

# HEASC News Digest

Higher Education Associations Sustainability Consortium ♦ <http://www.heasc.net>  
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## **1. HEASC Members Asked to Support the Higher Education Sustainability Act (HESA)**

The Higher Education Sustainability Act (HESA) has been reintroduced into the House of Representatives as HR 3637. HESA amends the Higher Education Act to authorize a new **\$50 million** grant program at the Department of Education that will annually support between 25 and 200 projects at higher education institutions and consortia/associations. Although HESA, when introduced in 2005, failed to pass in committee by 3 votes, it has a very good chance of passing this time—however, it needs your support.

Jim Elder, Director of the Campaign for Environmental Literacy, joined HEASC members on our monthly teleconference last week to discuss the bill and to let us know what members can do to support this important legislation:

- If possible, get your association to sign the stakeholder letter in support of HESA 2007. (You can send Jim a note at [jelderjr@aol.com](mailto:jelderjr@aol.com) to this effect and he'll add your association to the list of co-signatories.)
- Please notify your member institutions about HESA and ask them to:
  1. Also co-sign the letter
  2. Reach out by email and/or phone to their Congressional delegation and ask them to support HESA (and if they are a Representative, to consider co-sponsoring HESA).

To date, four HEASC member associations have co-signed the letter of support: ACUHO-I, AASHE, NACUBO and NIRSA. Contact Jim Elder if you need any help (drafting a letter, making the case, etc.) and visit <http://www.fundee.org/campaigns/hesa/> for updates.

## **2. Registration Open for *Education for a Sustainable Future* Webinar to be Held Nov 27th, 2007**

Registration is now open for the next *Education for a Sustainable Future* webinar which will be held on November 27 from 1:00 – 2:30pm, Eastern Time. Debra Rowe will present

the introduction portion of the webinar which will be followed by examples of sustainability from HEASC members and their constituents. So far NIRSA NACA, ACUHO-I, and NAEP are participating in the production of this webinar, but other HEASC members are welcome to join (contact Deb Rowe at [dgrowe@oaklandcc.edu](mailto:dgrowe@oaklandcc.edu) ).

In any case, please share this opportunity with your staff and members by sending out the flier (below) or by directing them to the HEASC website.

Download the Webinar Flier: <http://www.aashe.org/heasc/documents/HEASCWebinar11-27-07.pdf>

### **3. AGB Strengthens Green Publishing Efforts in its *Trusteeship* Magazine**

AGB, with its September/October edition of *Trusteeship* Magazine, has begun printing on FSC certified (Forest Stewardship Council, see <http://www.fsc.org> ) materials. This was preceded by publication of its 2006 annual report on self-regenerating eucalyptus as opposed to wood pulp.

The FSC uses strict economic, social and environmental criteria in its certification, issuing certificates for forest management and chain of custody. Note that the FSC website provides access to their database of certificate holders, allowing you to search for specific products (see [http://www.fsc.org/en/whats\\_new/fsc\\_certificates/fsc\\_database](http://www.fsc.org/en/whats_new/fsc_certificates/fsc_database) ).

Read the announcement in *Trusteeship*:

[http://www.heasc.net/resources/pdf/Trusteeship\\_Goes\\_Green.pdf](http://www.heasc.net/resources/pdf/Trusteeship_Goes_Green.pdf)

### **4. Consider Signing On to the *Climate Savers Computing Initiative***

As stated on the Climate Savers Computing Initiative website, the average desktop PC wastes nearly *half* the power delivered to it. This wasted electricity unnecessarily increases the cost of powering a computer, and it also increases the emission of greenhouse gases.

Started by Google and Intel in 2007, the *Climate Savers Computing Initiative* is a nonprofit group of consumers, businesses and conservation organizations whose mission is to promote development, deployment and adoption of smart technologies that can both improve the efficiency of a computer's power delivery and reduce the energy consumed when the computer is in an inactive state. By 2010, Climate Savers seek to reduce global CO2 emissions from the operation of computers by 54 million tons per year, equivalent to the annual output of 11 million cars or 10–20 coal-fired power plants.

To find out more about the initiative and how your association can participate, visit:

<http://www.climatesaverscomputing.org> .

### **5. United Nations Environment Programme's new *Education Toolkit on Sustainability Communications***

Just released in July of this year, UNEP has created a CD-ROM (runs online in a browser window) containing a series of courses on communicating sustainability. The main topics addressed in this CD-ROM are:

- Sustainable development: ethics and social practices (module I)
- The economic and social context for sustainability communications (module II)
- The practice of sustainability communications: from innovation to risk (module III)

- Practices and exercises in marketing and communication (module IV)
- Analysis of various public and private campaigns around the world
- Resources: documents, web links, bibliographies, etc.

The presentation is engaging and user-friendly, allowing the participant to navigate easily between slides/concepts and to get additional information by clicking on icons. The content is rich, presenting basic concepts as well as supplying more in depth material, example cases, and resources.

Take a (sustainable) test drive at:

[http://www.unep.fr/pc/sustain/advertising/education\\_kit/index.htm](http://www.unep.fr/pc/sustain/advertising/education_kit/index.htm)

*-Mary Reilly*

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Your articles, announcements, news blurbs are always welcome for inclusion in the HEASC News Digest. Please send to [mreilly@secondnature.org](mailto:mreilly@secondnature.org). Thank you!

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