FACULTY RESOURCES: ADDRESSING SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability can be studied in its social, economic, natural, or political aspects. Peace, equity, and human rights, appropriate economic development, democracy or civic involvement, and natural conservation all relate to sustainable futures. Sustainability can also be thought of as the health of people, health of communities, global health (e.g., HIV), and the health of the natural environment.

Sustainability can be brought into courses by exploring topics related to the challenges of creating a more humane and environmentally healthy future society. Sustainability can be included in curriculum by addressing cultural beliefs or attitudes (e.g., care for community), or as skills (e.g., data analysis, teamwork).

(Resources source: http://www.ncseonline.org/EFS/DebraRowe.pdf)

LINKS

Sustainability Curriculum Resources

General sustainability information sources for educators

World Resources Institute (WRI) (http://www.wri.org/projects)
 WRI is an environmental think tank that performs research and helps find practical ways to protect the earth and improve lives, and their research and projects list offer research, examples, and case studies for diverse fields, from business and transport, to finance and energy, to democracy.

Sustainable Communities Network (http://www.sustainable.org/)
Focuses on communities: civic engagement, indicators, sustainable economy, governance (policies, taxes, partnerships, etc.), healthy homes, natural resources, smart growth, and more. Great links: http://www.sustainable.org/living/education.html

Worldometers (http://www.worldometers.info/) **-** Meters for global sustainability indicators

Giraffe Heroes (www.giraffe.org) – Success stories for students about community/society activists

Eight simple ways to green your course (Texas Christian University)
http://www.themesemester.tcu.edu/green_your_course.asp

Sustainability in curricula and operations (including courses and materials)

- The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) offers links to sustainability-related course syllabi on ethics, business, planning, natural resources, sciences, and others. Some syllabi include assignment information. BCIT is a member institute – enter your BCIT email address and a password will be emailed to you to access "member only" resources immediately (http://www.aashe.org/).
- The Advanced Technology Environmental Education Center (ATEEC) (National Science Foundation funded) advances environmental technology education through curriculum and professional development. Free software on oil spill prevention, pipelines, transport security, and geothermal, plus activities, publications, multimedia, and more. (http://www.ateec.org/store/)

- The Partnership for Environmental Technology Education (PETE) (http://www.nationalpete.org/) offers Energy Technology curricula (conservation, efficiency, renewables) and modules for integration into diverse courses.
- MIT Open Courseware allows download-by-donation for full curriculum of past MIT courses on a range of Environment Topics http://ocw.mit.edu/OcwWeb/web/courses/environment/envt/envt.htm
- North American Alliance for Green Education – Resources (http://www.naage.org/irb.html)
- Mesa Community College – Faculty Sustainability Project Description Index (http://ctl.mc.maricopa.edu/wiki/index.php/Category:Sustainability)
- New Jersey Higher Education Partnership for Sustainability – Sustainability Education (http://www.njheps.org/projects/education.html)
- The Sustainability Education Handbook (http://www.urbanoptions.org/SustainEdHandbook/) provides resource guides, free learning activities and curricula, and open-ended questions to introduce sustainability in various disciplines.

Curricula assistance in social responsibility and civic engagement through service

- National Campus Compact (www.compact.org/syllabi/)
- 101 Ideas for Combining Service & Learning (http://www.fiu.edu/~time4chg/Library/ideas.html)
- Service-Learning Clearinghouse Toolkit (resources) http://servicelearning.org/instant_info/lesson_plans/index.php?link_set_id=2&category_id=160
- Community Campus Partnerships for Health: Discipline-Specific Resources, Including Syllabi http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/servicelearningres.html#Syllabi

Faculty Professional Development in Sustainability Online

Teaching and Learning for a Sustainable Future is a multimedia professional development programme prepared by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). It is 100 hours, divided into 25 modules of 4 hours of activities. It is for pre-service and in-service teachers, teacher-educators, student-teachers, curriculum developers, education policy-makers and educational materials authors. http://www.unesco.org/education/tlsf/

- Introduction to global realities, imperatives for sustainable development, and educational issues – the reasons for Education for a Sustainable Future (modules 1-5).
- Exploration of global realities, understanding sustainable development, a futures perspective in the curriculum, reorienting education for a sustainable future, and accepting the challenge.
- Methods for integrating education for a sustainable future across the curriculum.
- Skills and methodologies for successfully teaching knowledge, skills and values to understand and implement sustainability, including: experiential learning, story-telling, values education, enquiry learning, appropriate assessment, future problem-solving, learning outside the classroom, and community problem-solving.