

ACS 3rd Annual Student Sustainable Leadership Conference in conjunction with the SSREC Workshop in NC – April 2-4, 2004

Assessment responses:

1. What aspects of the workshop were most helpful?

- I really enjoyed the key note speakers one Friday night and Saturday night. Also the Organizing work shops were very helpful in working through specific problems.
- Networking with people! Inspiration and helpful tips from speakers and others.
- talking to other students from other schools about ideas and previous successes.
- finding out what ACS looks from when reading grant proposals.
- Meeting the other people, talking about opportunities and responsibilities
- the education about grant and funding opportunities
- hearing what resources are at our disposal
- networking w/other campuses, telling us all the opportunities
- there were so many sessions offered, it was helpful to pick what particular area/issues that would pertain more to our campus. having so many students there was very motivating!
- talk of integration between different members of ACS campus campaigns
- getting tips from Helen about how she prioritizes and scores grant proposals
- the workshop overall was very helpful. it exposed me to different environmental avenues, many of which I didn't know existed
- networking was great, the media workshop was also very helpful
- learning about all the grants that are available and past projects
- listening to other students talk about their ideas, successes, problems, etc
- see the ACS tribe
- student reports
- the lectures from the adults had some good info, and the student success panel gave me some good ideas

2. What aspects were least helpful?

- The two concurrent presentations were not as helpful in starting a renewable energy campaign, but I really enjoyed the {renewable energy economics 101 }
- Sometimes the information wasn't exactly what we were looking for, but it was still helpful.
- everything was helpful!
- E.T. pretty helpful – thanks for the handouts
- student presentation
- the student presentations were a bit dry b/c of irrelevancy/the end of the conference
- I think more time was needed for each session then more time in between to digest the information
- introduction of people from other colleges and slide show
- some of the presentations were so extremely bias and one-sided that I don't think they helped promote the education idea but instead raised credibility issues
- meeting with students from my state – none were here!
- I found everything helpful!
- overview of ACS

-I didn't get much useful info out of the master organizing workshops

3. What ideas from the workshop will you try to implement? What steps will you take?

- I think to start it is important to reach for the low fruit and try to win a small victory. That will give us confidence to go for something bigger.
- Ideas about working with administration as well as staff and building student coalitions
- working with elementary schools, involving many different organizations. We're going to write a letter to our new president telling him what we expect from him environmentally. We're also going to try to make new buildings green.
- actually applying for a grant, have to establish and agree on an idea
- more initiatives, new student involvement with ACS, already have interns and grants
- project ideas – talk to faculty fellows, etc.
- speak to all ACS representatives
- I will probably apply for a grant and go to future meetings, also I want to start an environmental club
- the main ideas that will motivate others on the campus – mostly bringing the new president on board. do more events that involve the whole campus to be more aware
- I got some good ideas from other people's activities in their campuses.
- pass on important info about ACS to others at Sewanee
- I would like to get a rep. from LEED to come to my school and advise the admin on green building
- networking and trying to bring local groups together
- apply for more grants!
- getting many students involved – tabling
- no new ideas from the workshop
- I would like to try to do a greenhouse gases inventory, take steps toward getting renewable energy, open a dialogue with the administration and try to increase student awareness and involvement

4. What challenges do you foresee in implementing the ideas presented in the workshop? What could the Student Development and Engagement Alliance do to help you meet them? How could your institution help?

- The big problem I think will be to stay motivated and committed.
- Getting a lot of student support. Help could come from getting the resources to make these ideas attractive.
- It might be hard to convince the administration of the importance of these ideas. Grant money from the SDEA would help give us something to go on and use to get started. having other organizations from our school support us would help too.
- Agreeing on what we would use the money for
- graduations, time to do this beyond classwork, SDEA - ?, Institution – Environmental Studies professors could inform students of ACS opportunities – grants/interns
- negativity and apathy, we really need great publicity and events planning
- time management, time of the year
- apathetic conservative student body, awareness campaigns

-The main road block will probably be getting to the upper administration and convincing them of such things as the importance of “green building”. Apathy among students will be another challenge. More support from upper admin would help motivate students and such people as directors and deans.

-recruitment, and students finding free time to work on their projects outside of class
-get enough students involved to make it a success, talk to environmental studies classes about ACS, make people on campus aware of ACS, do more than just sending out emails about what grants are available

-I have so many great ideas and I’m full of energy when I leave the conference, but it always seems as though I hit a brick wall when I go back to my campus. I never seem to know where to start and how to get the wheels turning. I really plan to talk to my school’s president b/c he sits on environmental boards – so you would think the campus would be more active

-the lack of interest in renewable resources among many Texans

- get grant money to show admin that we already have money, getting enough support in all the right places (students, staff, admin)

- support is good and it is difficult to get people involved, my school could give me some ideas and resources

-ambivalence, financial support and incentives

-I didn’t feel there were many ideas presented here

-I think the greatest challenges will be student apathy and administrative resistance. I’m not sure right now...

5. Overall, how could workshops such as this be improved in the future?

-Just try to get as many people as you can every year. The more people that are involved the easier it will be to make a change.

-Sometimes, it feels like you’re just bombarded with information, but I don’t know if it would be good to make it less intense.

-I would have liked to have more time to talk to everyone from other schools.

-Not in a auditorium styled seating from – around a table, in a circle for more open discussion

-more talk about really great initiatives at ACS schools – case studies

-put it before the whole conference instead of at the end...people are tired and ready to sleep through it. Also, inform students that they’re supposed to be at this workshop, we had no idea

-more student – specific emails before time. I had no idea ACS was a sub-group within the conference, also that it is a fault of my school

-more publicity before the conference to get more participants

-more students involved would be great. We had 3 students, but I would love to have more!

-make sure that those involved are underclassmen, not seniors

-make sure there are 1st and 2nd year students present

-workshops like this should actually plan events. we talk about nationwide events and intercollegiate collaboratives, but we should come together and actually organize something while we are all here together

- more centralized – a gathering area with food, tables, etc. that doesn't move so we kind of have a base to work from
- more time in general, more time for students to share what they're doing on their campuses (what works, what doesn't)
- could be more extensive, speakers could come
- maximize info on specific actions and success stories that folks can implement
- more presentation of current and future projects that need assistance
- take a harder look at the content of some of the presentations, more organization would also be nice