New England Higher Education Sustainability Summit 2010

Integrating Sustainability Across the Curriculum

Facilitator:
Kenneth Hill, Academic Dean,
College of the Atlantic

Panelists:
Peter Papesch, Chair of
Sustainability Education Committee,
Boston Society of Architects

Michele Wakin, Co-coordinator
Center for Sustainability, Bridgewater State College

David Levy, Chair, Department of
Management and Marketing and
Professor of Management, University of Massachusetts Boston
College of the Atlantic

Sustainability Highlights

• In 2005, COA became the first campus to hold a zero waste graduation.
• In 2005, COA hired a director of sustainability to ensure a sustainable future in all our activities.
• In 2006, COA became the first college or university to become net-zero.
• In 2007, COA signed a three-year contract for 100% renewable electricity from the Worumbo Project hydropower plant on the Androscoggin River in Lisbon Falls, Maine.
• In 2007, COA was deemed the “greenest college” in the world by Grist.com. (Forbes, Kaplan, and The Princeton Review)
• In 2008, COA opened State-of-the-art Sustainable Student Housing (51 beds)
• In 2010 – DELTA Project: The built environment
CURRICULAR IMPACT

Nine New Chairs in the Past Ten years

• Sharpe-McNally Chair of Green and Socially Responsible Business

• Partridge Chair in Food and Sustainable Agriculture Systems

• W.H. Drury Professor of Ecology/Natural History

• Rachel Carson Chair in Human Ecology

• Charles Eliot Professor of Ecological Planning, Policy and Design

• Steven K. Katona Chair in Marine Sciences

• James Russell Wiggins Chair in Government and Polity

• Allen Stone Chair in the Visual Arts

• David Rockefeller Family Chair in Management and Protection of Ecosystems
CAMPUS IMPACT

- New student housing
- New Campus Center
- New green media center
- Immersion in living laboratory approach

Heat
Lighting
Product Purchasing
Recycling
Food
Water
Landscaping
LOCAL IMPACT

- The Great Heath
- Eco/Eco
- Fishing Industry Legislation
- Maine’s Bottle Bill
- Economic Impact
- Migratory Bird Studies
- Nutrition in local schools
- Green Light
LOCAL IMPACT

- Senior Projects like 2007 Elsie Fleming’s ‘07 “Big Box Bill” have changed policy in Maine.

- MPhil ’01 student Wing Goodale’s research banned the use of certain toxins.

- Dominique Walk ’09 found that lobster fisheries were not harming the right whale population.
• Twenty-three students and alumni attended the UN Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen December, 2009.

• Amy Weslowski ’10 is working with DATA SETS FROM CELL PHONES IN NAIROBI SLUMS to understand urban migration and the dynamic of slums worldwide.
COA alumni are changing the world…

• Emily Troutman ’01
• Greg Stone ’82
• Anne Czechanski ’06
• Yaniv Brandvain ’04
• Three Watson Fellows last year