



# HEASC News Digest

Higher Education Associations Sustainability Consortium ♦ <http://www.heasc.net>  
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### **1. Michele Madia of NACUBO Promoted to Director, Environmental Leadership**

Michele Madia has been promoted to the position of Director, Environmental Leadership at NACUBO. In this new position, Michele will be able to focus her efforts on matters of environmental policy and NACUBO's growing portfolio of programs in support of initiatives to green college and university campuses (often referred to as sustainability). These have become very important issues for a wide range of our members that are seeking to find ways to reduce their institution's impact on the environment, and to teach their students to think in new ways about the relationship between their particular field of study and the environment. In this new role, Michele will be well-positioned to lead NACUBO's efforts, and can both support and raise the visibility of the work that our members are engaged in. In addition, Michele will be an outstanding representative with the many external organizations that share our commitment to these issues.

*-Matt Hamill, NACUBO*

### **2. Duke Signs on to the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment**

Richard H. Brodhead, president of Duke University signed the ACUPCC this week. Other recent signatories include Sewanee (The University of the South), George Mason University in Virginia and Central Connecticut State University. To date, we have 330 signatories to the commitment.

*-Mary Reilly*

### **3. University of British Columbia to Explore Canadian Climate Commitment**

Stephen Toope, president of the University of British Columbia announced that they are going to explore an approach to work alongside other British Columbian universities to form an initiative that will be parallel to the ACUPCC called the "Canadian University

Alliance on Climate Action". Forming a separate alliance will allow them to work within Canadian programs and policies. The alliance will work with ACUPCC to learn from its experience thus far and to share information.

*-Mary Reilly*

#### **4. HEASC Influencing Education for Sustainable Development Globally**

The formation, resources and work of HEASC were shared at two international events this summer: the UN conference on Education for Sustainable Development, and the convening of "global leaders in sustainability in higher education" at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Debra Rowe was the U.S. keynote speaker at the UN conference and Tom Kimmerer and Debra were participants at the sessions at MIT. Leaders in the European Union, Asia and Central and South America from both events were particularly impressed with the structure of both HEASC and the Disciplinary Associations Network for Sustainability (DANS) and indicated that similar networks would be good next steps in their areas of the world. Leaders in the European Union (e.g. UNESCO Chair of Education for Sustainable Development in Germany Dr. Gerd Michelson) expressed their intention to utilize the HEASC and DANS conceptual frameworks in their ongoing efforts.

Congratulations to all. Little did we know what we were doing in the U.S. would make such a contribution to other areas of the world.

*-Deb Rowe*

#### **5. Article in Science Magazine Highlights HEASC Mission**

Education for a Sustainable Future, a Policy Forum written by Debra Rowe and published in the esteemed *Science* magazine on July 20th, highlights the formation of HEASC and its mission as well as the national trends toward education for sustainability. The article will be posted on the HEASC website (under *Resources*) soon.

*-Mary Reilly*

#### **6. Report from ACPA's Presidential Task Force on Sustainability**

Below are some of the activities and plans that ACPA's Presidential Taskforce on Sustainability has been involved with recently:

- The Taskforce met July 11 and 12 at Washington University in St. Louis as part of the ACPA Summer Leadership Gathering.
- The Taskforce is in the process of creating a document that outlines the professional competencies needed by student affairs professionals as related to sustainability.
- The Taskforce met with representatives of ACPA's Commission for Assessment in Student Development to begin gathering assessment resources related to ACPA's sustainability learning outcomes.
- ACPA is planning a sustainability conference in June 2008 at Harvard University in Boston.

*-Kathleen Gardner*

#### **7. Steady Increase in New Members at AASHE**

There has been a steady increase in new members and membership renewals at AASHE. University of Illinois, Northern Kentucky University, Palm Beach Community College, New

York Law School and Case Western Reserve are among some of the most recent members to join. AASHE is also officially an international organization with members in the US, Canada and most recently, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.

*-Niles Barnes, AASHE*

### **8. Paper Calculator from Environmental Defense and Rainforest Alliance Certified Wood and Paper**

The Paper Calculator from Environmental Defense is a great tool for comparing different types of paper and their environmental impact in terms of wood use, total energy, GHG emissions, wastewater and solid waste—through their entire lifecycle. The calculator allows you to select criteria, such as paper types, and then run a comparison, showing the impacts of each. The calculator can be found on the Environmental Defense website at:

<http://www.environmentaldefense.org/papercalculator/index.cfm>

In addition, you can download “SmartGuides” that contain sources and information for sustainable wood and paper, certified by the Rainforest Alliance and the Forest Stewardship Council, on the Rainforest Alliance website at:

<http://www.rainforest-alliance.org/programs/forestry/smartwood/find-certified-products.cfm>

*-Mary Reilly*

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

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