

Infusing Sustainability into the Curriculum at UMass Boston

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ABSTRACT

This presentation describes a vision for Education for Sustainability at UMass Boston, the mission of the committee on "Infusing sustainability into the curriculum," and specific actions, in particular, a curriculum development workshop in spring 2003 that involved faculty and graduate students from areas ranging from art to teacher education.

The "Infusing sustainability" committee promotes curricula that seek to develop students' ability to:

- appreciate and monitor the state of the environment, social structure, human health —to become "environmentally literate";
- understand and analyze the complexities of phenomena that link economics, politics, culture, history, biology, geology, and physical processes;
- be involved in dynamic, vigorous exchange across the traditional disciplinary boundaries within and between natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities; and
- work within specific communities to facilitate self-conscious, reflective engagement with linked socio-environmental processes.