



# HEASC News Digest

Higher Education Associations Sustainability Consortium ♦

<http://www.heasc.net>

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## **1. ACUPCC Update**

The ACUPCC continues to grow, 11 more institutions signed on since the last digest; we now stand at **484** strong. This represents over 3.75 million students in 48 States – 22% of the total student population!

- **Reminder: Implementation Clock Starts Jan 15th for New Signatories & New Online Reporting Form Coming Soon:** For all institutions that signed the ACUPCC after September 15, 2007, your "implementation clock start date" is January 15, 2008. This means that your 2-month report is due March 15, 2008. A new online form for submitting this report has been developed and is nearly complete – a username and password along with instructions will be sent to Implementation Liaisons next week. All of the data submitted through the .pdfs for the first 2-month report will be uploaded into the new online system. Charter signatories that have not yet submitted a two-month report are encouraged to do so using the new online reporting form.

*-Stephen Muzzy*

## **2. Reminder: ACUPCC Checklist for HEASC Members**

A new document has been created to help HEASC members streamline a process of supporting and updating the progress of the ACUPCC to its' constituents. The 6 item checklist ranges from posting the ACUPCC logo (with link) onto your organizations website to becoming a role model of the ACUPCC in your own operations. The document

has been uploaded to the HEASC website and can be found in the 'Resources' sections under *recently added resources* and under *resources for supporting the ACUPCC*. You can also download it here: [Support the ACUPCC Checklist](#). **Coming Soon:** A template letter that can be sent to your non-signatory members outlining the commitment and asking them to join.

*-Stephen Muzzy*

### **3. Watch the "Education for a Sustainable Future" Webinar from Nov. 27, 2007**

The webinar can be viewed by going to the 'Professional Development' page on the [HEASC](#) website. Listen to Debra Rowe and others as they present a 90-minute webinar on the latest trends in sustainability on campus. Several higher education experts highlight some of the best examples of implementing sustainable projects and practices. We would like to thank the 8 speakers from HEASC and DANS who contributed to the event. Approximately 500 people participated in the webinar from 97 institutions.

*-Deborah Rowe*

### **4. SCUP Conference: Sustainability: Simple Steps for a Complex Issue**

SCUP will hold their 2008 Southern Metro Mini Conference, entitled "Sustainability: Simple Steps for a Complex Issue," on February 14, 2008 at Emory University, Atlanta, GA. The conference will teach participants how to launch or grow a sustainability program on campus and to plan for short and long-term efforts that impact budget, operations, and academic programs. The advanced registration deadline is today, **February 4, 2008**.

*-via SCUP Website*

### **5. New book from NIRSA includes a chapter on Sustainability**

NIRSA has published a new book titled: [Campus Recreation: Essentials for the Professional](#), 29 contributing authors share their expertise on all facets of campus recreation. Part IV of the publication titled, "Professional Aspects of Campus Recreation" has an entire chapter dedicated to **Sustainability**. For more information and to order this book visit <http://www.nirsa.info/know/2007/12/news001.html>

*-Stephen Muzzy via the NIRSA website*

### **6. AASHE Passes 500th Member Mark!**

On January 17, Western Carolina University became AASHE's 500th member! Since January 2007, AASHE has experienced an increase of nearly 300 members, which is a sign that sustainability is definitely taking off at colleges and universities in the US and Canada. Of our current 500 members, about 100 are businesses and non-profits, including associations. We will soon post a map of our membership showing how geographically diverse the interest is. A special thanks to all HEASC associations for your membership and continued support for advancing sustainability within your particular sectors of higher education.

*-Judy Walton*

## **7. SCUP's Carbon Neutral Offset Program**

SCUP has been working with the Higher Education Associations Sustainability Consortium (HEASC) and its coordinating agent, Second Nature, to create a program for conference attendees in which they can offset the enormous amount of carbon dioxide emissions that will result from their travel to and from the conference. As you may know, CO2 and other greenhouse gas emissions are a significant cause of global climate change.

SCUP is pleased to announce its' Carbon Neutral Offset program in partnership with the nonprofit organization, Carbonfund.org. Carbon Neutral Offset will allow attendees to purchase certified "carbon offsets" for \$25.00. One hundred percent of the donation will go directly towards reducing CO2 emissions through investments in clean renewable energy, increased energy efficiency, or carbon sequestration (i.e., planting trees). For more information click [here](#).

*-via SCUP's Website*

## **8. ACPA Sustainability Institute at Harvard - June 11-14th**

Please share with your members! This conference will be most effective at moving sustainability forward if people from a variety of areas in higher education attend.

The ACPA Institute On Sustainability will bring together a diverse group of professionals who serve higher education and are committed to sustainability. The goal of this institute is to invite individuals and teams from institutions to create an understanding, framework and actionable goals and tasks that can be taken back to campus and integrated into the core of the institution. Leading sustainability scholars and practitioners will discuss current trends, benchmark and promising practices, as well as afford participants with the opportunity to plan the beginning of or next institutional steps to their on-campus practice. The ACPA Institute On Sustainability will seek to create education and awareness for sustainability's triple bottom line: healthy social systems, healthy environment and healthy economy.

For more information, visit the site: <http://myacpa.org/pd/sustainability/>

*-via Deb Rowe*

## **9. Focus the Nation: What happened?**

On Thursday, January 31, 2008, Global warming issues took over lecture halls in colleges across the country with more than 1,500 universities participating in what was billed as the nation's largest-ever "teach-in." Organizers said the goal of the event, dubbed "Focus the Nation," was to move past preaching to the green choir, to reach a captive audience of students in many fields who might not otherwise tune in to climate change issues. To read the full article click [here](#).

*-via NAICU News Room: Daily Update*

## **10. Legislative Watch**

Please Take Action Yourself and Share With Your Members  
Crucial Action for Wind Power in the U.S.

Contact your Senators and encourage them to extend the Wind Production Tax Credit as soon as possible. Although U.S. wind power grew extraordinarily in 2007, its continued growth is in danger without an extension of the Production Tax Credit (PTC).

What is the Production Tax Credit (PTC)?

A Production Tax Credit (PTC) is a tax credit issued by the federal government to companies that generate electricity from renewable sources like wind power. The amount of the credit is based on the amount of electricity actually produced (production).

We need a Production Tax Credit (PTC) to:

- Provide the crucial economic incentive needed to accelerate the continued rapid growth of clean energy
- Help combat global warming by encouraging renewable energy use
- Make it easier for all Americans to purchase energy from renewable sources like wind

Congress must pass an extension of the PTC NOW!

Last year, Congress was unable to provide an extension of the PTC, which is set to expire on December 31 of this year. As a result, the wind industry is already seeing a drop off in investment, which will quickly lead to thousands of job losses. Due to long production lead times in the wind industry, each month that passes without a PTC extension diminishes the industry's capacity to create jobs, spur economic growth and produce pollution-free electricity.

Based on historic performance, the American Wind Energy Association projects that the rate of growth in American wind power will decrease by more than 70 percent between this year and next in the absence of a swift extension of the PTC. This contrasts sharply with the current trend of dramatic wind power growth that could otherwise be expected to continue. Congress must act quickly to maintain the wind industry's ability to preserve existing jobs, create 10,000 new jobs this year and build another 5,000 megawatts of new wind energy which will spur another \$10 billion in economic activity.

Help the wind energy industry by contacting your Senators and encouraging them to extend the PTC as soon as possible.

Send an email to your Senators about the Production Tax Credit:

<http://capwiz.com/windenergy/issues/alert/?alertid=10897226>

If you need additional information, the American Wind Energy Association's website should be able to help you: <http://capwiz.com/windenergy/home/> or contact Dr. Debra Rowe at [dgrowe@oaklandcc.edu](mailto:dgrowe@oaklandcc.edu)

Here is a list of Target Senators on the PTC extension in the Economic Stimulus Bill

Martinez (R-FL) - Energy LA: Brydon Ross, Phone: (202) 224-3041  
Murkowski (R-AK) - Energy LA: Chuck Kleeschulte, Phone: (202) 224-6665  
Warner (R-VA) - Energy LA: Chelsea Maxwell, Phone: (202) 224-2023  
Voinovich (R-OH) - Energy LA: Lauri Hettinger, Phone: (202) 224-3353  
Dole (R-NC) - Energy LA: Arjun Mody, Phone: (202) 224-6342  
Allard (R-CO) - Energy LA: Mandi McKinley, Phone: (202) 224-5941  
Thune (R-SD) - Energy LA: Brendan Plack, Phone: (202) 224-2321  
Brownback (R-KS) - Energy LA: Phil Ovitt, Phone: (202) 224-6521  
Specter (R-PA) - Energy LA: Mary Beth McGowan, Phone: (202) 224-4254  
Barrasso (R-WY) - Energy LA: Don Richards, Phone: (202) 224-6441  
Lugar (R-IN) - Energy LA: Steve Koerner, Phone: (202) 224-4814

## 11. Sustainability: Deepening the Conversation

There has been a lot of buzz recently about college tuition; including rising cost, endowment growth and investment, replacing loans with grants, government inquiry and oversight and so on. With all the chatter going on, I thought this opinion might be of interest.

### **College Students need to learn about money - Opinion Piece (Richmond, Ky., Register)**

Posted:

Sending students into the world to make stupid financial decisions seems like a waste of a college education, but I don't see any movement toward making personal finance a requirement. Colleges ought to, if only to protect their long-term interests. Alumni overwhelmed by debt are never going to drop big dollars in the endowment fund. Colleges need to train people to think about money the way Warren Buffet thinks about money. To read the full article go here

[http://www.richmondregister.com/business/local\\_story\\_018231823.html](http://www.richmondregister.com/business/local_story_018231823.html)

- via NAICU News Room: Daily Update 1/20/08

And why not one more bit of info related to higher education investment strategies [Sustainable Investment Challenge](#)

The 2007-08 SustaInvest: Sustainable Investment Challenge is a virtual portfolio competition that calls for its student participants to jointly maximize profitability and sustainability in investment decisions. The competition is comprised of three categories: university student teams, undergraduate students, and graduate students and is open to all colleges and universities. Portfolio judging criteria rewards successful, sustainability-driven investments that promote a long-term, triple bottom line business strategy as a means of increasing investors' financial bottom line. The last day to register for this Challenge is Friday, February 15, 2008.

-Via the AASHE Bulletin

## 12. Upcoming Events Reminder

- **Sustainability: Simple Steps for a Complex Issue**, February 14, 2008  
SCUP Conference held at Emory University, Atlanta, GA. The advanced registration deadline is today February 4, 2008.  
<http://www.scup.org/regions/so/2008/metro-mini/metromini.html>
- **HEASC Annual Meeting**, March 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> Washington D.C
- **Smart and Sustainable Campuses Conference** March 31-April 2, 2008  
Adelphi, MD. Hosted by NACUBO, AASHE, APPA, & SCUP  
<http://www.nacubo.org/x9790.xml>
- **ACPA Sustainability Institute at Harvard** - June 11-14<sup>th</sup>  
<http://myacpa.org/pd/sustainability/>

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

To subscribe or unsubscribe to the HEASC News Digest, email your request to [smuzzy@secondnature.org](mailto:smuzzy@secondnature.org).

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