



HEASC News Digest

Higher Education Associations Sustainability Consortium ♦
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1. ACUPCC Update

The ACUPCC continues to grow, 6 more institutions signed on since the last digest; we now stand at **498**, 2 away from 500! With the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign signed on, the ACUPCC now represents over 4 million students in 48 States!

- [Information on the ACUPCC / Clinton Climate Initiative \(CCI\) program](#)

Can now be found at:

<http://www.presidentsclimatecommitment.org/html/solutions.php>. Also, Honeywell has developed an extranet site for ACUPCC signatories who are interested in learning more about the ACUPCC / CCI program. The site includes performance contracting case studies, renewable energy briefs, and other materials. To request a password for the site, please contact Christina Theus at christina.theus@honeywell.com or Mike Taylor at mike.w.taylor@honeywell.com.

2. Reminder: 3rd Annual Smart & Sustainable Campuses Conference

This conference will be held in the Adele H. Stamp Student Union Center on campus at the University of Maryland, College Park March 31st- April 2nd. The conference brings together current and future leaders in the areas of campus planning and development, environmental health and safety, sustainability, finance and business, facilities management, and procurement. This comprehensive symposium will feature sessions and workshops on smart growth and sustainable practices that serve the economy, the community, and the environment specifically in:

- Institutionalizing Sustainability—Benefits, strategies, sustainability and mission, Presidents Climate Commitment, trustee engagement, committees/task forces on campus, financing sustainability, student recruitment, and marketplace advantages

- Operational Solutions—Energy, green building, transportation, procurement, and food and dining
- Smart Growth and Campus Planning—Development issues, open spaces, density, mixed uses, future growth, growth and carbon emission reduction, town/gown collaboration
- Assessment and Measurement—Behavioral changes measurement, campus improvements metrics, and reporting

Colleges and universities have a significant impact on the built and natural environment and are under increasing pressure from governments, students, and community members to carefully mitigate their environmental footprint. NACUBO is partnering with several other higher education associations to again deliver a comprehensive symposium on smart growth and sustainable practices that serves the economy, the community, and the environment.

The conference is produced from a partnership of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), **NACUBO**, the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (**AASHE**), the University of Maryland, College Park, Campus Consortium for Environmental Excellence (C2E2), **APPA**: The Association for Higher Education Facilities Officers, the Campus Safety Health and Environmental Management Association (CSHEMA) and the Society for College and University Planning (**SCUP**).

-NACUBO website

3. NAEP to host sustainability sessions at their Annual Meeting

Sustainability Essentials for Higher Education: Responsible strategies that add value to every initiative, process and challenge

Nearly 500 College and University Presidents have signed on to the President's Climate Commitment, and more are signing on every day. The need to integrate sustainable business practices is at the forefront of everything you do, and procurement is uniquely positioned to take a leadership role. NAEP is proud to support procurement's contributions to this important initiative with professional development that speaks to your high visibility involvement on campus. Look for the leaf symbol (to the left) in our program guide to identify all the Sustainability Essentials sessions.

For more information about these sessions please visit the Annual Meeting **Program at a Glance** by clicking [here](#).

-Doreen Murner

4. Webcast: [Creating a Greenhouse Gas Inventory—What Does it Take?](#)

On April 9th at 1:30p.m. (EST) learn how to conduct a Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory from your peers in this informative Webcast. The American College & University Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC) requires signatories to complete a comprehensive inventory of all GHG emissions within one-year of signing. This Webcast explains the general principles of conducting a GHG inventory, while providing examples from two contrasting campuses that have used different methods.

You'll engage with experts from Clean Air-Cool Planet (CA-CP) and the Association of the Advancement of Higher Education (AASHE), and hear stories from the University of California—Berkeley and Unity College on how they conducted their GHG inventories. Moderating the event is Georges Dyer, Senior Fellow of Second Nature, one of the supporting organizations of the ACUPCC.

You Will Learn About:

- ACUPCC and GHG protocols
- GHG inventory tools being used and what's available
- Processes and methods relating to conducting a GHG inventory
- Issues signatories face in conducting a GHG inventory
- Resources for implementing the ACUPCC and GHG inventories

The Webcast Team:

Moderator: Georges Dyer—Senior Fellow, Second Nature and partner, Greenland Enterprises

- Julian Dautremont-Smith—associate director, Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)
- Jennifer Schroeder Andrews—campus program manager, Clean Air-Cool Planet (CA-CP)
- Fahmideh Ahmed—Sustainability Specialist, University of California Berkeley
- Michael Womersley—Director of Sustainability, Unity College

-NACUBO website

5. Cosponsor Harvard Conference on Sustainability

If any HEASC member organization wants to cosponsor the ACPA Harvard University Sustainability Institute, their members will receive the reduced member rate for registration. All they have to do is fax in the registration to ACPA at 202-296-3286. The only requirement to be a cosponsor is to let your membership know about the Institute three times, which we hope you would do anyway. It will be a conference to be proud of. To be a cosponsor, contact Jeanne Steffes at jsteffes@syr.edu.

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/>

-Jeanne S. Steffes

6. Fossil Fools Day

On April 1, 2008 young people from around the world are rising up to show the world that we refuse to fool around with climate change and our future. Led by the Energy Action Coalition, Canadian Youth Climate Coalition, and Rising Tide, on April 1 we will take collective action to turn the tide away from fossil fuel dependence and towards a clean and just energy revolution. On this historic day of action we will tear down the dirty

energy that stands in our way, while building the better world we need.

<http://fossilfools08.org>

Energy Action Coalition is a youth-led coalition of more than 40 organizations working together to fight for a clean, just and renewable energy future. Our coalition partners are: Americans for Informed Democracy, **Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education**, Black Mesa Water Coalition, California Student Sustainability Coalition, CALPIRG, Campus Progress, Chesapeake Climate Action Network, Clean Air Cool Planet, Climate Crisis Coalition, ConnPIRG, CoPIRG, Earth Day Network, Energy Justice Network, Environmental Justice and Climate Change Initiative, Global Exchange, Greenpeace Student Network, Indigenous Environmental Network, Kids Against Pollution, League of Conservation Voters Education Fund: Project Democracy, MASSPIRG, National Association of Environmental Law Societies, National Wildlife Federation's Campus Ecology Program, NJPIRG, Rainforest Action Network, Restoring Eden, Sierra Student Coalition, Sierra Youth Coalition, Southern Alliance for Clean Energy, Student Environmental Action Coalition, Students United for a Responsible Global Environment, Sustainable Endowments Institute, WashPIRG, WISPIRG, Young People For and Youth Environmental Network.

-Stephen Muzzy

7. Sustainability: Deepening the Conversation

[Wealth Gap Growing Bigger Among American Colleges](#) (NYT)

A new report by the Council for Aid to Education shows that even as Congress presses wealthy colleges and universities to spend more of their endowments, they continue on a fund-raising streak that will widen the wealth gap in higher education. In all, colleges and universities raised about \$30 billion, 6 percent more than the previous year. But nearly one-third of that increase - \$518 million - went to just 20 institutions.

-(New York Times) Via the NAICU News Room: Daily Update

My thoughts

"The ACUPCC recognizes the unique responsibility that institutions of higher education have as role models for their communities and in training the people who will develop the social, economic and technological solutions"... for a just and sustainable future."

The story of wealth accumulation by higher education institutions has been ongoing for weeks. A media campaign has ensued with the biggest beneficiary institutions defending their positions while publicly promoting the implementation of policies that allocate a percentage of their endowment toward tuition, (for those that qualify), creating the us versus them discourse that we in America are accustomed to (The presidential primary debates come to mind). The black and white rhetoric of today's society continues to reinforce fragmented and polarized mindsets, making it more difficult to discuss the deeper, systemic, and complex questions that should be asked. Such as, why has there been a systematic increase in concentration of monetary wealth within the higher education sector? How has this wealth been generated? and what is the true/full cost of such monetary gain? If our market economic system was created to "raise all the boats" why do we tend to see more concentration than equitable dispersal of wealth? The current wealth concentration in higher education is not a trend in isolation of society, but rather the mirror reflection.

These questions are at the heart of unsustainability; but higher education has the capacity to generate solutions for a just and sustainable society. Academia has been primarily a service-oriented industry that provides learning and knowledge, this collective *service* over time has informed and now reinforces the *product* of society, creating a

positive feedback loop. I see a society that is programmed to equate well-being and value to monetary and material accumulation. I don't think this is the society that higher education intended to promote. It may be time for the higher education sector to revisit its' core mission by asking the deeper question(s); It could begin with "what is the vision of society we want to inform and produce?"

-Stephen Muzzy

8. Upcoming Events Reminder

- **HEASC Annual Meeting**, March 26th & 27th 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>
- **NAEP's Annual Meeting** April 6-9, 2008 in Austin, TX
<http://www.naepnet.org//AM/Template.cfm?Section=Home>
- **Webcast: [Creating a Greenhouse Gas Inventory—What Does it Take?](#)**
April 9th at 1:30p.m. (EST)
- **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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Stephen Muzzy
Program Manager

Second Nature
18 Tremont St. Suite 1120
Boston, MA 02108
smuzzy@secondnature.org
P (617) 224 1612
F (329) 451 1612