

# HEASC News Digest

Higher Education Associations Sustainability Consortium ♦ <http://www.heasc.net>  
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## **1. Tony Cortese Meets with the American Council on Education (ACE) on Sustainability Initiatives**

Tony Cortese met with several staff members from ACE (Jim Renick, VP for Research; Peter Eckel, Center for Effective Leadership; Marlene Ross, ACE Fellows Director; and Claire Van Ummersen, VP for Effective Leadership) to follow up on recent discussions with David Ward, ACE President, on making sustainability a lens for ACE programs, HEASC involvement and membership and support of the ACUPCC. ACE staff agreed to find ways to make sustainability issues be a central and ongoing theme of:

- The President's Column
- ACE Leadership Development and Support Programs
- Presidential panels at the Annual Meeting
- Affinity group meetings at the Annual Meeting

They want to develop a 1.5 day executive leadership workshop for presidents, provosts and deans on sustainability as well as several webcasts. Tony will be following up with David Ward on HEASC membership.

*-Tony Cortese*

## **2. HEASC Member Associations' Educational Programs and the ACUPCC**

With momentum building in the ACUPCC, and as implementation teams at signatory institutions start their plans, we are encouraging HEASC member associations to gear up with training programs and other resources that will help these institutions move towards their goal of climate neutrality. As discussed in a HEASC teleconference on June 28, a first step is to compile a list of plans for sustainability-related educational programs that each association is planning for the next 6 – 8 months.

A Google document that can be edited by individuals from each HEASC associations has been created and several of you have already contributed to it. In addition, we'd like to know about educational programs that you are considering or thinking about at this point.

We want to assure that HEASC member associations are well-coordinated and prepared to meet the educational challenges resulting from the ACUPCC. After reviewing your plans, we

will proceed to further define the requirements and create a more detailed program that will help us move forward.

If any members would like access to this document, contact Mary Reilly at [mreilly@secondnature.org](mailto:mreilly@secondnature.org).

-Mary Reilly

### **3. Tony Cortese Makes Presentation on ACUPCC and HEASC at the Annapolis Group Meeting**

Tony Cortese made a presentation on the ACUPCC and HEASC at a meeting of 75 Liberal Arts college presidents who are members of the Annapolis Group

(<http://www.collegenews.org/theannapolisgroup.xml>) on June 19. The 2-hour session was lively, engaging and very productive. About one third of the presidents have signed the ACUPCC or are actively considering it.

-Tony Cortese

### **4. Sustainability Measures at ACUHO-I's Annual Conference**

ACUHO-I took several steps to make their annual conference more sustainable. In addition to using edible centerpieces on tables, they gave away recycled cotton bags to conference delegates inscribed with a message about how the bag could save a thousand plastic bags from ending up in a landfill. Fred Comparato, ACUHO-I's Corporate Relations Manager gave the company that manufactures the bags, *Enviro Tote, Inc.* (<http://www.enviro-tote.com/>), high marks for the product and service. In addition, ACUHO-I used recycled paper with 25% post-consumer content for the conference program.

ACUHO-I is also taking steps to green its office by recycling everything possible and changing over to recycled paper for their *Talking Stick* magazine. They are also considering the purchase of carbon offsets for travel.

-Mary Reilly

### **5. NIRSA Holds Its First Knowledge Community Meeting on Sustainability**

On June 21st, NIRSA convened its first Sustainability Knowledge Community in Corvallis, OR. A report of the meeting which will include recommendations as to what actions NIRSA should take in regard to sustainability will be sent to NIRSA's Board of Directors.

See: <http://www.nirsa.info/know/2007/07/news003.html> .

Also, be sure to visit NIRSA's "Sustainability News" in the NIRSA Know section of its website at <http://www.nirsa.info/know/2007/07/sustainability.html> .

-Mary Reilly

### **6. Sustainability Track Included in APPA's 2007 Conference**

Sustainability is the theme of one of the tracks at our upcoming APPA 2007 conference (July 15-17, Baltimore). Folks can register at <http://www.appa.org/education/appa2007/main.cfm>.

On July 15, we'll have the following sessions:

#### *Panel Discussion*

- Understanding and making energy sources work for you – oil, gas, nuclear, and coal
- The business case for sustainable practices
- Examples of sustainable buildings and student impact
- Organizations for a sustainable campus

#### *-Breakout Sessions*

- Student movement (*Billy Parish*)
- Envisioning a sustainable campus (*Walter Simpson*)

- Designing and implementing business continuity (*Mo Qayoumi*)
- Performing a successful energy audit (*Lucinda Andreani*)

-Steve Glazner, APPA

### **7. James Hansen Paper States the IPCC Report is Too Optimistic**

Dr. James Hansen, of NASA's Goddard Institute, along with several other scientists recently published a paper stating that the earth's climate is approaching a tipping point. Lead author Hansen, concludes: "If global emissions of carbon dioxide continue to rise at the rate of the past decade, this research shows that there will be disastrous effects, including increasingly rapid sea level rise, increased frequency of droughts and floods, and increased stress on wildlife and plants due to rapidly shifting climate zones."

For a news release on the findings, visit:

<http://www.giss.nasa.gov/research/news/20070530/>

*Download the full study:*

James Hansen et al, 2007. Climate Change and Trace Gases. Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society ^ A. Vol 365, pp 1925-1954. doi: 10.1098/rsta.2007.2052.

[http://pubs.giss.nasa.gov/docs/2007/2007\\_Hansen\\_et al\\_2.pdf](http://pubs.giss.nasa.gov/docs/2007/2007_Hansen_et al_2.pdf)

### **8. Greening of the Campus VII Conference at Ball State University: September 6-8**

Ball State University will be hosting its seventh *Greening of the Campus* conference of which HEASC, AASHE and the US Partnership for Education for Sustainable Development are partners. This year's theme is "Partnering for Sustainability: Enabling a Diverse Future". Keynote speakers include Eban Goodstein of "Focus the Nation" and Debra Rowe of the US Partnership. For more information go to: <http://www.bsu.edu/greening/> .

-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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