

## **President Kathleen Schatzberg, Cape Cod Community College Talking Points from ACUPCC Leadership Summit Remarks June 12, 2007**

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Cape Cod Community College has been gradually adding to its sustainability efforts for more than a decade. Here is a list of some of the measures we have implemented:

- Environmental technology curricula including environmental clean-up; water quality and wastewater management; aquaculture; coastal zone management; and renewable energy technologies.
- Infusing sustainability principles and practices in other curricula such as culinary arts and hospitality management.
- Professional development programs for faculty and staff focusing on sustainability.
- Public fora on wind energy, climate change, and other environmental issues.
- Partnership with technical high schools to train and re-train plumbers, electricians, and building trades workers in green construction and renovation methodologies.
- Student internship placements in environmentally-focused businesses, government agencies, and non-profits.
- Projects to further "green" the campus often designed and implemented by students, such as composting and recycling.
- Fuel-cell energy production for 5 years, testing a new technology, installed at no up-front cost and paid for out of guaranteed savings under a performance contract.
- First state-constructed and state-owned LEED-certified building (gold) -- an \$8M building, 15% of the cost devoted to "green" features, with estimated cost recovery in energy savings in 6 to 7 years.
- Largest array of solar panels on Cape Cod, and many additional photovoltaic cells in various places on campus.
- Solar powered electric vehicles to move people and supplies around campus (alternative to larger gas-powered trucks).
- Demonstration site for outdoor trash receptacle ("Big Belly") fitted with solar-powered trash compacting mechanism, which reduces the number of vehicular trips to empty trash receptacles.
- Stopped mowing on large parts of the campus, which saves energy, pollutants, and staff time; also restoring native grasses and wild flowers increases oxygen production and absorbs more carbon dioxide.
- Built reference to sustainability into our mission statement.
- Many of these efforts have resulted in considerable savings, and/or attracted private donors and grants from federal, state, and local agencies.

We are now planning for additional measures:

- Install wind turbine (environmental impact studies, FAA approval, etc., done, RFP for wind turbine will be issued this summer, site preparation work to be completed first, with operable installation estimated in 2009. State's renewable energy agency is paying all preparation and construction costs, with a revenue sharing plan on use/sale of energy produced.
- Formation of campus Sustainability Committee to identify new carbon-saving measures and plan implementation.
- Regional collaboration with other public higher education institutions in our region to provide professional development on sustainability for all 6 of our campuses and to collaborate on conducting the carbon audit.
- Implementation of new ride-share matching system.
- Collaborate with regional transit system leaders to devise ways to reduce single-car, single-occupant trips to the campus.
- Enhance infusion of sustainability throughout other curricula.

- Develop new environmental technology degrees and certificates as new needs and technologies emerge.
- Seek partners and/or funding to site-test another fuel cell (between R&D and mass market, we need sites in which to test new technologies in "real world" settings).
- Collaborate with Woods Hole Research Center (primary focus is climate change) and other institutions located on the Cape such as the Marine Biological Laboratory and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute to enhance sustainability at our institutions and provide new opportunities for student internships.
- Continue to serve as a model and demonstration site, and in particular, call on public and private K-12 schools, businesses, cultural institutions, and town and county governments to join us in our effort to reach climate neutrality in our operations.