

Maricopa Community Colleges

Global Sustainability Initiative

Pushpa Ramakrishna
October 2007
League for Innovation
Sustainability Symposium

The Maricopa Community Colleges

- 10 colleges, 2 skill centers and numerous education centers
- Individually accredited, yet part of a larger system
- Approximately 1,000 occupational programs (degrees and certificates)
- 37 academic associate degrees
- 10,254 courses available for offering

Demographics (fall 06)

- **More than 250,000 students per year**
 - **34% intend to transfer to a college or university**
 - **28% intend to gain or improve workforce skills**
 - **13% attend for personal interest**
- **Nearly 4,500 full-time faculty and staff**
- **More than 9,000 part-time faculty and staff**

Maricopa's Global Sustainability Initiative

- **Maricopa Center for Learning and Instruction**
- **Global Sustainability Dialog Days**

Nationally renowned speakers

- **Debra Rowe**
- **Hunter Lovins**
- **Eric Schlosser**
- **Richard White**
- **Kevin Danaher (Feb 08)**

Maricopa-wide projects

- Focus the Nation national initiative
- Statewide Summit on Climate Change; focusing on the solutions



Maricopa-wide projects

- **AACU Presidents' Climate Commitment**
 - Two colleges have signed up
- **Large system – many best practices of infusion of sustainability into the curriculum**



“Life is best lived in pursuit of knowledge. Such knowledge is best gained not in isolation but through simple dialogue, in exchanging opinions with others.” -Plato

Global Sustainability Conversations Table Talk



**Maricopa
Faculty, Staff, and
Administrators
dialogue**



Student and Faculty Showcase



Faculty Convocation Showcase

Student Sustainability Presentations



Sustainability: Theme for weaving curriculum together with the mindset

We do not inherit the Earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children

Native American Proverb

Chandler Gilbert Community College (CGCC)

- **Winners of the AASHE sustainability leadership award**
- **The green initiative**
- **Panel discussions – facilities and faculty**
- **Interdisciplinary teach-ins**
- **SEE your world theme**
- **Service learning -
2000 attend each year**



CGCC Strategic Goals and Objectives 2007 - 2012

- **4.1 Embed Global learning and sustainability into the curriculum.**
- **4.2 Expand and enhance programs and services that increase student and employee awareness and understanding of global issues that sustain life and learning.**
- **4.3 Collaborate with external partners to support programs for a socially, environmentally, and economically sustainable society.**
- **4.4 Examine current practices, as well as opportunities, to move the college toward a highly sustainable, carbon neutral mode of operation and work with stakeholders and vendors aligned with principles of sustainability.**
- **4.5 Expand international student enrollment and continuously improve support services for them.**
- **4.6 Increase opportunities for students and employees to visit and study in other countries.**

Mesa Community College Interior Design Advanced Certificate

- **Six learning outcomes (called CIDA indicators)**

1. Environmental ethics and the role of sustainability in the practice of interior design
2. Global perspective and approach to thinking and problem solving
3. Principles and theories of sustainability
4. Information gathering research and analysis
5. Sustainable building methods and materials
6. Assessment processes

- **Pedagogy linking classroom learning to campus sustainability planning**

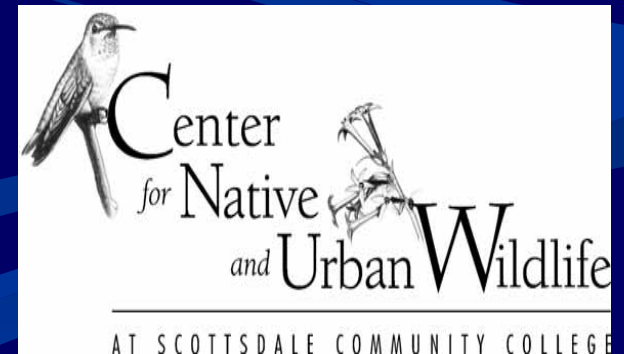
- **Dumpster Drive**

- **Faculty Learning Community on Sustainability**

Scottsdale Community College The Center for Native and Urban Wildlife

**To teach and advocate responsible
desert living by directly participating in the
conservation of native and urban wildlife.**

- Educate society concerning the values of natural desert environments.
- Restore Sonoran Desert habitats.
- Promote stewardship of Sonoran Desert ecosystems.



Glendale Community College

- **Sustainability issues in environmental ethics**
 - **Students research on ethically acceptable food**
 - **Future project on Energy and automobile industry**
- **Student-initiated recycling program**
- **Ready to participate in 'Focus the Nation'**

Science Alliance group

- **5 Maricopa community colleges**
- **Arizona State University**
- **Community partners such as Audubon Society, Phoenix Zoo, and Desert Botanical Garden**
- **Joint environmental projects**

Gateway Community College

- Certificate programs: Water and industrial treatment technology programs
- Student clubs
- Movies



At Maricopa, learning is meaningful and fun!

