ANNUAL REPORT

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION (AASHE)

2022
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A Message from AASHE's Executive Director

Dear Sustainability Champion,

It is with great pleasure that we present our annual report, a reflection of AASHE's accomplishments and progress over the past year. We are grateful to our many partners who have made these wins possible.

While the pandemic continued to impact our work last year, we made significant strides in enhancing our online learning opportunities. Among the stellar programming we offered throughout the year, we held the Sustainability Leaders Impact Accelerator in June. More than 60 change agents explored transformative leadership, racial justice & healing, achieving zero carbon, and change management. The feedback was so positive that plans are underway to offer this opportunity again this year!

STARS, the global standard for sustainability reporting in higher education, continues to transform the sector. With over 570 campuses in more than 20 countries reporting their sustainability impact, STARS institutions are integrating sustainability across the board throughout curricula, research, operations, dining, and more. Check out the 2022 Sustainable Campus Index to see the work of some of the top-performing higher education institutions in the sustainability movement.

AASHE launched our third volume of “No Sustainability Without Justice: An Anthology on Racial Equity & Social Justice” in September. This publication shares perspectives on how racial equity, social justice, diversity, and
inclusion are integral and essential components of sustainability and are vital for higher education sustainability practitioners. This free resource also includes essays on environmental justice, disability justice and language access, and campus-community partnerships.

We also brought more than 3,400 sustainability champions together last October for the Global Conference on Sustainability in Higher Education (GCSHE). With a theme of “The Urgency of Now”, the conference made for an impactful experience for our community. We’ll soon open registration for this year’s conference which will be in-person for the first time in three years! It will take place in Boston, MA from October 29-31, 2023, and we hope to see you there!

To close out the year, we held a virtual celebration to recognize the incredible work of the AASHE Award winners. It was incredible! Dr. Robert Bullard was the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award and dozens of sustainability champions – researchers, academics, staff, and students – were honored for their impressive work. Be sure to check out all of the winners. I hope the work of these sustainability leaders will inspire you like they inspire me.

This year, we are looking forward to focusing on our strategy. We will review our strategic goals through a lens of racial equity & social justice to see how AASHE can better lead and integrate RESJ into everything we do and expand our impact. I’m excited to dig deeper into this question with all of you this year.

Thank you for your support this past year!

Meghan Fay Zahniser
Executive Director, AASHE
MISSION, VISION & VALUES

Our Mission
To inspire and catalyze higher education to lead the global sustainability transformation.

Our Vision
AASHE will lead higher education to be a foundation for a thriving, equitable and ecologically healthy world.

Our Values
AASHE STAFF

Executive Director
Meghan Fay Zahniser

Finance and Operations
Allison Jones
Director of Finance & Operations
Domna Gallion
Accounting & Operations Manager
Rogelio Zuniga Rubio
Platform & Software Development Manager

Programs
Julian Dautremont
Director of Programs
Chris Pelton
Senior STARS Program Manager

Marketing & Communications
Candi Reddick
Director of Marketing & Communications
Emily Cardinas
Marketing Manager
Madison “Maddie” Bruns
Marketing Coordinator
Crystal Simmons
Bulletin Editor & Program Manager
Daita Serghi
Senior Education Manager
Monika Urbanski
Senior Manager of Resources, Data Quality & Publications

Meetings & Membership
Kimberly Smith
Director of Meetings & Membership
Aubrey Organ
Education Intern
Robin Frederick
STARS & Resources Intern
Board of Directors

This team of leaders advises on policy and direction and assists with governance to support AASHE's mission.

**President**  
Jennifer Hirsch, Ph.D.

**Vice President**  
Francois Miller

**Treasurer**  
David Phillips

**Secretary**  
Meghna Tare, MBA

**Past President**  
V.S. (Raghu) Raghavan

**Board Member**  
Rania Assariotaki

**Board Member**  
Chris O’Brien

**Board Member**  
Stephania Fregosi

**Board Member**  
Daryl M. Pierson, PhD

**Board Member**  
Ashwani Vasishth

**Advisory Council**

The *Advisory Council* (AC) is the primary mechanism for members to get involved in governance at AASHE. Volunteers work to promote and support AASHE’s growth and development with guidance on strategy, programs, and services. We are grateful for our volunteers who work tirelessly to advance AASHE’s mission!
#GCSHE BY THE NUMBERS

The 2022 Global Conference on Sustainability in Higher Education (#GCSHE), themed “The Urgency of Now,” took place virtually on October 18, October 26, and November 3.

3,400 Attendees
86% of attendees were Sustainability Staff, Campus Staff, or Faculty

450+ Institutions
Over 450 higher education institutions were represented at this year’s #GCSHE

24 Countries Represented
Individuals from across the globe engaged in increasing knowledge and skill building

8 Keynote Speakers
Tyson Yunkaporta, Jason Hickel & more

180+ Sessions
8 thematic tracks presented through Live, On-Demand, and Networking & Discussion sessions

50+ Host Institutions
We are grateful for member colleges and universities that contribute to #GCSHE

16 Sponsors & Exhibitors
We appreciate My Green Lab, Busch Systems, and our exhibitors for their support
#GCSHE drew over 3,400 attendees from 24 countries and 450+ higher education institutions.
THE URGENCY OF NOW

Who Attended #GCSHE?

- Sustainability Staff & Other Campus Staff: 62.2%
- Faculty Members: 25.5%
- Executive Administrators: 6.1%
- Business, Government, or Non-Profit Representatives: 3.1%
- Other: 3.1%

This was my first AASHE conference and I learned SO much. It was heartening to see all the good work and real progress being made by people just like me working together.

8 Keynotes

These speakers brought unique perspectives from diverse backgrounds, challenging us to think critically and continue fighting for change.

Thank You To Our Business Partners!

Thank you Sponsors, Exhibitors, Host Institutions & Promotional Partners!
The Value of Membership

When you join AASHE, you’ll gain premium access to thousands of resources and like-minded professionals who are setting the standard in revolutionizing higher education sustainability. Plus, exclusive networking opportunities and savings on world-class professional development are at your fingertips. AASHE members also get access to AASHE Connect, our members-only online community with 39,000+ active online participants.

- **Total Member Organizations** make up the AASHE community
  - 861

- **New Member Organizations** joined AASHE in 2022
  - 112

- **Previous Member Campuses** rejoined AASHE in 2022
  - 51

- **International Institutions** are currently AASHE members
  - 32

- **New International Institutions** joined AASHE in 2022
  - 16

- **Countries Represented** in the AASHE member community
  - 19
Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS)

328 STARS-Rated Institutions make up this global network of institutions

14 Countries are represented

12 Campuses had a STARS Platinum rating

3rd Year of Partnership between AASHE and Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability (ACTS)

3.0 Version of STARS STARS 3.0 opened for public comment and is set to launch in 2024

2 First-Time Reporting Institutions were recognized as top performers in AASHE’s Sustainable Campus Index (National Taiwan Normal University and University of Washington, Bothell)

1st STARS Cohort Program launched to guide new and returning participants through STARS reporting
Publications

In 2022, we published two new publications and added more than 1,500 new resources in the Campus Sustainability Hub!

_No Sustainability Without Justice, Volume III_

Systemic racism represents a barrier to solving sustainability challenges.

_No Sustainability Without Justice: An Anthology on Racial Equity and Social Justice, Volume III_ includes six essays that share perspectives on how racial equity, social justice, diversity & inclusion are integral to higher education sustainability.

_2022 Sustainable Campus Index_

The _2022 Sustainable Campus Index_ highlights sustainable colleges and universities in 17 impact areas and by institution type, measured by STARS.

The new International Top Performers List recognizes the highest scoring institution in each country with a STARS-rated institution.
2022 Sustainability Awards

The AASHE Sustainability Awards recognize sustainability achievements and collaborations, research advancements, and individual leadership in higher education. By raising the visibility of high-impact sustainability projects, collaborations, and pioneering research, the awards program helps to disseminate innovations and inspire continued progress toward sustainability.

430+
Submissions
Nearly 50 judges came together to review 430 submissions and nominations

12
Winners
There were 12 winners from 9 countries: Australia, Brazil, Canada, England, Fiji, Kenya, Switzerland, the United States, and Wales

5
Categories
Lifetime Achievement, Racial Equity & Sustainability Collaborations, Campus Sustainability Achievement, Campus Sustainability Student Leadership, and Campus Sustainability Research
Those who are most responsible for our climate crisis must step up and see that we don't have 40 years to get this right; we have to proceed with the urgency of now.

- Dr. Robert D. Bullard
2022 Lifetime Achievement Award Winner
Education Programs

In 2022, AASHE hosted a variety of virtual education programs.

11 Virtual Workshops & Courses offered by AASHE in 2022

595 Registrants for our workshops and courses

300 Organizations participated in these programs

41% of Registrants were new to AASHE Programs

2x Attendance Doubled since 2021

2445 Registrants Attended one or more of our 33 webinars

“

This event honestly turned me around from the brink of quitting and burning out to a feeling of renewed purpose, energy, excitement, and solidarity. I’m committed to making this an annual tradition for myself to attend. The benefits cannot be overstated.

”

2022 Virtual Programs Spotlight

Ultimate Cli-fi Book Club

Integrating Sustainability Literacy Across Your Curricula Workshop

Sustainability Impact Accelerator

Sustainability Change Leadership Development Program

Transition to Organic, Ecological Landscapes for Campuses Workshop
Collective Action

AASHE regularly collaborates with others to advocate for policies that advance sustainability in higher education and beyond.

AASHE ENDORSES A HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE

Mental Health Impacts of Recurrent Climate-Related Disasters on Youth

AASHE SUPPORTS

Climate Change Education Funding

AASHE SIGNS THE

Banking on Climate Chaos Report

AASHE IS PARTNERING WITH THE

Better Climate Challenge

AASHE SIGNS THE LETTER TO WORLD LEADERS

Now Is The Moment To Accelerate the Just, Renewable Energy Future and Close the Fossil Fuel Era

AASHE ENDORSES THE

Exit Amazon Oil and Gas Platform

AASHE SIGNS THE

Pay Equity Pledge

AASHE SIGNS THE

Million Advocates for Sustainable Science
Acknowledgements

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to every member of the AASHE community. As we reflect on another remarkable year, we are humbled by the dedication, passion, and spirit of collaboration demonstrated by our members. Thank you for being an essential part of AASHE and for your unwavering commitment to creating a sustainable future. Your contributions inspire us every day.