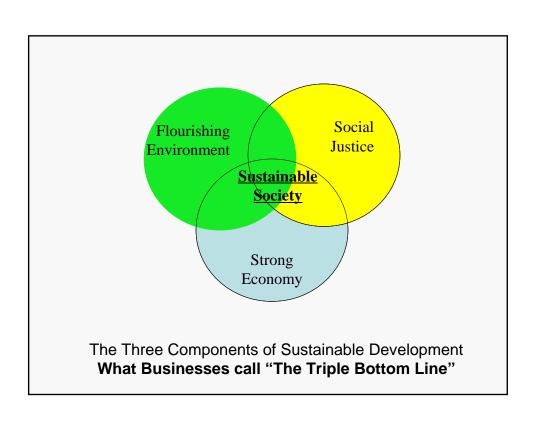
- What is Sustainable Part I **Development?**
- **National Trends** Part II
- Part III Examples
- Part IV Resources
- **Questions and Answers** Part V



Sustainable Development is often defined as:

"meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs"

World Commission on Env. and Development. (1987). Our Common Future. England: Oxford University Press.



The United Nations has declared a

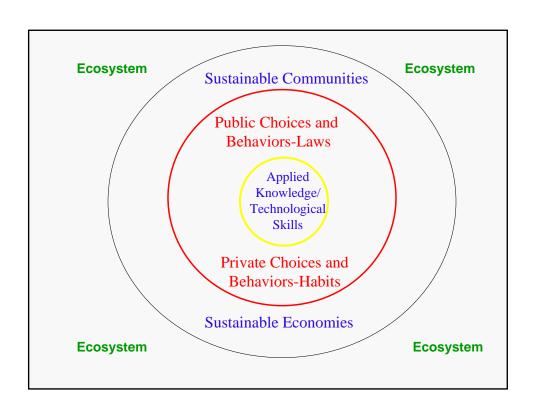
Decade of Education for Sustainable Development 2005-2014



Education for a Sustainable Society:

"enables people to develop the knowledge, values and skills to participate in decisions ..., that will improve the quality of life now without damaging the planet for the future."





Why Sustainability Now?

We are the first generation capable of determining the habitability of the planet for humans and other species.

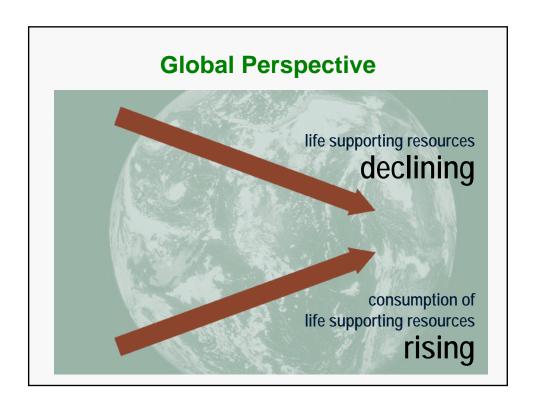


Why Sustainability & Why Now?

"There is no longer any doubt that every ecosystem that life depends on is compromised and in danger."



U.N. Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, 2005





Why Sustainability & Why Now?

"Climate change is for real. We have just a small window of opportunity and there is not a moment to lose."

Dr. Rajendra Pachavri, Chairman, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, January, 2005





Effects in Our Lifetime

- Disruption of food production and the food chain
- More extreme weather events
- Disruptions of ecosystems, including water supplies
- Spread of disease e.g. West Nile, Malaria
- Submersion of land masses was 1 to 4 foot sea level rise - now up to 48 feet 50% of world's population lives on the coasts
- = Civilization Disruption

Sources: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, EPA



Why is EFS so Important?

- Public unaware that we are exceeding the carrying capacity of the planet.
- The U.S. has approximately 5% of the world's population and is consuming 25% of the world's resources.
- Public unaware that we can build stronger economies that will produce quality of life and reduce human suffering, environmental degradation and social injustice now.
- A rapid shift in mindset is needed and education to action is the key.

Global Transition

From

- Fossil powered
- Take, make, waste
- Living off nature's capital
- Market as master
- Loss of cultural & biological diversity
- Individual centered
- · Materialism as goal

To

- Renewables powered
- Cyclical production
- Living off nature's income
- Market as servant
- Increased cultural & biological diversity
- Community centered
- Human satisfaction goal

- Sustainability is the lens through which we can collectively examine and act upon our shared world systems and through which we can analyze our own individual lifestyles.
- Outcome a more just, healthy and prosperous society.

Part II National Trends



U.S. Partnership for Education for Sustainable Development

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





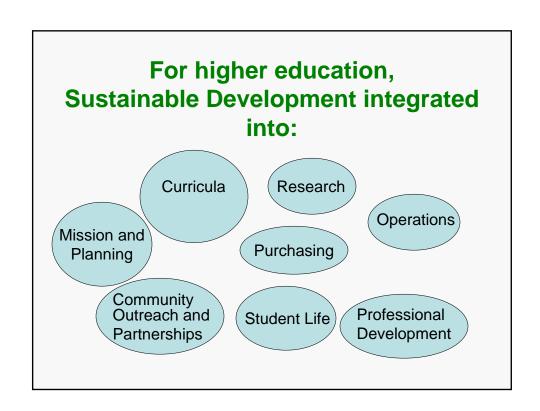
Business principles of sustainability:

- Cradle to Cradle (McDonough)
- Biomimicry (Benyas Like nature, efficient and not toxic)
- World Business Council for Sustainable Development (www.wbcsd.org)
- Natural Step (Sweden and U.S.)
- Natural Capitalism (Lovins, Harvard Business Review)
- Ethical Markets Hazel Henderson



Trends and resources in sectors – some examples

- Business LOHAS, SOL Sustainability Consortium, CERES, Businesses for Social Responsibility, Shareholders, Investors (e.g. Goldman Sachs and Swiss RE)
- Communities Mayors Climate Protection and Smart Growth, Grand Rapids model
- K-12 Nat. Assoc. of Independent Schools, U.S. Partnership resources
- Faith National Religious Partnership and Interfaith Alliance, Regeneration Project
- Youth Climate Challenge, Reduce Your Impact, Action Campaigns...





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

Engaged National Associations

- 1. ACE-Am. Council on Ed.
- AAC&U Assoc. of American Colleges and Universities
- 3. AACC Am. Ass. of Community Colleges
- 4. AASCU State Colleges and Universities
- AGB Governing Boards
- 6. NACA Campus Activities
- 7. NAEB Educational Buyers

- 8. APPA Facilities Officers
- 9. NACUBO Business Officers
- 10. SCUP College and University Planners
- 11. ACUI Student Unions
- 12. ACPA Student Affairs
- 13. NACUFS Food
- 14. ACEED-I Events and Conference Directors
- 15. NACS Campus Stores

 AND MORE

Higher Education Associations Sustainability Consortium - HEASC

- Shared professional development,
- Shared publications,
- · Greening of offices and conferences
- Informing the public about higher education's commitment to sustainability

www.heasc.net

Disciplinary Associations Network for Sustainability - 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...

Building self-concepts in yourself and others: You can help change society!!

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

www.playagreaterpart.org

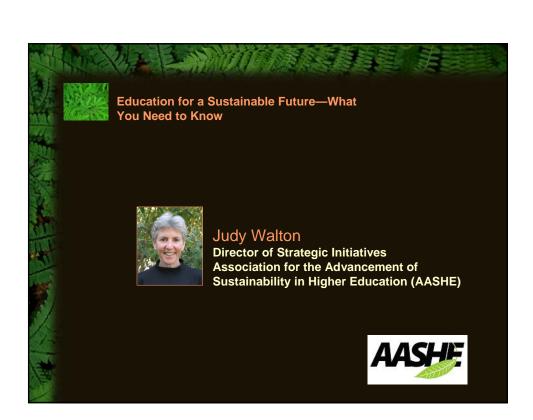
Imagine a country where all college students get credit for helping to solve our societal problems through their academic assignments.

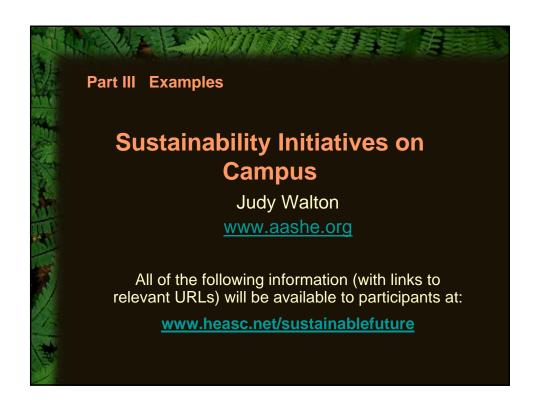




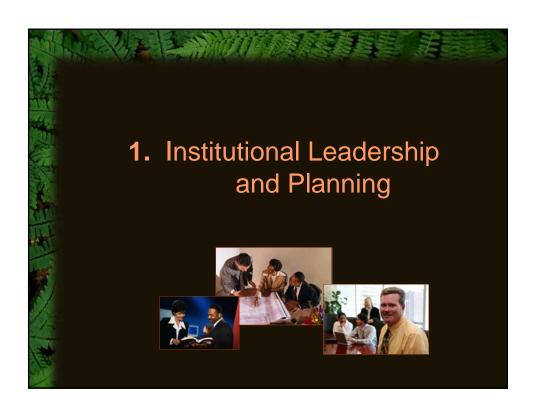
Change norms so all students and the community become:

- environmentally responsible
- socially responsible
- economically responsible











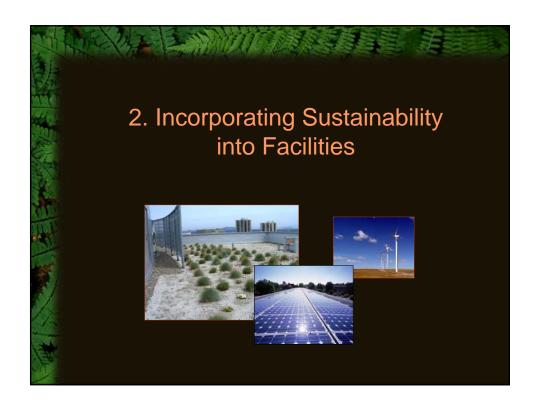
Sustainability in Guiding Documents & Reports - In Vision, Values, or Mission Statement • Ex: Lane CC – core value • Ex: Warren Wilson – mission statement • City College of San Francisco - trustees resolution - In Institution's Strategic Plan (35+) • Ex: Dickinson; Oberlin; Georgia Tech - In Campus Master Plan (40+) • Ex: CSU Chico; U Vermont; Carnegie Mellon; Green River CC

Sustainability in Guiding Documents & Reports (continued) - Sustainability Plan or Report • Ex: UC Santa Barbara; Mount Wachusett CC; Furman U - Policies (Sustainability, Procurement, Investment, Energy, Building, etc.) • Ex: Western Carolina U - energy conservation • Ex: Houston CC – green procurement • Ex: Duke – socially responsible investing • Ex: Bemidji State U – environmental policy

Sustainability in Guiding Documents & Reports (continued) - Sustainability Assessments & Reports • Ex: NYU, Grand Valley State U • Frameworks for Assessment – AASHE, W. Mich Assessment Project (online database), ULSF - Websites (260+) • AASHE design guidelines • New sites in 2005-2006 - CSU Chico, Broward CC, Duke, Cornell, Colorado State

Sustainability Staff & Structure - Committee, Task Force, Green Teams • UNC Chapel Hill – reports to vice chancellor • Keene State College – Presidents Council for a Sustainable Future - Office of Sustainability • U New Hampshire - Coordinator, Director, Officer (70+) • 11 new hires in 2006 • AASHE – online directory, job descriptions, guide to hiring, salary survey



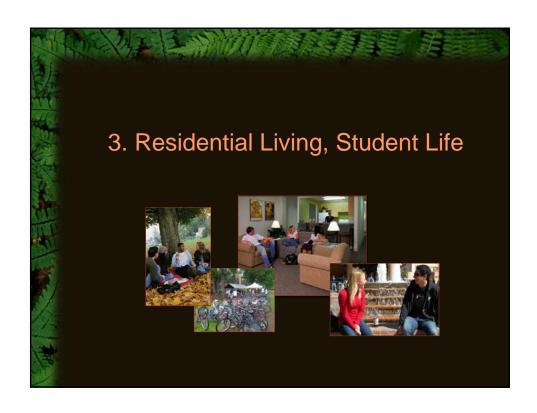


Green Buildings Green Building Policies (70+) New, Remodeled, and Existing Buildings Ex: Mesa CC – Sustainable Bldg Remodel Program Green Buildings Ex: Berea College – Ecovillage Ex: Cape Cod CC – Applied Tech Bldg (LEED Gold, 85% less water; 35% less energy) Ex: Haverford College – Athletic Facility (LEED Gold, 1st certified athletic facility)

Sustainable Dining - Farm-to-Cafeteria Movement (200+ campuses) - Sustainable Dining Initiatives • Ex: Oberlin College – Social Responsibility (Bon Appetit) • Ex: Yale – Sustainable Food Project (Aramark) • Ex: Colby College – Community Service (Sodexho) • Ex: UC Berkeley – Environment & Community (selfoperated) 1st certified organic kitchen. - Sustainable Gardens, Farms, Dairies • Ex: CSU Chico – Organic Dairy Teaching Facility • Ex: St Olaf College – Organic Garden (student-run, supplies all cafeteria's produce)

Fuel & Energy - Biofueled Fleets • Ex: Rice U, Appalachian State U - biodiesel • Ex: U. Arizona motor pool - ethanol (E85) - Bicycles • Ex: Texas Christian U. – "purple bike" program - Renewable Energy & Energy Conservation • Ex: Carleton College – wind turbine • Ex: Central Oregon CC – student fee increase for renewable energy (75% of total energy) • Ex: Los Angeles CCD – solar initiative • Ex: U Buffalo – conservation saves \$4 mil/yr.

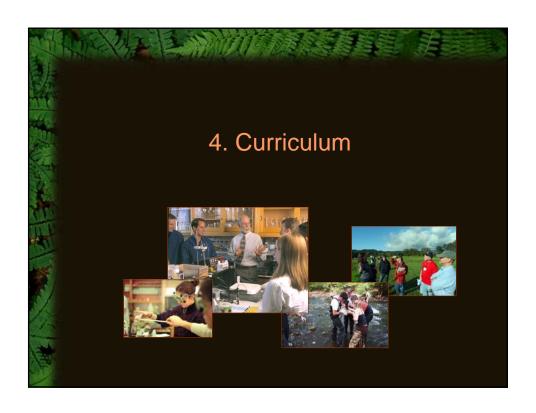






Competitions & Awards - Recyclemania - 200+ campuses in 2007 - NWF Chill-out – annual video competition - Focus the Nation Student Award - AASHE Student Award - EPA P3 Award (People, Planet, Prosperity) - Sustainable Building / Design Competitions

Learning Outcomes & Communities (Co-curricular) - Learning Outcomes • Ex: ACPA sustainability learning outcomes • Ex: U Delaware - sustainability learning outcomes as part of residential curriculum - Learning Communities • Ex: U San Francisco - living-learning communities • Ex: Syracuse U – sustainability-focused learning community

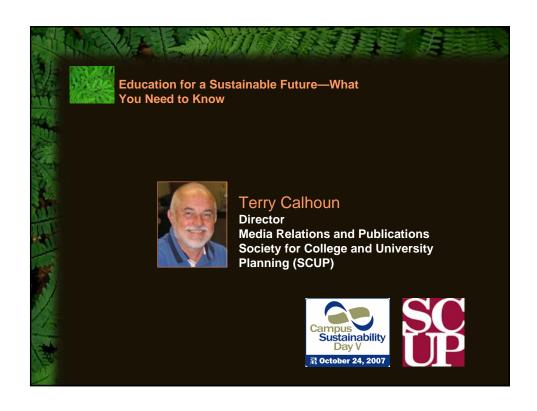






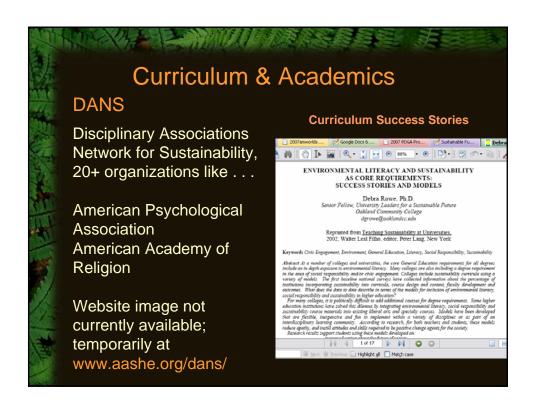


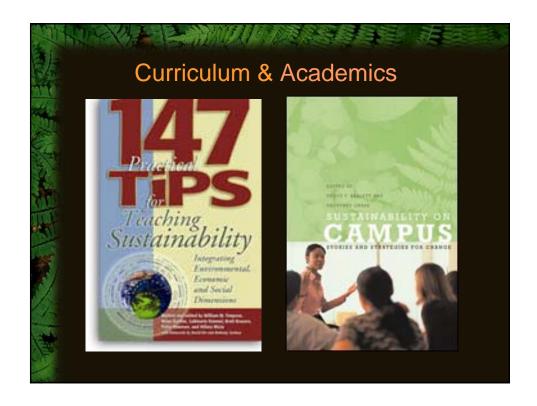


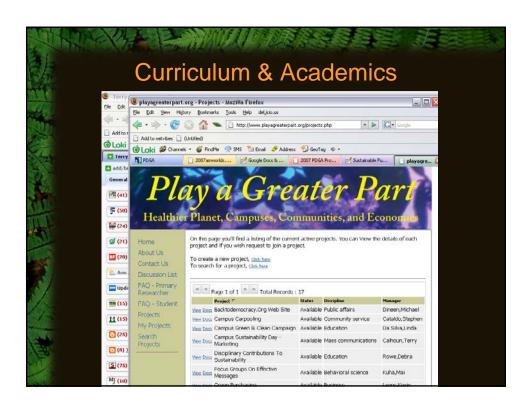


Part IV Resources • We've created an online list of links to major higher education sustainability resources just for this presentation • List focused on information-dense sources but is representational, not comprehensive

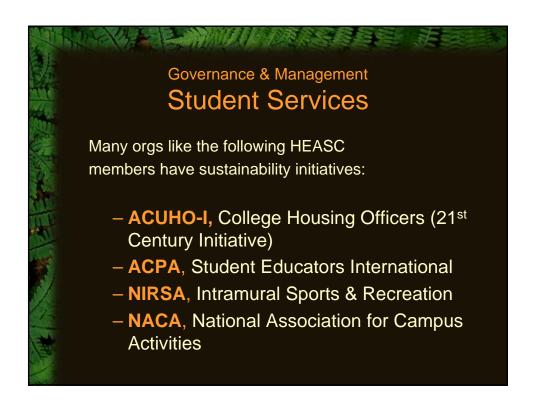
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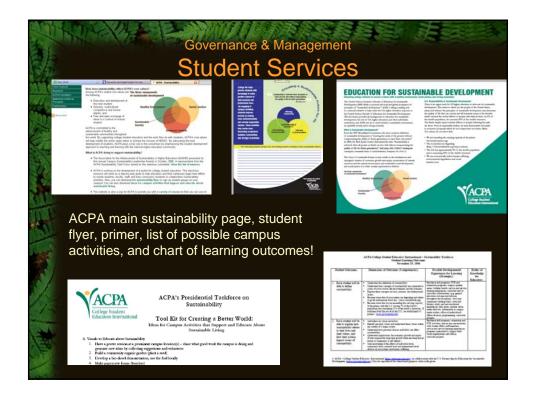


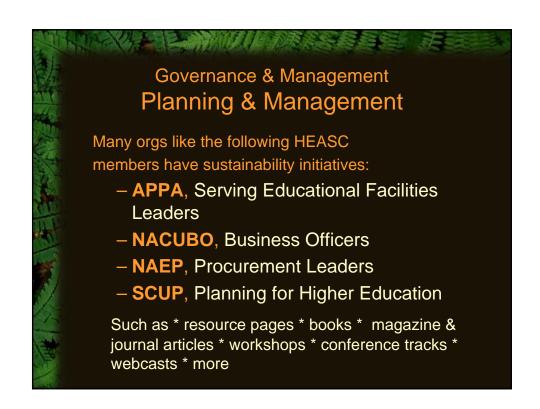




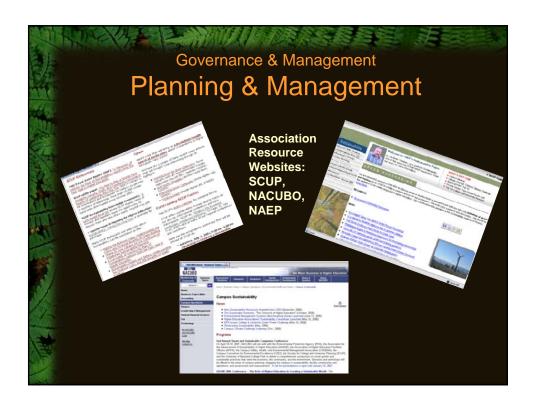


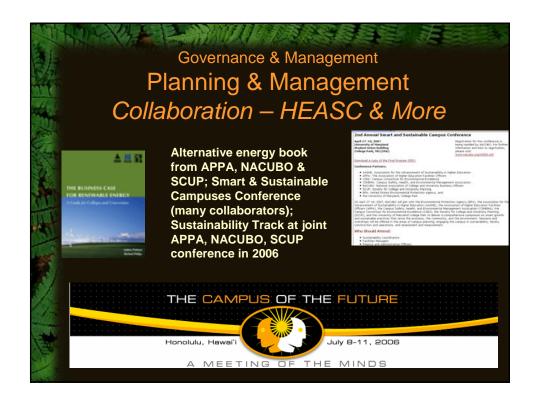


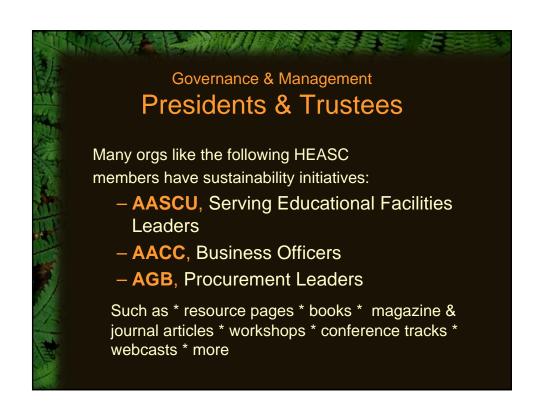




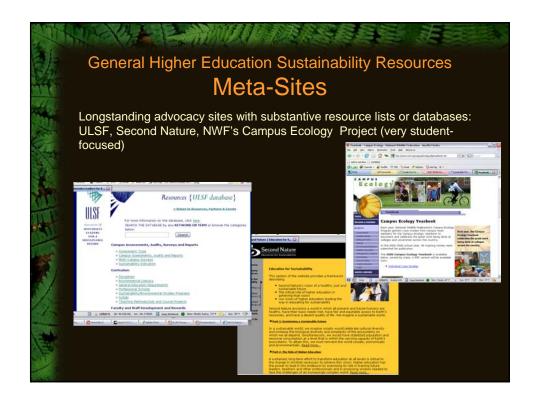


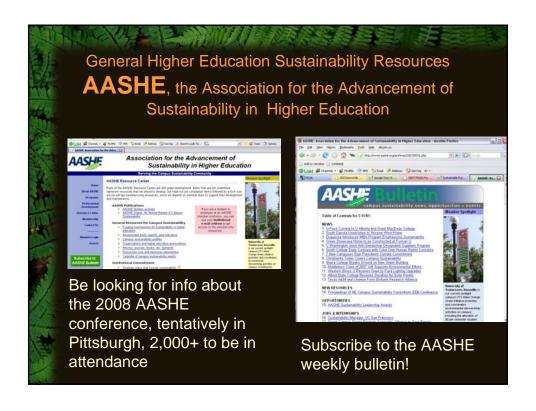


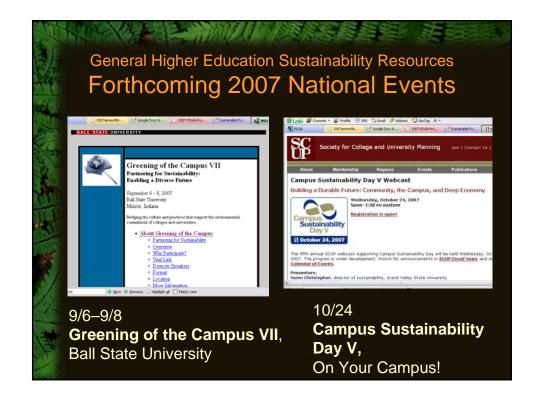


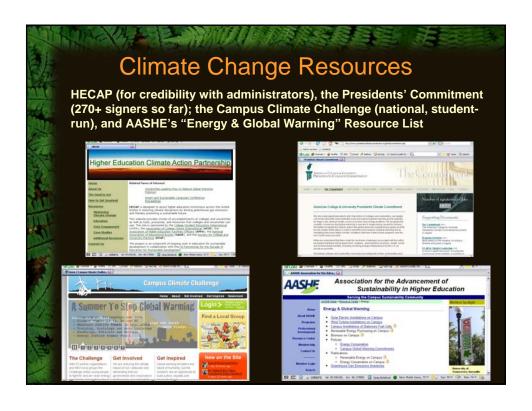
















Conclusions

- 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 and to support appropriate market modifications (legislation).
- 3. Be a systems change agent.
- 4. Some exciting developments, too many to report, but much more needs to be done. You are in a key position to make this happen.
- 5. There are many resources and strategies to help you infuse sustainability into all aspects of higher education and the larger society.
- 6. Document all you do and share with others.

The Power of What You Do



We can choose a sustainable future



Core Questions for Next Steps 1. What low hanging fruit can we implement immediately? 2. What are the key strategic actions we can take to shift to a sustainable institution and society as soon as possible?

Let our enthusiasm show!

Questions or Comments Debra Rowe President U.S. Partnership for Education for Sustainable Development dgrowe@oaklandcc.edu Judy Walton **Director of Strategic Initiatives** Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) judy@aashe.org Terry Calhoun Director Media Relations and Publications Society for College and University Planning (SCUP) terry.calhoun@scup.org

