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ANNUAL

REPORT



THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT  
OF SUSTAINABILITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION

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**On the cover:** Attendees of the 2025 AASHE Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota toured Carleton College’s energy station and outdoor geothermal site during the Experiential Learning Opportunity, “Decarbonization and Sustainability Tour of Carleton College”. Those in attendance included participants from the inaugural Campus Decarbonization Academy; advisors, mentors and sponsors; AASHE staff and board members; and other conference attendees interested in decarbonization.

# MESSAGE FROM AASHE'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The strength, resilience and passion of the AASHE community has been remarkable during what has felt like one of the most difficult years that higher education has ever faced. Despite serious and ongoing challenges, our members and partners have pulled together and continue to make meaningful progress in developing and implementing sustainability solutions.

In response to this moment, AASHE has adapted our work to help support our community. A [discussion series](#) in March created space for connection and mutual support in light of changes in the United States. We also updated [Beyond the Right Thing to Do: The Value of Sustainability in Higher Education](#), providing a timely resource to help campus leaders and decision makers recognize the enduring and strategic value of sustainability, even in these uncertain times.

Our small but dedicated team of staff accomplished an extraordinary amount this past year, made possible by the steadfast support of our members and partners. Last spring's inaugural [Campus Decarbonization Academy](#) drew exceptional participation, and equipped campuses with practical tools and strategies to decarbonize campus infrastructure effectively. Our newly revamped [AASHE Sustainability Awards](#) program gave us reason to celebrate institutions and individuals catalyzing impact on their campuses and beyond. The [Sustainable Campus Index](#) highlighted top performers and innovative practices reflected in the latest STARS reports. Our [Communities of Practice](#) expanded, creating new opportunities for engagement for students, climate change quilters, senior leaders, and more. And of course, our conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota was a high point of the year, and was rated as one of our best to date!

Looking ahead, we are excited to continue supporting members in 2026. We have compelling [education offerings](#) (including the second iteration of the Campus Decarbonization Academy), are continuing conversations around how to [improve STARS](#), and planning is already underway for our [annual conference](#) this Oct. 4-6 in Baltimore, Maryland.

While it can be easy to dwell on challenges, it is important to learn from both successes and setbacks, let go of what doesn't serve, and stay hopeful for the future. The [20th Anniversary Blog Series](#) was created to remind us why we do this work. These stories and reflections offer valuable history and context, along with inspiration and guidance for the path ahead. I encourage you to explore it if you haven't already.

I remain deeply honored to represent the AASHE community. I'm grateful for partners and networks that have supported us including all of our Campus Decarbonization Academy [partners](#), [Affiliates](#), international partners including [ACTS](#), [EAUC](#), and [ISCN](#), and the [CHEMA](#) and [HEASC](#) networks.

I enter this year with a profound sense of appreciation for the sustainability in higher education community and the time, expertise, and energy each of you dedicate to advancing sustainability on your campuses and in your communities.

Onward,



Meghan Fay Zahniser,  
Executive Director, AASHE



# AASHE CONFERENCE & EXPO

*We celebrated AASHE's 20th anniversary in Minneapolis in October 2025, 10 years after the AASHE community first convened there in 2015.*

Over 800 higher education sustainability professionals and enthusiasts joined colleagues and friends to connect and further develop their knowledge and passion about higher education sustainability. Key highlights included the additions of a student track, six pre-conference activities, and the presentation of a Climate Change Quilt.



The Climate Change Quilt Project is an initiative to create 1,000 quilts themed around climate action. AASHE Conference attendees were invited to stop by the quilt room to sew, cut, or contribute ideas. An AASHE-inspired quilt was presented during the conference closing ceremony.

# Keynote Speakers



## **Dr. Ayana Elizabeth Johnson**

A leading climate futurist, marine biologist, and bestselling author of *What If We Get It Right?*, Dr. Johnson is known for her visionary work at the intersection of science, policy, and justice. As co-founder of Urban Ocean Lab and The All We Can Save Project, she is shaping a more hopeful and sustainable future. Her keynote explored how imagination, equity, and science can guide us toward transformative climate solutions.



## **Panel: The Value of Sustainability in Higher Education**

In a panel moderated by Shane Stennes (Chief Sustainability Officer for University of Minnesota), senior sustainability leaders shared how they articulate the business case for sustainability in the current moment. Among other topics, they discussed student success, innovation, operational efficiency, and philanthropy. The panelists included:

- Dedee DeLongpré Johnston, Chief Sustainability Officer, Wake Forest University
- Dr. Fiona Wilson, Chief Sustainability Officer and Executive Director of the Sustainability Institute, University of New Hampshire
- Meghna Tare, Chief Sustainability Officer at The University of Texas at Arlington and Chief Sustainability Officer for the Dallas FIFA World Cup 2026



## **Christopher M. Caldwell**

President of the College of Menominee Nation and an enrolled member of the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin, Caldwell is a lifelong advocate for Indigenous sustainability thinking. Drawing from a career spanning sustainable forestry, higher education, and Tribal leadership, he discussed advancing an indigenous approach to sustainability in a higher education context.



# Conference by the Numbers

## 837 Registrants

64% identified as female and 20% identified as BIPOC or as having multiple races/ethnicities (among registrants who shared this information)

## 7 Countries Represented

Registrants joined us from Canada, Egypt, France, Germany, Mexico, Peru, and the U.S.

## 158 Sessions

Includes 116 in-person sessions and 42 digital posters

## 47 Sponsors & Exhibitors

The expo hall showcased ideas, initiatives, and solutions from our many exhibitors and sponsors

## 35 Scholarships Awarded

Supported by GBI Green Globes, our scholarship sponsor

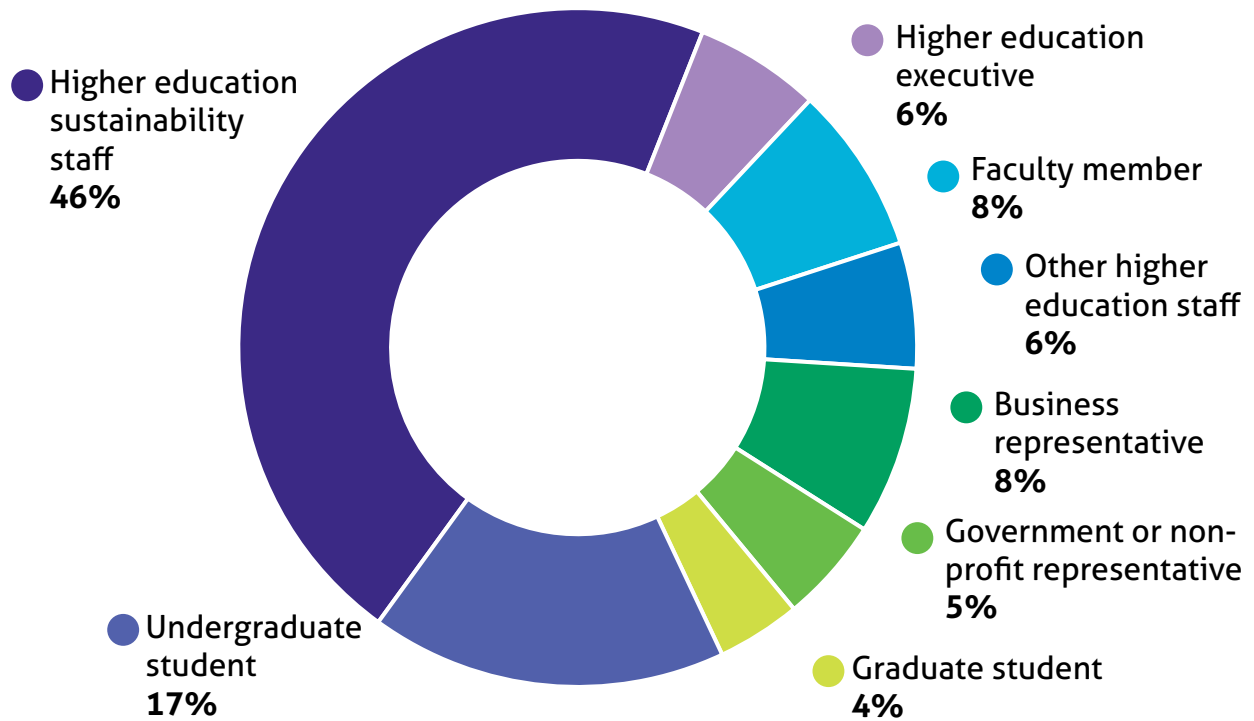
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When AASHE draws together so many lives lived in the sustainability sphere, ideas \*pop\* and energy builds. I'm grateful for the ways AASHE makes this space equally accessible for early learners and late-career trailblazers, for urban and rural, for R1, community college and small liberal arts, for conversations to leap into the newest edges of sustainability planning together.

- Becca Malloy, Smith College

”

# Attendees by Role



# Favorite Sessions

- Dr. Ayana Elizabeth Johnson Keynote
- Scaling Sustainability: A Tiered Approach to Student Engagement - Jessie McNevin
- How to “Speak CFO” - Making the Sustainability Business Case - Carter Strickland, Jillian Buckholz, Katie Lutton
- Engage. Educate. Evolve: Transforming Sustainability Projects Into Experiential Internship Programs - Cecilia Raatz, Quinn Hungerford, Shannen Casey, Victoria Quach
- Telling C-Neutral Stories: Combining Data Visualization, Animation, Narrative & Campus Interactives - Chris Norman, John Petersen
- Campus Climate Disasters and the Pathways to Resilience - Catherine Harrison, Jordan Stewart, Laura England, Mark Stemen, Shea Tuberty
- Innovative Campus Thrift Stores for Sustainability and Equity - Jennie Kelly, Margaret Bounds, Samantha Comas, Veronica Johnson
- Take a Spin: Experiential Learning in Action for Solutions-Focused Education - Krista Stump

This is based on responses from AASHE’s 2025 post-conference attendee survey.

# Conference Acknowledgements

In reflecting on the success of #AASHE25, we thank our sponsors and exhibitors for their continued support and commitment to sustainability in higher education, and for helping to make this conference an exceptional gathering of minds and ideas.

## Sponsors



## Exhibitors

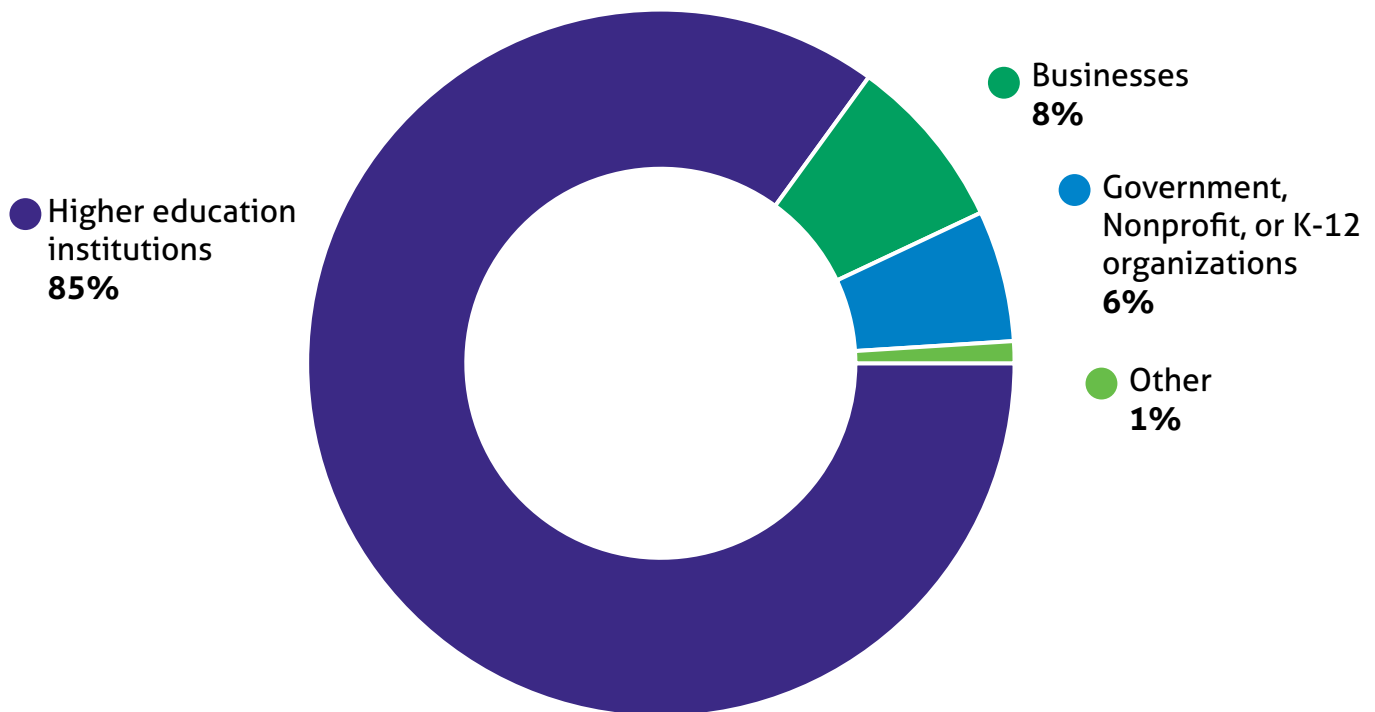


# VALUE OF MEMBERSHIP

*Through AASHE membership, sustainability professionals and leaders gain premium access to resources and education programs to bolster sustainability efforts across higher education.*

AASHE membership is intended for the full spectrum of higher education institutions, businesses, and other organizations. Highlights for this year included a Midwest membership recruitment campaign coinciding with conference attendance in Minneapolis, and creation of [communication materials](#) and strategies around business membership.

## Member Types



# Membership by the Numbers

## 754 Member Organizations

75 were first-time AASHE members

## 32 Countries Represented

Our newest members include institutions from Azerbaijan, Cyprus, Iraq, Oman, and Vietnam

## 5 University System Members

The Tecnológico de Monterrey System joined in 2025, becoming our second-largest system member (after SUNY)

## 28 Resource Access Grants

Individuals from non-member institutions can request access to STARS and Hub resources to conduct research in their field



For over a decade, I've watched AASHE ignite a collective imagination across higher education, empowering change agents who are reshaping what is possible for sustainability. Through its membership, Boston University's students, staff, faculty, and administrators have been able to draw on a range of resources, from STARS to AASHE's conferences, webinars, and the Campus Sustainability Hub. As the work of sustainability and climate justice continues, AASHE's leadership reminds us that sustainability is not a destination but a continuous journey, and that every institution has a vital role in forging the path forward.

- Stephen Ellis, Boston University



# Thank You, Business Leader Members

We are grateful to all of our members and sponsors for their ongoing support and participation. A special thanks goes out to our 2025 AASHE Business Leaders!



A representative from Business Leader Member, CLEANR, connects with attendees during the #AASHE25 Conference & Expo.

# AWARDS REIMAGINED

*The AASHE Sustainability Awards provide global recognition to the individuals and institutions leading the higher education sustainability movement.*

The awards program was revamped in 2025 to introduce a new AASHE Fellows Award designed to recognize sustainability achievements of mid-career sustainability staff and faculty. We also shifted the way we share stories from the winners of our Campus Sustainability Achievement Award with a special webinar series.

## 2025 Award Winners

### Lifetime Achievement Award



AASHE honored [Charles Hopkins](#) as the 2025 Lifetime Achievement Award recipient. Charles holds the UNESCO Chair in Reorienting Education towards Sustainability at York University in Toronto, Canada, and has been a global leader in education for sustainable development (ESD) since the 1980s. He has worked closely with UNESCO, the United Nations University, and education ministries worldwide, helping shape key ESD frameworks, including Agenda 21 and several UNESCO ESD Declarations.

## AASHE Fellows

- Andrea Trimble, University of Virginia
- Ayodeji Oluwalana, Pennsylvania State University
- Kelly Wellman, Texas A&M University
- Kim Hankins, McHenry County College
- Lindsay Walker, Humber College
- Meghann Jarchow, University of South Dakota
- Nina Morris, University of Pennsylvania
- Olivia Aguilar, Mount Holyoke College
- Rob Andrejewski, University of Richmond
- Weston Dripps, Amherst College

## Campus Sustainability Achievement Award

- Binghamton University - [Binghamton 2 Degrees: Building Community Resilience Through Collaborative Action](#)
- IE University - [10-Year Challenge](#)
- Tecnológico de Monterrey, Monterrey and Chihuahua Campuses - [Design for Vulnerables](#)
- Tufts University - [Resilient Climate Leaders: Redefining Sustainability Programming to Meet the Needs of Students Today](#)

## Student Sustainability Leadership Award

- Rebecca Grekin - [TASTE Food: The Automated Scope 3 Tool for Tracking Emissions from Food](#)
- Rachel Willick (Honorable Mention) - [Up-cycling: Tread Shed – Our Campus Spoke Easy](#)

# Awards by the Numbers

**82** Award Submissions

Including 46 new case studies

**4** Countries Represented

Winners in Canada, Mexico, Spain, and United States

**26** Judges

This program would not be possible without volunteer support!



A presentation of AASHE's Award winner, Binghamton 2 Degrees at Live at Confluence Park, an arts and music festival that features storytelling, participatory art, and educational booths at Binghamton University. The event was attended by over 1,300 community members over two years.

# STARS Highlights

*In its 16th year, the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System™ saw significant growth and achievements outside of North America.*

In spring 2025, [University of Sharjah](#) became the first institution outside of North America to earn a Platinum rating! In addition, institutions in India, New Zealand, Oman, and Uruguay were added to our list of rated institutions. We congratulate Sri Sivasubramaniya Nadar College of Engineering, Modern College of Business and Science, Victoria University of Wellington, and Universidad Tecnológica del Uruguay for introducing STARS in their respective countries!



The Growing Our Future programme is a joint initiative between Te Herenga Waka—Victoria University of Wellington and Wellington City Council to restore native forests throughout the Wellington region. The initiative is [featured](#) in Victoria University of Wellington's (and New Zealand's) first STARS report.

# STARS by the Numbers

## 1,285 Registered Institutions

A four percent increase over last year

## 384 Rated Institutions

With 154 reports published in 2025 alone

## 58 Countries Represented

Among all registrants, 21 countries had at least one STARS-rated institution

## 52 Cohort Participants

43 institutions participated in the STARS Support Cohort, and 9 Australian and New Zealand institutions participated in the ACTS-STARS Cohort

## 80 Data Quality Certifications

Sustainability professionals from five countries successfully completed the [STARS Data Quality Certificate Program](#)

## 21 Discounted Registrations

To enhance access to STARS, institutions received discounts through a [pay what you can program](#), an end-of-year promotion, and discounts for institutions in middle and lower-income economies

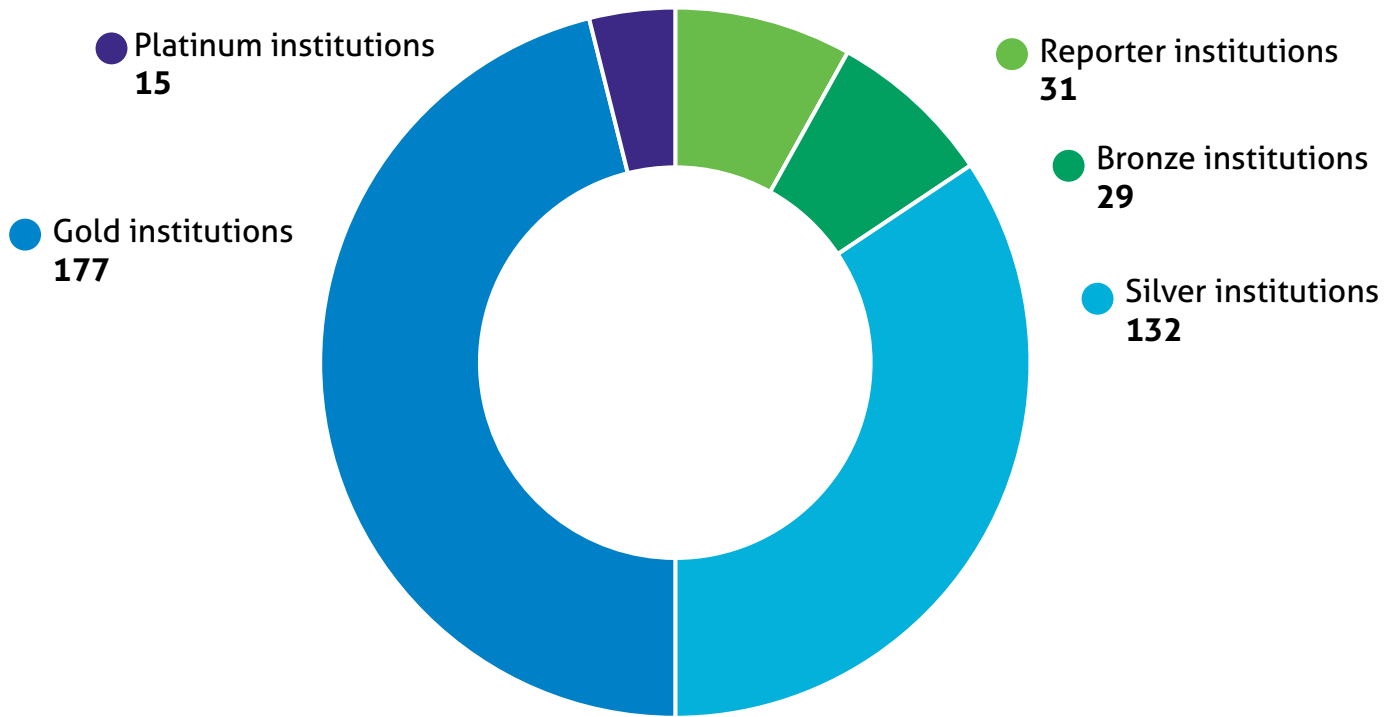
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“Completing the STARS report has given our institution’s sustainability leaders crucial opportunities to be in regular communication with the offices and people on our campus who can make a difference. We have come to see STARS as much more than a record of what we have done. It is a catalyst for change.”

- Kevin Salfen, University of the Incarnate Word

”

# STARS Rated Institutions



A group of UC Berkeley students planting trees. In spring 2025, University of California, Berkeley became the first institution to submit a STARS Platinum report under Version 3.0.

# Virtual Education

*Through webinars, workshops, courses, and trainings, AASHE offered a wide range of virtual education and professional development options in 2025.*

We are particularly proud of the strong participation of the inaugural Campus Decarbonization Academy, a six-month, cohort-based virtual program designed to equip campuses with the skills, tools, and strategies to decarbonize campus infrastructure effectively.

## Workshop Highlights

### Highest 2025 Registration Counts

- [Campus Decarbonization Academy](#) (92)
- [Sustainability Education Forum](#) (86)
- [STARS 3.0 Data Quality Training & Certification for Submitters & Reviewers - Spring](#) (80)
- [Building a Sustainability Across the Curriculum Faculty Development Program for Your Institution](#) (70)
- [STARS 3.0 Data Quality Training & Certification for Submitters & Reviewers - Fall](#) (54)
- [Behavior Change for Collective Climate Action](#) (49)

### Highest 2025 Satisfaction Ratings

- [Sustainability Education Forum](#) (4/4)
- [STARS 3.0 Data Quality Training & Certification for Submitters & Reviewers](#) (3.7/4)
- [Introduction to Effective Change-Making in Higher Education](#) (3.7/4)
- [Visualizing Sustainability with a Spatial Lens](#) (3.7/4)

Anyone can [purchase](#) archived workshop recordings and resources.

# Webinar Highlights

## Highest 2025 Registration Counts

- [Leading Campus Decarbonization Efforts](#) (363)
- [Navigating Sustainability in Higher Education Discussion Series](#) (306)
- [Advanced Topics in Campus Decarbonization: Utility Engagement and Regulatory Contexts](#) (176)
- [Award Webinar: Building a Culture of Sustainability Through Campus Engagement – Lessons from IE University’s 10-Year Challenge](#) (124)
- [Award Webinar: Supporting Resilient Climate Leaders: How \(and why\) Tufts Redesigned the Eco Program](#) (112)
- [Inflation Reduction Act Lessons Learned](#) (102)

## Highest 2025 Satisfaction Ratings

- [Redesigning Assessment for Equity Through Alternative Grading](#) (4/4)
- [Inflation Reduction Act Lessons Learned](#) (4/4)
- [Award Webinar: Designing for Vulnerable Communities – The Technology Challenge](#) (4/4)
- [Advanced Topics in Campus Decarbonization: Utility Engagement and Regulatory Contexts](#) (4/4)
- [Create Your Own Climate Change Quilt](#) (4/4)
- [Sustainability Passport Program: Incentivizing Employee Engagement](#) (4/4)
- [Tracking Your Sustainability Projects and Developing Decarbonization Plans with GRITS](#) (4/4)
- [Building a Sustainability Staff Ambassador Program From Scratch: Yes, you can do it, too!](#) (4/4)

[Webinar recordings](#) can be accessed by AASHE members in the Campus Sustainability Hub.

# Education by the Numbers

**92 Campus Decarbonization Academy**  
From 27 higher education institutions in 3 countries

**86 SEF Attendees**  
From 66 organizations in 8 countries

**28 Webinars**  
Engaged 2,756 registrants from 815 organizations across 24 countries

**12 Workshops & Courses**  
Connected 629 participants from 318 organizations across 19 countries

**38 Mentorship Program Matches**  
Selected from a pool of 118 applicants

**30 Scholarships Awarded**  
Expanded access of education programs to a diverse audience

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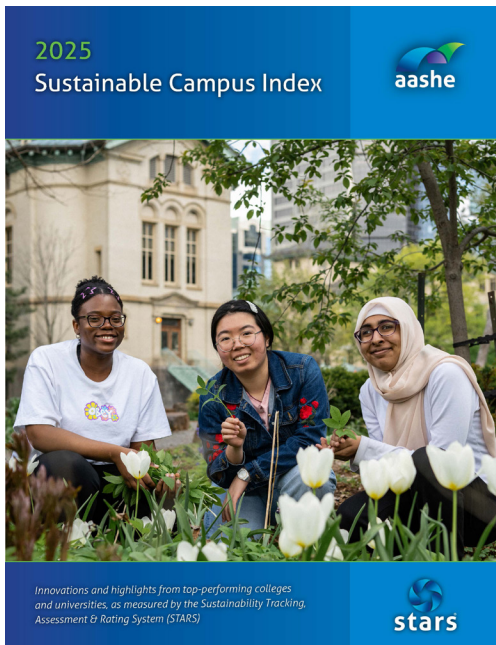
The program was excellent! The trainers shared their profound expertise in a very engaging way, with enormous generosity and presence. This was one of the best courses I took in all my years of working in higher education.

- Leonie Bellina, University of Tuebingen, Germany; attended Introduction to Effective Change-Making in Higher Education

”

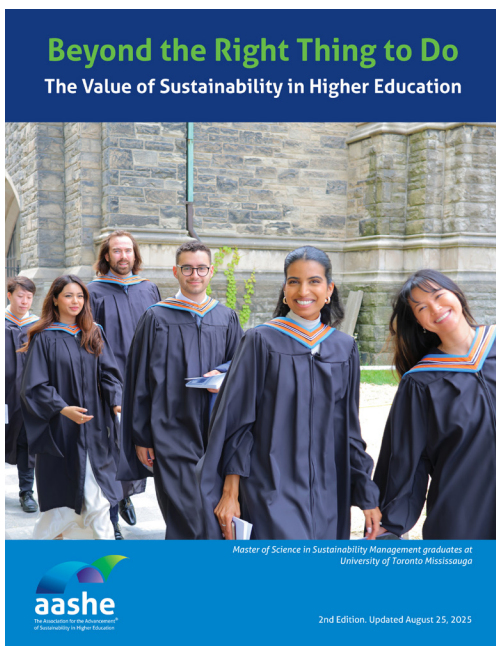
# Resources & Publications

AASHE released two publications in 2024 and added 1,160 new resources to our online resource library, the *Campus Sustainability Hub*.



## 2025 Sustainable Campus Index

The Sustainable Campus Index (SCI) recognizes top-performing colleges and universities by country, institution type, and across 13 sustainability impact areas, as measured by the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS). The SCI also recognizes high-impact projects and initiatives, institutions with exceptional STARS report accuracy, and the most frequent STARS reporting institutions.



## Beyond the Right Thing to Do: The Value of Sustainability in Higher Education (2nd edition)

The 2025 edition of this publication aims to help higher education sustainability practitioners articulate the importance of sustainability to campus leaders and the public, with links to supporting resources in the Campus Sustainability Hub. AASHE will be adding new resources over time, so the list of supporting resources will continue to expand. This publication was originally written in 2017.

# Online Engagement

*The news and ideas shared by members of the AASHE community continue to shape and propel our work.*

## Most-Clicked AASHE Bulletin News

1. [AASHE Announces 2025 Sustainability Award Winners](#)
2. [Princeton Review Issues 2026 Guide to Green Colleges](#)
3. [Oberlin College Achieves Carbon Neutrality](#)
4. [U Albany Announces \\$30M Decarbonization Project](#)
5. [College of the Atlantic Eliminates All Disposable Plasticware](#)
6. [San Francisco State U Introduces Climate Justice Graduation Requirement](#)
7. [U Georgia Offers Staff Sustainability Leadership Program](#)
8. [Northeastern U Launches Climate Justice Action Plan](#)
9. [Brock U Begins \\$100M Decarbonization Initiative](#)
10. [Clark U Launches Climate, Environment & Society School](#)

## Most-Active AASHE Connect Threads

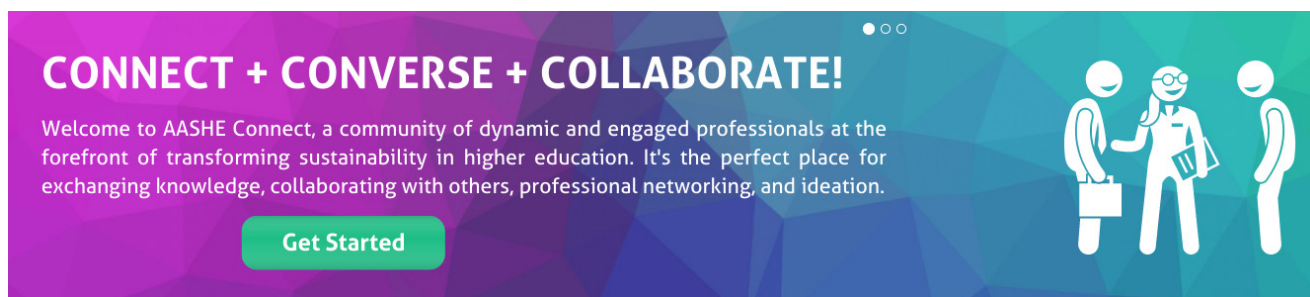
- [Standardized Signage Feedback](#) - posted by Cassie Austin, University of Dayton
- [Sustainable Textile Recycling: How Are Campuses Thrifts Dealing with Unusable Clothing?](#) - posted by Elisabeth Yorns, Skidmore College
- [Help with Reusable Food Containers](#) - posted by Colson Warren, Skidmore College

This is based on the number of thread responses. Archived posts are accessible to AASHE members in our [AASHE Online Community](#).

# Online Communities

AASHE hosts a variety of [Communities of Practice](#) and other online communities to facilitate greater connection, support, and collaboration. We welcome you to join the conversations on [AASHE Connect](#)!

- Big 10 & Friends Sustainability Network
- **NEW!** Climate Change Quilt
- Community & Technical Colleges Sustainability Network
- **NEW!** Early Career Higher Education Sustainability Professionals
- Ecological Landscapes
- Inner Development Goals
- IRA and Resources Discussion Group
- Liberating Structures & Facilitation
- **NEW!** Libraries & Sustainability
- Scaling Up Sustainability Across the Curriculum Community
- Scope 3 Emissions
- Senior Leaders Community
- STARS Community
- **NEW!** Students for Sustainability
- Sustainability & Sustainability-related Degree Program Directors
- Sustainability Efforts with Beverage Companies
- Sustainability in Collegiate Athletics
- **NEW!** Sustainable Food Procurement
- TSLGBTQIA+ Identify Affinity Group
- Upper Midwest Association for Campus Sustainability



**CONNECT + CONVERSE + COLLABORATE!**

Welcome to AASHE Connect, a community of dynamic and engaged professionals at the forefront of transforming sustainability in higher education. It's the perfect place for exchanging knowledge, collaborating with others, professional networking, and ideation.

[Get Started](#)

The banner features a vibrant geometric background in shades of purple, blue, and green. On the right side, there is a white line-art illustration of three stylized human figures standing and talking. One figure is holding a briefcase, and another is holding a folder or document. Above the figures, there are three small white circles, suggesting a navigation or status indicator.

# Engagement by the Numbers

## 42.2K AASHE Connect Members

Connected in 331 new discussion threads in 2025

## 7.3K Bulletin Subscribers

Featured 492 news stories, 102 job postings, 145 opportunities, 180 events, and 30 new sustainability resources

## 1.2K STARS Community Members

Engaged in 39 new discussion threads in 2025



A Stellenbosch University student hands an Earth Day memorandum to Professor Nicola Smit, the University's acting Chief Executive Officer. Stellenbosch University is one of dozens of institutions that contributed to AASHE's annual online Earth Day image submission campaign in 2025.

# Advocacy & Action

*AASHE advocated for federal policies that support sustainability, environmental justice, and climate action in higher education amid significant shifts in the U.S. federal policy landscape.*

## May 2025

AASHE [joined](#) the American Council on Education (ACE) and other higher education organizations in endorsing [A Call to Reforge the Historic Compact Between Higher Education and the Federal Government](#), highlighting the importance of this partnership in advancing innovation, economic prosperity, and inclusive education.

AASHE [joined a coalition](#) letter led by Lawyers for Good Government [opposing proposed cuts to clean energy tax credits and environmental grant programs](#). The letter urged the U.S. Congress to protect tax incentives that have driven job creation and clean energy deployment and to preserve U.S. Environmental Protection Agency grant programs established under the Inflation Reduction Act.

## June 2025

AASHE [signed a letter](#) urging the U.S. Congress to [protect environmental and justice and public health programs](#) from proposed Budget Reconciliation cuts. The letter emphasized the importance of initiatives such as air pollution monitoring for schools, Environmental and Climate Justice Block Grants, and Climate Pollution Reduction Grants in improving community health and climate resilience.

AASHE [submitted comments](#) to the U.S. Bureau of Ocean Energy Management [opposing new oil and gas drilling in the Gulf of Mexico](#), citing concerns about the environmental, social, and climate impacts of expanded fossil fuel development in regions already vulnerable to sea-level rise, extreme weather, and ecological degradation.

# AASHE Staff

## Executive Director

Meghan Fay Zahniser



## Operations

Rogelio Zuniga Rubio  
*Platform & Software  
Development Manager*



## Marketing & Communications

Emily Cardinas  
*Marketing Manager*



Roya Ojarood  
*Marketing Intern*



## Membership

Nikia Johnson  
*Membership Development  
Manager*



Simone Smith  
*Membership Operations  
Coordinator*



## Programs

Julian Dautremont  
*Director of Programs*



Crystal Simmons  
*Bulletin Editor & Program  
Manager*



Daita Serghi  
*Senior Education Manager*



Monika Urbanski  
*Senior Manager of Resources,  
Data Quality & Publications*



Aubrey Organ  
*Education Intern*



Robin Frederick  
*STARS & Resources Intern*



We are grateful to the staff members who contributed to 2025 efforts that have moved on from AASHE: Domna Gallion (Finance and Operations), Erin Hathaway (Conference & Events), Chris Pelton (Programs), and Kimberly Smith (Meetings & Membership).

# AASHE Governance

## 2025 Board of Directors

The Board advises on policy and direction, and supports AASHE’s mission through governance. In December, over 100 AASHE member organizations participated in board elections for the upcoming year. Thank you for everyone’s vote! After six years of service, Stephania Fregosi and Chris O’Brien rotated off of the board. We are grateful for their service and dedication to AASHE! [View current board members.](#)

Stephania Fregosi, President  
*Portland Community College*



Rania Assariotaki, Secretary  
*The American College of Greece*



Daryl M. Pierson, PhD, Vice President  
*Portland State University*



Kristin Parineh, Treasurer  
*Treasurer, Stanford University*



Sophia Agtarap,  
*Washington State Board for  
Community and Technical  
Colleges*



Léonie Lado  
*Student, McGill University*



Jillian Buckholz  
*Brailsford & Dunlavey*



Joseli Macedo  
*University of Calgary*



Chris Ewing  
*University of Colorado Boulder*



John Madden  
*University of British Columbia*



Greg “G.L.” Genco  
*Generation Conscious*



François Miller  
*McGill University*



Chris O’Brien  
*Coho Climate Advisors LLC*



## Advisory Council

The [Advisory Council](#) (AC) brings together 96 volunteers from institutions in six countries to inform and strengthen AASHE’s strategy, programs, and services. We are thankful for the time, energy, and commitment that our AC members devote to advancing AASHE’s mission.

# Administration & Finance

Thanks to cost reduction efforts and the success of our programs and campaigns, 2025 ended with a positive and balanced budget!

Highlights include:

- A new user management system that will enable us to move away from a more costly third-party association management platform (to be launched in Spring 2026).
- A STARS Reporting Tool Exporter that is reducing cost and time for ad hoc IT support requests.
- Updated contracts for a new email management system that is 1/9th the cost of the prior platform.
- Reduced software licensing costs resulting in savings of \$35,000.

AASHE is a 501(C)(3) membership association. Our annual information return (Form 990) can be found on the [Financials page](#).



AASHE staff members that attended the 2025 AASHE Conference & Expo in Minneapolis pose together following the closing ceremony.

# Thank YOU!

We are grateful to the members and partners who make up the AASHE community and who continue to engage in the shared work of building a more sustainable future. Your feedback, engagement, and passion enable AASHE to advance its mission. With your continued support, we can inspire one another and strengthen the higher education sustainability movement. Together, we are AASHE.

**Photo credits:** Images throughout this publication include photos from the Climate Change Quilt activity at the 2025 AASHE Conference & Expo, as well as images from AASHE member institutions and STARS Participants.



aashe

The Association for the Advancement<sup>®</sup>  
of Sustainability in Higher Education

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*Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)  
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