

International Challenges

*After the World Summit on Sustainable Development and Toward the UN Decade of Education
for Sustainability*

Chairs: Rick Clugston, Wynn Calder

Recommendations:

- 1- In light of the fact that the U.S. has recently rejoined UNESCO, NCSE should organize a coalition of relevant international partners (e.g., UNESCO, UNF, ULSF, etc.) to develop a *process* and *strategy* for implementing the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (which begins in 2005). The *process* leading up to 2005 should include an awareness campaign for U.S. educators on (a) sustainable development, and (b) the Decade. The *strategy* should incorporate measurable outcomes to help define and ensure success of the Decade.
- 2- U.S. Higher education institutions should provide specific incentives and funding for interdisciplinary research and teaching.
- 3- A major U.S. foundation should create an endowment for prestigious awards to individuals and institutions that demonstrate leadership in higher education for sustainable development.
- 4- U.S. higher education institutions should build partnerships with institutions in developing countries with a focus on sustainability in teaching, research, outreach and operations.
- 5- Encourage all colleges and universities (undergraduate, FAS graduates, professional schools) to develop a required course on global challenges and sustainable development.
- 6- Initiate programs to address the ethical dimensions of sustainability, and recommend the Earth Charter as a basis for this.
- 7- Enhance the development of international exchange programs and opportunities for graduate, undergraduate and mid-career students with an explicit focus on the study of sustainable development (and on experiential learning in this area).