SSF’s Run Up to Rio+20 Series

Higher Education and Industry
Collaborating for a Sustainable Future

May 10, 2012
1:15 to 2:45 PM EDT

Moderator: Georges Dyer
Second Nature

Co-Produced by AASHE, the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education

UPCOMING Webinar Series: Urbanization in a Growing World
Session 1: Urbanization and Growth on a Finite Planet
Thursday June 28 1:15-2:45 EDT
www.securityandsustainabiltyforum.org

An SSF – AASHE Co-Production
Consisting of more than 1100 institutional members, AASHE is advancing sustainability in the higher education community by providing invaluable resources through its newsletters and online resource center and is engaging a diverse community through online and face-to-face discussions, workshops and conferences. Visit the website at www.aashe.org and join us in Los Angeles for AASHE2012: Investing in the Future. October 14-17.

For more information go to http://conf2012.aashe.org/
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Second Nature
Education for Sustainability

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Moderator:
Georges Dyer
Vice President
Second Nature

Georges Dyer‘s work has focused on building and supporting networks like the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment and Advancing Green Buildings Initiative.
Agenda

- Introduction  
  *James Buizer*, University of Arizona

- Panel Presentations
  - UN Rio +20  
    *Chantal Line Carpentier*
  - EPA & Federal Sustainability  
    *Alan Hecht*

- Panel Discussion:
- Audience Q&As  *(Send through question box)*
- Summary Points
- Thank you!  *(Please fill out the audience survey)*
Chantal Line Carpentier, Sustainable Development Officer in the UN’s Department of Economic and Social Affairs, will offer a background on the Rio +20 conference, and what the UN hopes to accomplish.

Alan Hecht, Director of Sustainable Development at the EPA’s Office of Research and Development, has been leading a research strategy to support transitioning sustainability from a concept into practice.
Paul Rowland, Executive Director of AASHE, founded the Ponderosa Project at Northern Arizona University and has served as Dean of the School of Education at The University of Montana and Dean of the College of Education at the University of Idaho. He has worked tirelessly to integrate concepts of environmental sustainability into higher education.

Rose Johnson, President of Haywood Community College, built a legacy by integrating sustainability not only into the campus, but also into the school’s curriculum.

Roy Koch, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Portland State University, oversees the academic mission of the state's largest university with nearly 30,000 students and 1,500 professors and researchers.
Industry Sustainability Leaders

**Jennifer Layke**, Director of Johnson Controls’ Institute for Building Efficiency, leads the Institute’s research agenda and collaborations with a global network of experts working with high performance buildings and smart energy systems. She brings a background of climate policy and renewable energy market development.

**Denny McGinn**, President of the American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE), brings a military and defense background to the panel, along with ACORE’s work to bring all forms of renewable energy into the mainstream of the US economy.

**Neil Hawkins**, Dow’s Vice President of Sustainability and Environment, Health, and Safety, drives the company’s strategy and implementation of sustainability programs, is a frequent keynote speaker in global forums on sustainability, and was part of the committee who produced the EPA’s ‘Green Book,’ guidelines for incorporating sustainability into the Agency.
Building a Sustainable Future

Security and Sustainability Forum
May 10, 2012

Dr. Alan D. Hecht
Director for Sustainable Development
Office of Research and Development
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Earth’s Resources Are Stressed

Continuous depletion and degradation of natural resources is at the root of unsustainable approaches.

If every human alive today consumed natural resources and emitted carbon dioxide at the same rate as the average American, European, or Australian, we would need at least another two earths.”

World Wildlife Fund International
World Population, 1750–2050
Rio de Janeiro
“That settles it. We either get a bigger boat, or cut back on the fishing equipment.”
Making Sustainability Operational Requires Convergence

• Advanced innovation in science and technology
• Application of effective government regulations and policies
• Green business practices
• Innovation, Education, Collaboration (IEC)
Creating the future we want

Although the world faces serious environmental, economic, and social challenges, we believe that a combination of science and innovation, effective governance, and public-private collaboration can help to overcome many of them and achieve sustainable development. Numerous government policies are now promoting sustainable management practices, while many people in the business and financial communities view sustainability as a means to reduce long-term risk, enhance competitiveness, and promote social well-being. Advances in science and technology are creating new economic opportunities and producing sustainable solutions, while expanded public access to global data and information is helping to shape business and government policies. Looking ahead, sustainability will be best pursued by building on these trends and encouraging new collaborative initiatives among governments, businesses, and the nonprofit sector. This article is an example of a collaboration that includes government, business, academic, nongovernmental, and international organizations.
Creating a Sustainable Future

Five Steps to Speed Progress

• All countries must better understand the pressures on the global environment and their consequences.
• This understanding must lead to a vision and strategy for global sustainable development.
• It is essential to promote framework conditions that support good governance.
• Advances in science and technology and new business models can enhance resource efficiency.
• Collaboration among business, government, NGOs, academia, and civil society can lead to positive actions and outcomes on a global scale.
Engaging Youth on Sustainability

- WH: Youth sustainability Challenge
- EPA: OnCampusecoAmbassadors and P3
- NSF: Science, Engineering and Education for Sustainability
- DOE: Solar Decathalon
- DOI: Youth in the Great Outdoors
- State Dept: Apps4Africa: Climate Challenge
- Education: Green Ribbon Schools award
Examples of Collaborations

• IBM and the World Environment Center launch *Innovations for Environmental Sustainability Council* to identify next-generation technologies and best practices to address critical sustainability challenges.

• Dow Chemical – Nature Conservancy collaboration help firms recognize, value and incorporate nature into global business goals, decisions and strategies.
"This really is an innovative approach, but I'm afraid we can't consider it. It's never been done before."
Environmental, Economic, and Social Trends

Risk Managers and Insurers

Federal, State, & International Regs & Policies

Financial Investors and Public Reporting

United Nations, World Bank, and NGOs

Business Strategies

Sustainable Development

Government Policies

— A. Hecht, “It’s OK to Talk About Sustainability” (in press)
Increasing Collaboration to Build the Future We Want

May 10, New York
By Chantal Line Carpentier, Ph.D.
Rio+20 and the Future we want

1. DESA/DSD role
2. Sector Collaboration
3. Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development
1. DESA/DSD role
Objective of the conference

• Secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development

Thematic focus

• Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication;
• Institutional framework for sustainable development
Outcomes

1. Document
   - 686 (483 from MGs) submissions received (by Nov 1)
   - These 6,500 pages turned into 128 para on 20 pages
   - 171 pages (422 paras) at end 19 days of negotiations

2. Partnerships and other commitments
   - From online Dialogue [www.riodialoges.org](http://www.riodialoges.org) and days
   - Voluntary commitments
### Road-map to Rio

#### 2011
- **Fall**
  - Regional Preparatory meetings (RPMs), November 1
    - Input to compilation document
    - Mid-November Compilation document
- **15-16 December**
  - Second Intersessional, UNHQ, NY

- Nation-led meetings throughout

#### 2012
- **Jan 25-27, NY**
- **Nation-led meetings throughout**
- **Negotiations** 12 March -20 March
- **Negotiations** 23 April - 4 May
- **Negotiations** 29 May – 2 June
- **13-15 June Third prep-com, Rio, Brazil**
- **16-19 June Thematic days**
- **20-22 June, Rio+20 conference, Rio**
7 Priority Areas +

- green jobs and social inclusion
- energy for all
- food security & sustainable agriculture
- sound water management
- sustainable cities
- sustainable management of the oceans
- improved resilience and disaster preparedness
- Sustainable forests
- Mountains management
e.g. Commitments by university presidents to:

- Teach SD as part of core curriculum
- Green campuses and supply chains
- Support research on SD to enhance diffusion of knowledge and technologies
- Support sustainability efforts in the universities’ communities
- **Accountability** share results through international frameworks

www.uncsd2012.org/HEI
Go to www.riodialogues.org & select Join the Dialogues. You will receive an invitation through email. Follow the instructions in the email to log in.

Join a Dialogue topic to participate in a lively discussion on sustainable development recommendations, to be presented at the Rio+20 Conference.

Invite others who you think could enrich the discussion.
What’s new to launch related to Education?

- Global observing network on ocean acidification
- 10-year framework of programmes on SCP
- Periodic report on the state of the planet’s carrying capacity?
- Knowledge sharing/capacity building platforms
- Access to information technology
- Creation of fellowships and scholarships in disciplines and interdisciplinary fields related to SD
Not based Planetary Boundaries
Education related text (not yet agreed)

• Full and equal access (gender) to education essential for poverty alleviation, MDGs and SD
• Resolve to improve educational capacity
• Urge educational institutions to become models of best practices and learning
• International exchange and partnerships/capacity building for SD
  • 200 million unemployed globally, 12.7%
  • 600 million new jobs needed in next decade to not worsen unemployment – 75 million 15-24 years old
• Over 50% of world population < 30!
2. Sector Collaboration
• Support institutions of education to carry out research and innovation in the field of SD including on how green economy can create decent & green jobs

• Workers access to education, skills in new and emerging sectors – programs to help workers adjust

• Cooperation & coordination among schools, communities, & authorities

• Sustainable Development Goals, measures of progress beyond GDP
Box 1.1: Meeting the dual goals of sustainability – High human development and low ecological impact

Not enough on equity
Business-related issues
Business language

- Full engagement of public and private sector
  - Strengthening PPP
- Policy and regulatory frameworks enabling private sector to launch and implement SD initiatives
- Role in SD= I, R&D, innovation, Res. Eff. & trade
- Called for leadership from B&I
  - Sust. & inclusive business models/practices
  - CESR, align practices with UNGC principles
  - Dev. of res. Eff., clean & safe products
  - Use of life-cycle and supply chain analysis
Resource efficiency

Ecological footprint in 2050 - need more than 2 planets
• Innovation, collaboration, and governance: 3 words for transition to inclusive and green economies
• New collaborative models bring all stakeholders addressing 3 D– need greater clarity on how to align incentives to support system approach
• Smart procurement – gender and green
• Risk sharing
• International knowledge platform
• Upscale successful models
• Support SMEs
www.uncsd2012.org/major groups
1. **Your Organization:** Given the thematic focus (of Rio +20) on a green economy, how can your organization contribute to the international green economy?
2. **Sector Collaboration**: How can cross-sector (industry/academia) collaboration best be facilitated?
3. **Institutionalizing Sustainability**: What roles do you see your sector and the cross-sector partnerships playing in response to the challenge of institutionalizing sustainable development?
Panel Discussion Questions

4. **Capacity Building**: What is your sector doing now and what else might be done to address the financing, technology transfer, and capacity building for sustainable development as envisioned by the *The Future We Want*?
Summary Points

- Innovation, Education, Collaboration and Governance are essential. Collaboration among business, government, NGOs, academia, and civil society can lead to positive actions and outcomes on a global scale.

- New and improved mechanisms are needed to forge partnerships between industry, government and academia dedicated to informing solutions. Cases and best practices must be shared.

- To be successful, we need to recognize: different cultures across sectors and people, different missions and approaches, and different capacities to come up with incentives that get people to work together toward solutions.

- The Green economy the developed world is talking about must be in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication.

- International conference and negotiations are critical, but not sufficient. Nations, sectors, communities and individuals must also demonstrate courageous leadership and act on their own.
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