



Sustainability Primer

-

Getting Started in Sustainability


Jim Tweedy, Ed.D.
University of Delaware
ACPA Sustainability Advisory Committee

Kaye Holman, Ph.D.
Colorado State University
ACPA Sustainability Advisory Committee

Thanks for Help with Today's Slides

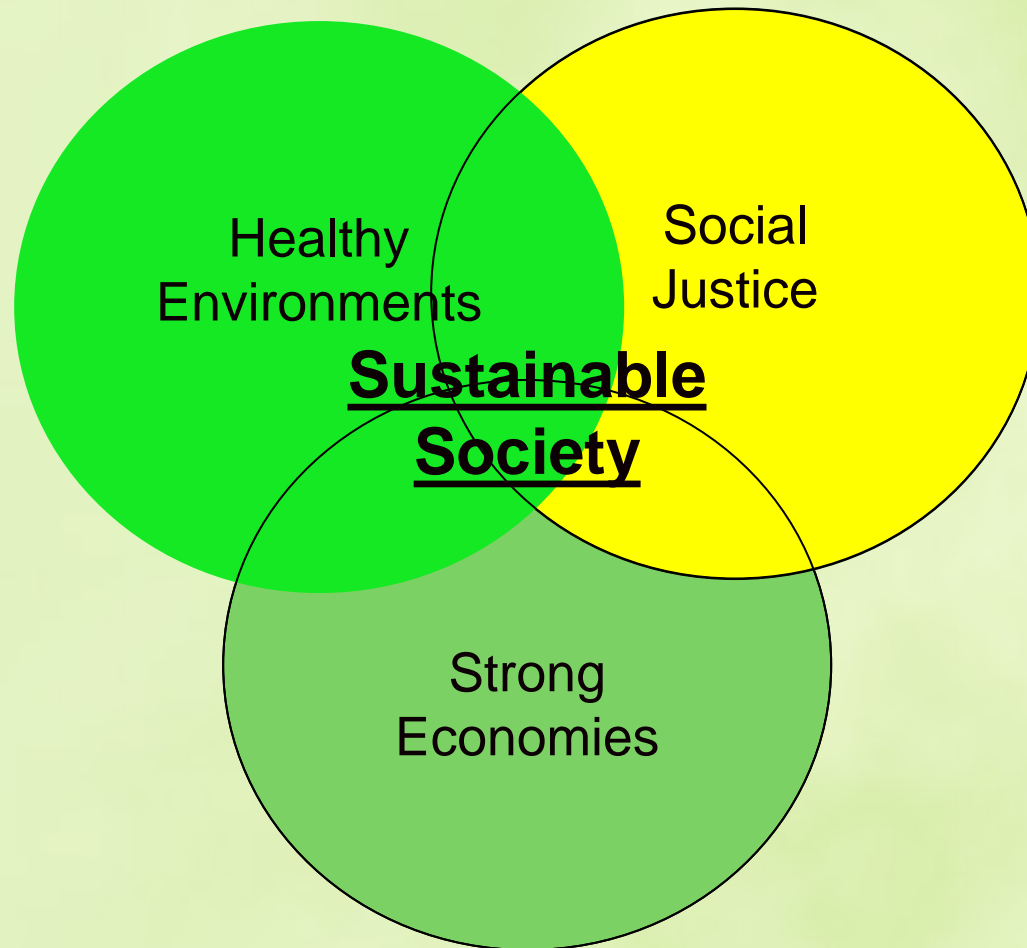
- Dr. Debra Rowe, President U.S. Partnership for Education for Sustainable Development
- Dr. Keith Edwards, Director of Campus Life, Macalester College
- Ms. Kathleen Gardner, Associate Director of Residence Life, SIUE; and former Chair, ACPA Sustainability Task Force





**The United Nations
has declared 2005-2014
a Decade of Education for
Sustainable Development**

Triple Bottom Line





Education for a Sustainable Society

Enables people to develop the knowledge, values and skills to participate in decisions . . . that will improve the quality of life now without damaging the planet for the future.



Sustainable Development Defined

Meeting the needs of the present
without compromising the ability of
future generations to
meet their own needs.

Source: *World Commission on Environment and Development. (1987). Our Common Future. England: Oxford University Press.*

Another Way to Think About Sustainability

The shared responsibility for improving the quality of life for all—economically, socially, and environmentally—now and for future generations.



Why Sustainability, Why Now?

- Human presence on a global scale
- All living systems are in long term decline at unprecedented and accelerating rate
- Unprecedented growth in population and consumption
- Gap between the rich and poor is quickly accelerating



Ecological Footprint Quiz

Ecological footprints measure humanity's demands on nature. Everything we do has consequences...



Ever wondered how much "nature" your lifestyle requires? You're about to find out. The Ecological Footprint Quiz estimates the amount of land and ocean area required to sustain your consumption patterns and absorb your wastes on an annual basis. After answering 27 easy questions you'll be able to compare your Ecological Footprint to others' and learn how to reduce your impact on the Earth.



-  [Donate](#)
-  [Licensing](#)
-  [Educators](#)

How BIG is Your Ecological Footprint?

Select language



Why Sustainability, Why Now?

- Freshwater withdrawal has almost doubled since 1960 and nearly half the world's major rivers are going dry or are badly polluted (New Internationalist, no. 329 November, 2000. 18)
- 11 of the world's 15 major fishing areas and 69% of the world's major fish species are in decline (State of the World 1998, 60-67)
- Global warming

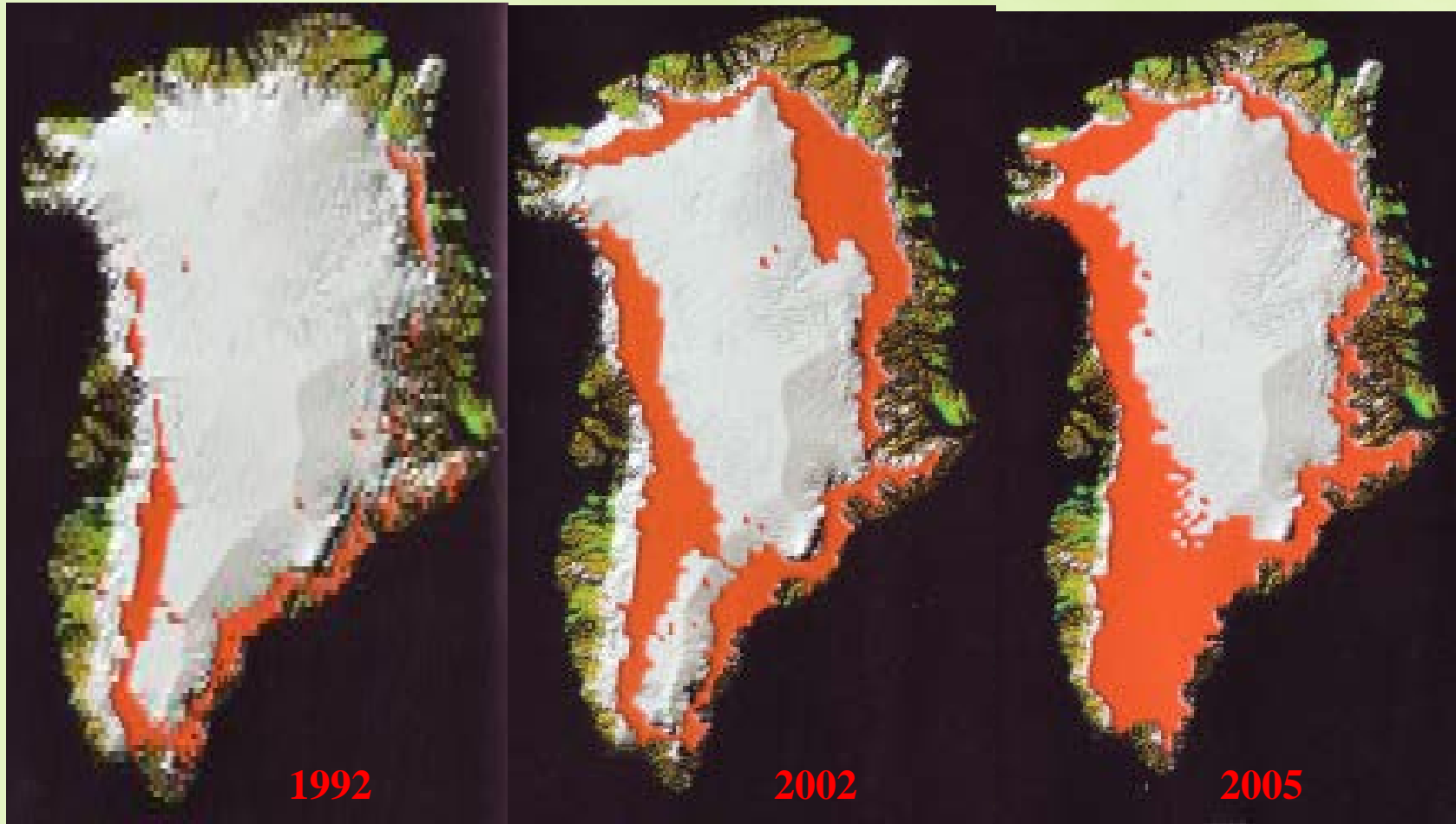
South Florida Shoreline

Areas in red are subject to inundation after a 1-meter rise in sea level

Source: Elevations from USGS digital data prepared by the U.S. Geological Society, 1997



Greenland Summer Surface Melting



Source: ACIA, 2004 and CIRES, 2005

Coastal Glaciers Are Retreating

Muir Glacier, Alaska



August 1941



August 2004

Source: NSIDC/WDC for Glaciology, Boulder, compiler. 2002, updated 2006. *Online glacier photograph database*. Boulder, CO: National Snow and Ice Data Center.

Grinnell Glacier from Grinnell Lake Glacier National Park, 1910-1997



Photo by Elrod, GNP Archives, ca 1910



Photo by Hileman, GNP Archives, 1931



Photo by Fagre, 1997

The Effects of Climate Change

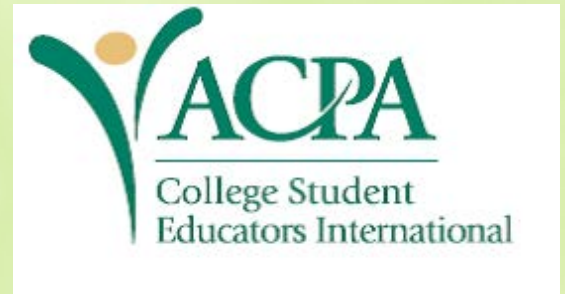
- The number of Category 4 and 5 hurricanes has almost doubled in the last 30 years
- Disease has spread to temperate climates
- The flow of ice from glaciers in Greenland has more than doubled over the past decade
- At least 279 species of plants and animals are already responding to global warming, moving closer to the poles



Currently, within ACPA . . .

Sustainability Advisory Committee

- **Four Committee Teams**
 - ✓ Member Education
 - ✓ Convention
 - ✓ Organizational Infusion
 - ✓ Annual Symposium
- **Always seeking new talent!**





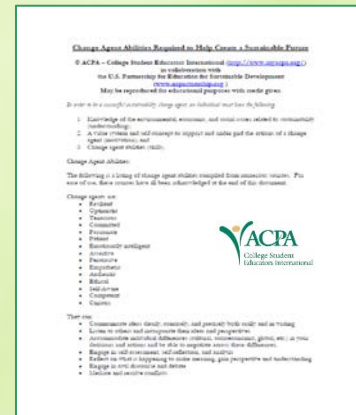
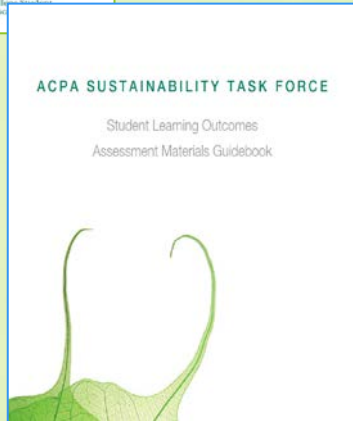
A network of higher education associations with a commitment to advancing sustainability both within their constituencies and the system of higher education. Member organizations include:

- ACPA-College Student Educators International
- American Association of Community Colleges (AACCC)
- American Association of State Colleges & Universities (AASCU)
- Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)
- Association of College and University Housing Officers – International (ACUHO-I)
- Association of Higher Education Facilities Officers (APPA)
- Campus Safety, Health, and Environmental Management Association (CSHEMA)
- Council for Christian Colleges & Universities (CCCCU)
- National Association of College & University Business Officers (NACUBO)
- National Association of Educational Procurement (NAEP)
- National Association of Independent Colleges & Universities (NAICU)
- NIRSA: Leaders in Collegiate Recreation

<http://heasc.aashe.org>

Sustainability Resources & Tools

<http://www.acpa.nche.edu/sustaincomm>





The Living Laboratory



Getting Started and Making Changes

Potential is Enormous

- 4,096 U.S. Colleges and Universities ⁽¹⁾
- 14.8 million students ⁽¹⁾
- \$277 billion annual expenditures; 2.8% of the GDP ⁽¹⁾
- HE expenditures > GDP of all but 25 countries ⁽²⁾

Sources

1 From: 2001 Digest of Education Statistics, US Dept. of Education.

2 From: 2001 CIA World Fact Book and Dowling, Mike., "Interactive Table of World Nations," available from <http://www.mrdowling.com/800nations.html>; Internet; updated Friday, June 29, 2001

Embracing Education for Sustainable Development

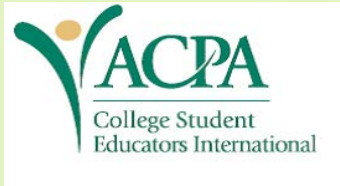
- Improves teaching and learning
- Prepares students for citizenship and career
- Attracts students, faculty and funding
- Saves \$ and resources for the institution and society
- Improves the institution's reputation
- Engenders cooperation and satisfaction across the institution
- Helps improve town/gown relationships
- Fulfills moral and social responsibility
- Improves strategic positioning

ACPA's 2008 Monograph *Toward a Sustainable Future*

Sustainability Student Outcomes

- Define sustainability
- Relate sustainability to life and values
- Change actions and consumerism
- Explain environmental, economic, and social interrelationships
- Learn change agent skills
- Apply sustainability in community
- Demonstrate personal, professional, and social commitments





Earth Day Webinar!

Student Affairs Stories of Sustainability: Resources to Engage Students and Remove Silos

Thursday, April 17, 2014 at 1 pm EST

Register at <http://tinyurl.com/EDWebinar>



Campus Sustainability Day

October 22, 2014

<http://campussustainabilityday.org/>

conference & expo + oct 6-9, 2013



AASHE 2014

October 26 – 29, 2014

Portland, Oregon

www.aashe.org

James Tweedy, EdD

University of Delaware

Email: tweedy@udel.edu

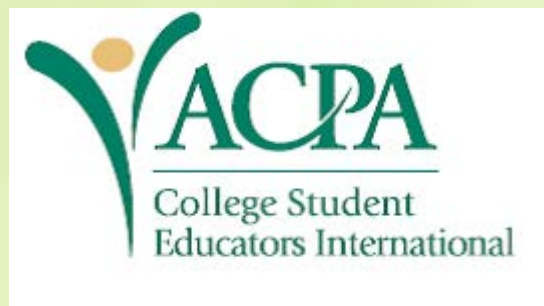
LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/pub/james-tweedy/3/742/48b

Debra Kaye Holman, PhD

Colorado State University

Email: kaye.holman@colostate.edu

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/kayeholman/



**Thank you for
joining us!**

