

Summary—“Next Steps” Concluding Discussion

Debra Rowe posed the question, what do you want from your network? What should we be doing to advance sustainability on our campuses? And who will be responsible for following through on these action step suggestions?

1. Increase visibility of food and agriculture on our campuses; increase local production. While reduction in greenhouse gas and energy savings are important, no one can live without food. (Nancy Lee Wood takes lead)
2. College Textbooks: Pen a collective statement of desire about more flexibility, lower costs and production for college textbooks. (Ann-Marie Burke will take lead.)
3. Presidents’ Climate Commitment—increasing the accountability for each institution through the network, particularly in relation to curriculum. (Pres. Kathy Schatzberg will take lead.)
4. Sustainability Clubs on Campus: Getting more people involved in Powershift Conference in Boston connecting local students with youth leaders nationally and internationally. (Sarah Moon will take lead.)
5. Sustainability in health care and public health: Bring this topic to the agenda for a regional convening. (Dan will take lead.)
6. Pus Sustainability into the media: get the topic visible as part of sporting events and movies, reach out to mainstream media, get the topic prioritized amongst broadcasting professors. (Bob Rak takes lead.)
7. Sustainability in the Core Curriculum: Write a collective statement about the importance of sustainability being an element in the general education core, and incorporated into professional development and incentive/reward structures for faculty. (Sue Miller takes lead.)
8. Job Descriptions: get sustainability incorporated into the job description for new hires, as Arizona State and Cornell are beginning to do. (Holly States takes lead.)
9. Sustainability in Mission Statements and Strategic Plans: (to be brought up at next CEO meeting.)
10. Small Professional Development grants for faculty to incorporate sustainability into the classroom and share with colleagues via the CONNECT website or campus presentations (to be brought up at next CEO meeting.)
11. Crosswalk between Sustainability and LEAP, integrated with student affairs: Convene a subcommittee. (Susan Miller will take lead.)

12. Accreditation: Use the guidelines of accrediting agencies (see the DANS website) to put pressure on integrating sustainability throughout the academic program. (Jim Corven takes lead.)

13. Support from top management: Debra suggests telling the presidents/Chancellor that you plan to conduct a media campaign talking about the importance of Sustainability on the campus, and to ask for a quote from the president/Chancellor (which you may need to pen for them).