

# Sustainability Education: Results from the 2012 Census of U.S. Four Year Colleges and Universities

*A study conducted by the National Council for Science and the Environment*



**Shirley Vincent,  
Stevenson Bunn, and Sarah Stevens**

January 2013



National Council for Science and the Environment  
*Improving the scientific basis for environmental decisionmaking*

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The National Council for Science and the Environment (NCSE) is a not-for-profit organization that improves the scientific basis for environmental decision-making.

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- Strengthening Education and Careers;
- Communicating Science to the Public;
- The annual National Conference on Science, Policy and the Environment;
- Science Solutions to Specific Environmental Challenges; and
- Advancing Policy that Improves the Connection between Science and Decision-making.

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- Campus to Careers Study
- Climate Solutions Curricula
- Curriculum Study
- Diversity
- Environment & Human Health
- Interdisciplinary Tenure
- Program Assessment

*This report is a product of NCSE's ongoing academic program research and is distributed as a service to members of the NCSE University Affiliate Program.*

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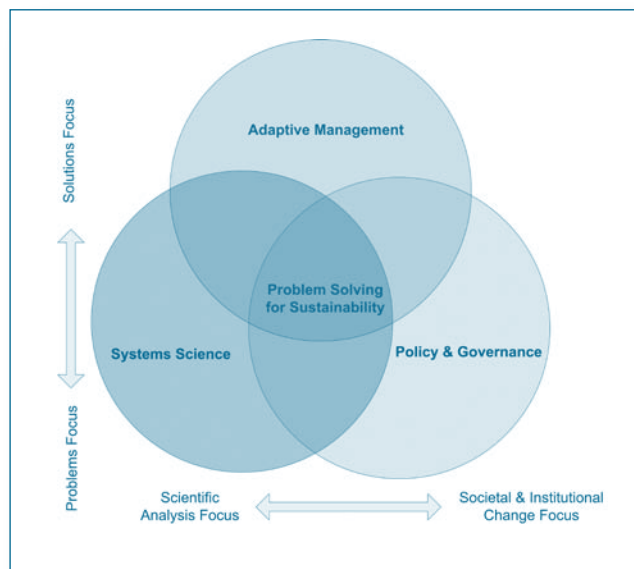
## Background

In this report, the National Council for Science and the Environment (NCSE) extends its groundbreaking research on the administrative and curricular characteristics of interdisciplinary environmental (IE) and sustainability academic programs.

The results of the first national study conducted in 2008 revealed a number of important findings for IE programs including: <sup>1</sup>

- A consensus on the key characteristics that define the interdisciplinary environmental field;
- Ten core knowledge and skills competencies and three broad educational approaches that together form a framework for describing ideal IE curricula; and
- Evidence indicating optimal administrative program structures for IE programs.

At the time of the 2008 study only 13 sustainability academic programs existed and only one participated in the study survey. The 2012 study identified 141 sustainability academic programs and 40 participated in a detailed survey on their programs' administrative structures and attributes and their degree attributes and curricula. Analyses of the 2012 census and survey data will allow us to broaden and deepen our understanding of IE and sustainability programs including investigating their similarities and differences.



## Census

During 2012, a census was carried out to identify programs at higher education institutions across the United States. The census was conducted by reviewing the websites and catalogs for all four-year colleges and universities in the United States.<sup>2</sup> A total of 1562 public and not-for-profit and 76 for-profit schools (many with multiple campuses) were reviewed. The census identified baccalaureate and

<sup>1</sup> For a summary of the study results see *Interdisciplinary Environmental Education on the Nation's Campuses: Elements of Field Identity and Curriculum Design*. June 2010. National Council for Science and the Environment. For the purposes of the studies interdisciplinary environmental programs are defined as all degree programs named environmental science(s), environmental studies, sustainability (or that have those terms in the name), broadly focused programs in natural resources, and other programs related to the environment or sustainability that incorporate an interdisciplinary approach than spans natural and social sciences. Examples include programs in environmental systems, environmental policy, environmental management, watershed management, energy and climate, and marine science and policy.

<sup>2</sup> The Carnegie Foundation list was used to identify all four-year colleges and universities. Four Carnegie classes were included: Doctorate-granting Universities, Master's Colleges and Universities, Baccalaureate Colleges, and four-year Tribal Colleges. Associate's Colleges, Special Focus Institutions and two-year Tribal Colleges were not included. See <http://classifications.carnegiefoundation.org/> for more information on the Carnegie classification system.

graduate programs in IE fields and sustainability, specializations within other degree programs, and minors and certificate programs.

**This report focuses on sustainability academic programs; other reports cover other census results.<sup>3</sup>**

The 2012 census found a sharp increase in IE and sustainability programs compared with the 2008 census:

- Schools hosting programs increased 29% (from 652 to 838).
- Degree-granting units/programs increased 37% (from 840 to 1,151).
- Degree programs increased 57% (from 1,183 to 1,859).

In addition to the rapid growth in IE and sustainability programs, the findings reveal four additional trends:

- The proportion of degree programs offered through traditional academic departments and schools decreased 6%, offset by a concomitant rise in degree programs offered by IE and sustainability schools, colleges and degree-granting institutes and centers.
- The number of sustainability degree programs has increased rapidly, from 1 in 2006, to 13 in 2008, to 141 in 2012.
- New types of IE programs have emerged, including more systems oriented programs, interdisciplinary programs in energy, programs that combine engineering and environmental science(s), and programs that have an international or global focus. The proportion of programs named environmental science(s) declined, while programs focused on specific themes (such as coastal or watershed systems) increased.

## Survey

Following up on the census, a survey of program administrators was conducted to gather data on programs' administrative structures, resources, attributes, challenges and curriculum design.

The survey instrument was developed with the assistance of numerous experts from the Council of Environmental Deans and Directors (CEDD), the Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences (AESS), the Association for Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), the National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP), and the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

## This Report

This report presents findings from the census on sustainability programs, including the number of sustainability academic programs at four-year colleges and universities in the United States, the number and regional distribution of the colleges and universities offering these programs, the nature of the programs as revealed by their names, and the administrative locations of the programs. Future reports will present findings from the survey.

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<sup>1</sup> For a summary of the census results see *Interdisciplinary Environmental and Sustainability Education: Results from the 2012 Census of Four Year Colleges and Universities*. September 2012, National Council for Science and the Environment.

## Summary of Results

The census of U.S. academic institutions identified **759 sustainability academic programs** offered by **351 colleges and universities**. A total of 141 sustainability **degree programs** are offered by 114 institutions<sup>4</sup>, about two-thirds (64%) are undergraduate degrees. Most fall within three categories:

- General sustainability (37%);
- Environmental/natural resources sustainability (20%); and
- Sustainable development/communities (16%).

Other categories include sustainability combined with environmental studies/science (9%), global/international sustainability (7%), sustainability management (6%; it is unclear how similar these programs may be to business administration and management programs with sustainability specializations), and a few other categories.

The census identified 302 degree programs with sustainability **specializations** in other disciplines and professional fields offered by 164 colleges and universities, roughly evenly split between undergraduate and graduate programs. Disciplines and professional fields include:

- Business administration and leadership programs (25%);
- Interdisciplinary environmental fields (16%);
- A variety of engineering and technology disciplines (13%); and
- Agriculture/horticulture (12%).

Other disciplines and fields include: architecture and the built environment (10%), natural resources (5%), planning (5%), public policy and administration (4%), geography (3%), and a few other academic areas (7%).

A total of 316 **minors and certificate programs** in sustainability are offered by 221 higher education institutions; almost two-thirds are designed for undergraduates. They cover topics in a number of areas, including:

- General sustainability/studies/science (25%)
- Sustainability management and leadership (19%);
- Environmental and natural resources sustainability (10%); and,
- Sustainability development (10%).

Other topics cover energy and sustainability (7%), architecture and the built environment (7%), agriculture/horticulture (5%), sustainability and environmental studies/sciences (5%), global or international sustainability (5%), engineering and technology (4%), and a few other areas (3%).

Almost a quarter (21%) of four-year U.S. colleges and universities included in the 2012 census offer sustainability academic programs.

<sup>4</sup> For comparison, the census identified 1167 interdisciplinary environmental degree programs and 37 interdisciplinary energy programs, illustrating the sequential emergence and growth of these three new disciplines. Environmental programs originated about 1970 and are now offered by a majority of colleges and universities. The first sustainability program was launched in 2006; after only 6 years there are 141. Interdisciplinary energy degree programs emerged after 2008.



The schools offering sustainability academic programs represent all Carnegie classification types, with roughly equal proportions of publicly-funded (48%) and privately-funded institutions (50% not for-profit, 2% for-profit).

Sustainability programs are located in **varied administrative locations**:

- departments (35%);
- programs that span academic units (24%);
- schools or divisions within a college (5%);
- primary level schools/divisions/colleges (16%);
- centers and institutes (10%);
- other administrative locations (9%); and
- programs shared by a consortium of institutions (1%).

The variety of administrative locations and the prevalence of programs that span units are similar for interdisciplinary environmental and energy degree programs. Sustainability degree programs and sustainability minors and certificate programs are more likely to be located in centers and institutes or other locations than disciplinary and professional degree programs with sustainability specializations (Table 1).

**Table 1. Administrative locations of sustainability academic programs**

| Administrative Location   | Sustainability degree programs<br>N=141 | Other degree programs with sustainability specializations<br>N=302 | Minors and certificate programs<br>N=316 | Total/Proportion<br>N=759 |
|---|---|--|--|---------------------------|
| Department  | 25%                                     | 41%  | 34%                                      | 35%                       |
| Program that Spans Units  | 38%                                     | 23%  | 19%                                      | 24%                       |
| School/Division within a College  | 2.5%                                    | 8%   | 3%                                       | 5%                        |
| Primary Level School/Division/College   | 11%                                     | 19%  | 15%                                      | 16%                       |
| Center/Institute  | 11%                                     | 7%   | 14%                                      | 10%                       |
| Other Location (Continuing Education, Graduate College, University Studies, etc.) | 10%                                     | 2%   | 14%                                      | 9%                        |
| Consortium of Institutions  | 2.5%                                    | 0%   | 1%                                       | 1%                        |

Sustainability programs are found at higher education institutions in 48 states (the exceptions are Kansas and Wyoming) and the District of Columbia with the largest number of programs offered in states with larger numbers of four-year colleges and universities—CA, MA, NY, and PA. Programs are rare in minority-serving institutions, but are offered by a quarter of women’s colleges and over half of land grant institutions.



## How many colleges and universities host sustainability academic programs?

The 2012 NCSE census identified 351 colleges and universities that host sustainability academic programs. Of these, 114 offer interdisciplinary and general sustainability degree programs, 164 offer formal sustainability specializations in disciplinary or professional field degree programs, and 219 offer sustainability minors and certificates.

The District of Columbia and forty-eight states have one or more higher education institutions that offer at least one sustainability academic program (Figure 1; Table 2). Four states have more than 20 institutions hosting sustainability programs—Pennsylvania (31), New York (30), California (28), and Massachusetts (20). These four are among the states with the largest number of colleges and universities. Another nine states have 10-19 institutions hosting sustainability academic programs—Michigan (15), New Jersey (12), Illinois (13), North Carolina (11), Ohio, (11) Texas (11), Missouri (10), Vermont (10) and Wisconsin (10). Of these thirteen states, Vermont has the highest proportion of state four-year institutions hosting sustainability academic programs (53%) followed by New Jersey (40%), Michigan (35%) and Massachusetts (33%). The proportions for the remaining nine states range from 15-26%. Another thirty-five states and the District of Columbia have between 1 and 9 institutions hosting sustainability programs. Only two states—Kansas and Wyoming—do not have any four-year institutions offering sustainability academic programs.

Coastal states, states that border the Great Lakes, northeastern states and Midwestern states tend to have more colleges and universities hosting sustainability programs; this pattern is similar for institutions hosting interdisciplinary environmental and energy programs.

**Figure 1. Number of U.S. four-year institutions hosting sustainability academic programs by state**

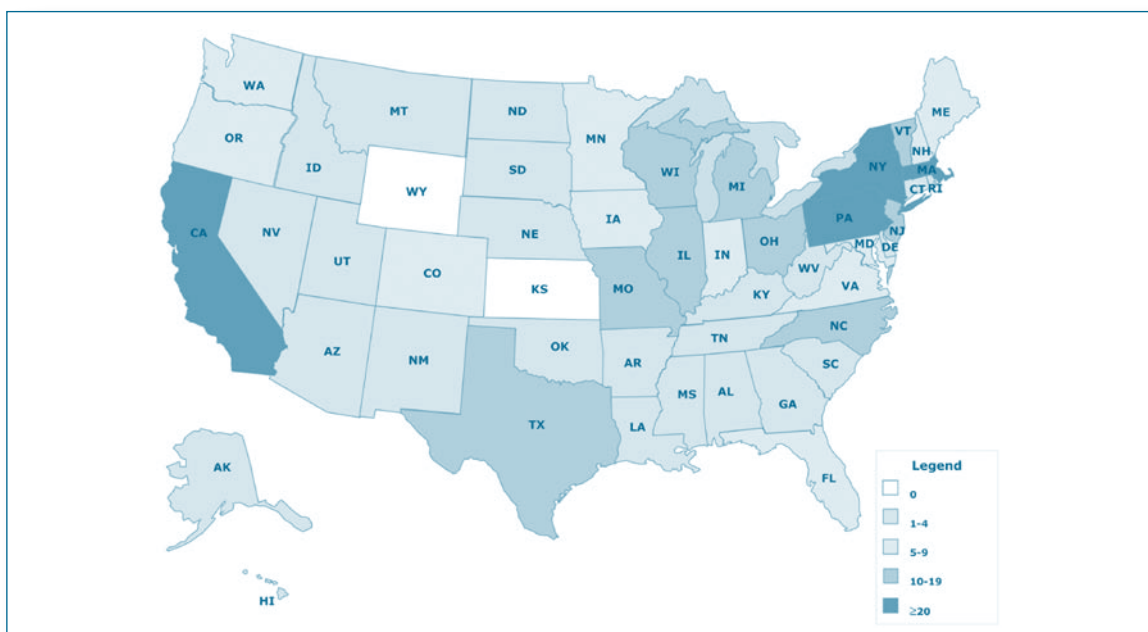


Table 2. U.S. institutions with sustainability academic programs by state

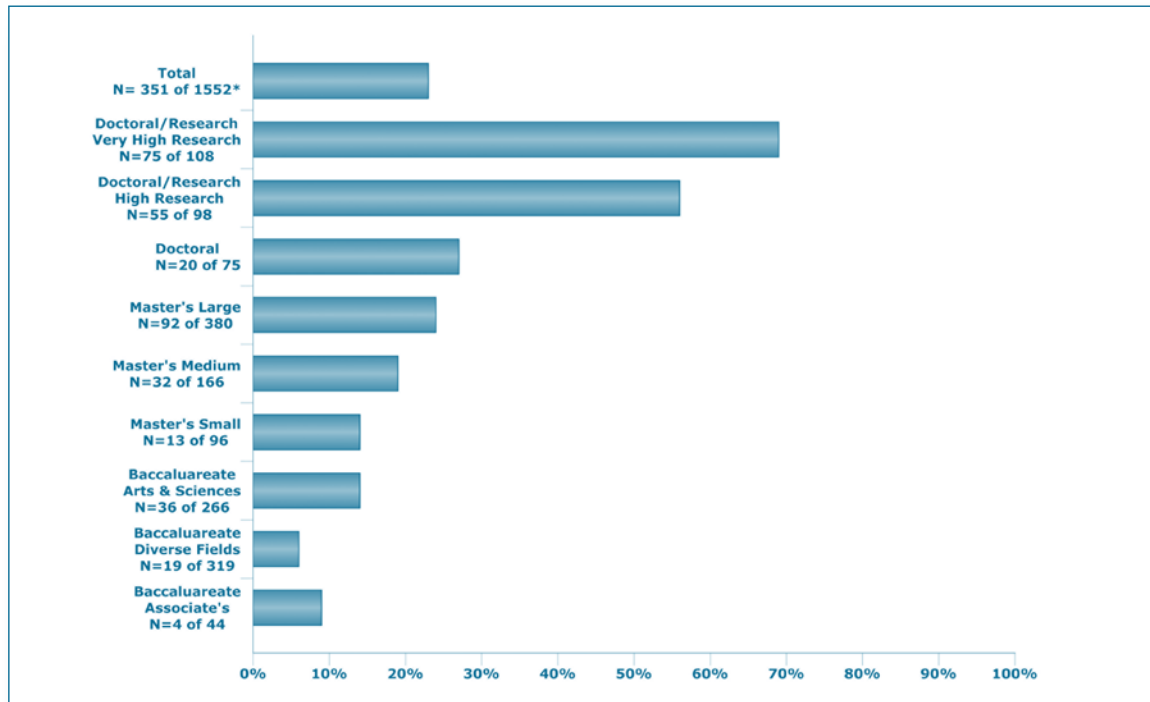
| State                | Number of institutions | State                           | Number of institutions |
|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| Alabama              | 1                      | Montana                         | 4                      |
| Alaska               | 1                      | Nebraska                        | 1                      |
| Arizona              | 4                      | New Hampshire                   | 6                      |
| Arkansas             | 1                      | New Jersey                      | 12                     |
| California           | 28                     | New Mexico                      | 3                      |
| Colorado             | 7                      | New York                        | 30                     |
| Connecticut          | 4                      | Nevada                          | 1                      |
| Delaware             | 1                      | North Carolina                  | 11                     |
| District of Columbia | 4                      | North Dakota                    | 1                      |
| Florida              | 9                      | Ohio                            | 11                     |
| Georgia              | 4                      | Oklahoma                        | 4                      |
| Hawaii               | 1                      | Oregon                          | 7                      |
| Idaho                | 1                      | Pennsylvania                    | 31                     |
| Illinois             | 13                     | Rhode Island                    | 2                      |
| Indiana              | 7                      | South Carolina                  | 3                      |
| Iowa                 | 5                      | South Dakota                    | 1                      |
| Kansas               | 0                      | Tennessee                       | 3                      |
| Kentucky             | 4                      | Texas                           | 11                     |
| Louisiana            | 3                      | Utah                            | 2                      |
| Maine                | 6                      | Vermont                         | 10                     |
| Maryland             | 5                      | Virginia                        | 8                      |
| Massachusetts        | 20                     | Washington                      | 9                      |
| Michigan             | 15                     | West Virginia                   | 4                      |
| Minnesota            | 6                      | Wisconsin                       | 10                     |
| Mississippi          | 2                      | Wyoming                         | 0                      |
| Missouri             | 10                     | For-profit multi-state campuses | 4                      |
|                      |                        | Total                           | 351 (21% of 1,638)     |

Sustainability academic programs are offered by colleges and universities in all nine Carnegie classification categories for four-year institutions.<sup>5</sup> Institutions hosting sustainability academic programs tend to be larger schools: 43% are classified as doctoral/research universities, 39% are master's colleges and universities and 17% are baccalaureate colleges (Figure 2). The remaining 1% is comprised of 4 for-profit schools with multiple campuses with different Carnegie classifications and one university that didn't have an official classification in 2010 (University of California at Merced). The proportion of colleges and universities hosting sustainability academic programs ranges from 6% of baccalaureate-diverse fields institutions to 69% of doctoral/research universities with very high levels of research.

<sup>5</sup> Some for-profit schools have multiple campuses with different classifications; four-year tribal colleges are included in a separate classification.

**Figure 2. Proportion of institutions hosting sustainability programs by Carnegie class type**

\*excludes for-profit (multi-campus) and tribal institutions



The number and types of sustainability academic programs offered by an individual institution range from a single minor or certificate to multiple academic programs including sustainability degree programs, formal sustainability specializations in disciplines and professional fields, and sustainability minors and certificates. Some institutions have greater numbers of sustainability academic program offerings. Examples include:

#### **Overall Sustainability Academic Programming: Arizona State University and Columbia University**

- Arizona State University** developed the first degree in Sustainability in 2006 and currently awards BA, BS, MA, MS and PhD degrees in Sustainability through the School of Sustainability. Arizona State offers six degrees in disciplines and professional fields with sustainability specializations. The Department of Civil, Environmental and Sustainable Engineering in the School of Sustainable Engineering and the Built Environment offers three graduate degrees in Civil, Environmental and Sustainable Engineering (MS, MSE, PhD). The School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences awards a MA in Urban and Environmental Planning: Urban Design and Sustainable Cities. The School of Community Resources and Development in College of Public Programs offers a BA in Tourism Development and Management: Sustainable Tourism. The School of Business offers a BA in Business: Sustainability. The School of Sustainability offers an undergraduate minor in Sustainability and a graduate certificate in Sustainability Leadership.

- **Columbia University** offers a BA in Sustainable Development and an undergraduate concentration (similar to a minor) in Sustainable Development through the Earth Institute, Columbia College, and the School of General Studies; a PhD in Sustainable Development through the School of International and Public Affairs and the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, and a MS in Sustainability Management through the Earth Institute and School of Continuing Education. The Department of Earth and Environmental Engineering in the School of Engineering and Applied Science awards a MS in Earth Resources Engineering: Sustainable Energy and Earth Resources Engineering: Sustainable Waste Management. The School of International and Public Affairs offers a Master of Public Administration: (Sustainable) Development Practice, the Master of International Affairs in Energy and Environment: Energy and Environment: Sustainable Energy Policy and the Master of Public Affairs: Energy and Environment: Sustainable Energy Policy.

#### **Sustainability Degree Programs: Appalachian State University and University of Oklahoma**

- **Appalachian State University** awards BA and BS degrees in Sustainable Development through the Sustainable Development Program in the University College and a MA in Appalachian Studies: Sustainable Development through the Center for Appalachian Studies.
- **University of Oklahoma** offers BA, BS, and MS degrees in Environmental Sustainability through the Department of Geography and Environmental Sustainability in the College of Atmospheric & Geographic Sciences.

#### **Sustainability Specializations in Disciplinary and Professional Degrees: University of Colorado-Denver and University of Texas-Austin**

- **University of Colorado-Denver** offers six degrees in disciplines and professional fields with sustainability specializations. The Department of Civil Engineering, College of Engineering and Applied Science awards a Master of Engineering: Sustainable Infrastructure, a MS in Engineering: Environmental and Sustainability Engineering, a PhD in Engineering: Environmental and Sustainability Engineering, and a PhD in Engineering and Applied Science: Environmental and Sustainability Engineering. The Department of Anthropology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences offers a MA in Anthropology: Sustainable Development and Political Ecology. The Business School awards a MS in Management and Organization: Managing for Sustainability.
- **University of Texas-Austin** offers seven degrees in disciplines and professional fields with sustainability specializations. The Department of Geological Sciences in the Jackson School of Geosciences awards a BS in Geological Sciences: Environmental Science and Sustainability. The Department of Community and Regional Planning in the School of Architecture awards a Master of Community and Regional Planning: Environmental Planning for Sustainable Communities and Master of Community and Regional Planning: Planning for Social and Economic Sustainability, a PhD in Community and Regional Planning: Environmental Planning for Sustainable Communities, and a PhD in Community and Regional Planning: Planning for Social and Economic Sustainability. The Department of Geography and the Environment in the College of Liberal Arts offer a BA in Geography: Sustainability. The School of Architecture awards a MS in Architecture: Sustainable Design.

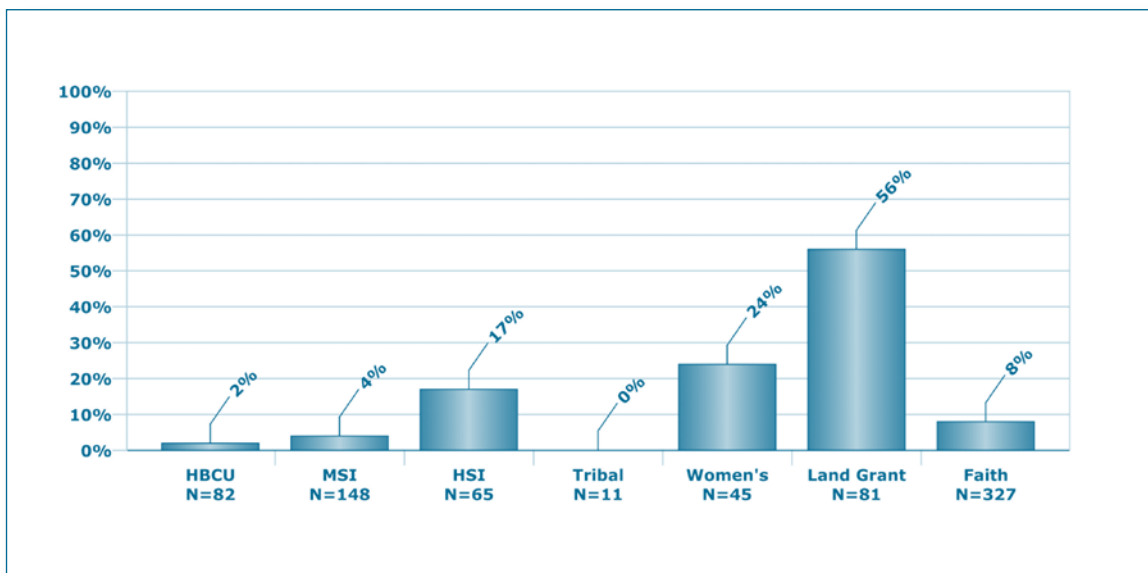
### Sustainability Minors and Certificates: University of Minnesota-Twin Cities and University of Florida

- University of Minnesota-Twin Cities** offers seven minors and certificates in sustainability. The Institute on the Environment offers undergraduate minors in Sustainability Studies, Sustainability: Agriculture/Environment and Natural Resources, Sustainability: Land and Public Policy, and Sustainability: Citizens/Science and Society. The Department of Agronomy and Plant Genetics in the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences offers an undergraduate minor in Sustainable Agriculture. The Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture offers a graduate minor in Sustainable Agriculture Systems. The Tourism Center in the Division of Environmental Science, Policy and Management offers an undergraduate certificate in Sustainable Tourism.
- University of Florida** offers six minors and certificates in sustainability. The Sustainability Studies Program in College of Liberal Arts and Sciences offers an undergraduate minor in Sustainability Studies. The Department of Horticultural Sciences in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences awards an undergraduate minor in Organic and Sustainable Crop Production. The Department of Environmental Engineering Science in the College of Engineering offers a graduate certificate in Sustainable Engineering. The College of Design, Construction and Planning offers an undergraduate minor in Sustainability and the Built Environment and a graduate certificate in Sustainable Design. The Department of Soil and Water Science in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences offers a professional certificate in Sustainable Land Resource and Nutrient Management.

### Institutional Diversity

Institutions hosting sustainability academic programs exhibit relatively equal proportions of publicly-funded (48%), and privately-funded colleges and universities (not-for-profit 50%, for-profit 2%).

**Figure 3. Proportion of special category Institutions offering sustainability academic programs**



This rough equality in proportions between public and private institutions is evident for institutions awarding sustainability degrees, minors and certificates, and degree programs in disciplines and professional fields with sustainability specializations.

Only a few institutions (14) that offer sustainability academic programs fall within the special categories of four-year institutions that serve minorities (Figure 3). Only small proportions of minority-serving institutions (4%), historically black college or universities (2%), and Hispanic-serving institutions (17%), have sustainability academic programs; none of the 11 four-year tribal colleges offer sustainability academic programs.<sup>6</sup> Likewise, only a small proportion of institutions that provide explicit faith-based education offer sustainability programs (8%). As shown in Figure 3, the proportions are higher for women's colleges (24%) and land grant institutions (45%).

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<sup>6</sup> All special categories are included in the Carnegie classification data with the exception of institutions offering an explicit faith-based education. These institutions were classified based on their website content not their historical or current affiliation with a religious organization. Many, but not all HBCU and HSI schools are also classified as MSI institutions; federally recognized as Title IV colleges and universities.

## What kinds of sustainability academic programs exist and where are they administratively located?

The census identified a total of 759 sustainability academic programs: 141 sustainability degree programs, 302 degree programs with sustainability specializations in disciplines and professional fields, and 316 minor (or equivalent concentration/specialization) and certificate sustainability programs. The results for each of these three categories are presented in this chapter.

### Sustainability Degree Programs

Of the 141 sustainability programs, most are baccalaureate programs (64%), a third are master's programs (32%), and the remainder are doctoral programs (4%). These programs cover a number of topics: sustainability/studies/systems (37%), environmental or natural resources sustainability (20%), sustainable development and communities (16%), sustainability and environmental studies or sciences (9%), global/international sustainability (7%), sustainability management (6%), and a few other topics (Table 3). It is unclear how similar sustainability management degree programs are to sustainability management concentrations in business administration and leadership degree programs.

**Table 3. Sustainability degree programs categorized by name**

| Name Category                                   | Bachelor's<br>N=90 | Master's<br>N=45 | PhD<br>N=6 | Total/Proportion<br>N=141 |
|---|--------------------|------------------|------------|---------------------------|
| Sustainability/Studies/Science/Systems          | 34                 | 16               | 2          | 37%                       |
| Environmental/Natural Resources Sustainability  | 18                 | 7                | 3          | 20%                       |
| Sustainable Development/Communities             | 11                 | 11               | 1          | 16%                       |
| Sustainability & Environmental Studies/Sciences | 12                 | 0                | 0          | 9%                        |
| Global/International Sustainability             | 7                  | 3                | 0          | 7%                        |
| Sustainability Management                       | 4                  | 5                | 0          | 6%                        |
| Other (Energy, Living, Coastal, Peacebuilding)  | 4                  | 3                | 0          | 5%                        |
| Total/Proportion                                | 64%                | 32%              | 4%         | 100%                      |

The administrative locations of sustainability degree programs exhibit high diversity (Tables 4 and 5). Sustainability programs that span academic units are most prevalent (38%), followed by degree programs within departments (25%). Smaller proportions are offered by schools and colleges (13.5%) or degree-granting institutes and centers (11%). It is interesting to note that 10% are offered by other academic units—continuing/extension/distance education, graduate colleges/centers and general undergraduate studies/university colleges.

A few departments, schools and centers/institutes include “sustainability” in their names: one department (Geography and Sustainability, University of Oklahoma), three schools (School of Sustainability, Arizona State University; School of Sustainability and the Environment, Chatham University;



and School of Global Sustainability, University of South Florida), and six centers and institutes (Center for Sustainability and the Environment, Albion College; Center for Sustainability Studies, Kean University; Institute for Sustainable Practice, Lipscomb University; Institute for the Environment and Sustainability, University of Miami-Oxford; Center for Sustainability, Saint Louis University; Golisano Institute for Sustainability, Rochester Institute of Technology).

Three programs are offered via collaborations with international partner institutions: Albion College and University of Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines in France jointly offer a BA in Sustainability Studies; American University and Peace University of Costa Rica jointly offer dual MA degrees in Natural Resources and Sustainable Development; and Saint Edwards University and Université Catholique de l'Ouest in France jointly offer a Professional Science Masters in Environmental Management and Sustainability.

Two degree programs—BS and MS in Sustainability Management—are offered at three University of Wisconsin campuses through a consortium program with University of Wisconsin Extension (UW-Extension, UW-Stout, UW-River Falls, UW-Superior).

Table 5 lists the sustainability degree programs identified by the census by their institutions and administrative locations.

**Table 4. Administrative location for sustainability academic programs**

| Administrative Location   | Bachelor's<br>N=90 | Master's<br>N=45 | PhD<br>N=6 | Total/Proportion<br>N=141 |
|---|--------------------|------------------|------------|---------------------------|
| Department  | 26                 | 8                | 1          | 25%                       |
| Program that Spans Units  | 39                 | 14               | 1          | 38%                       |
| School/Division within a College  | 2                  | 0                | 2          | 2.5%                      |
| Primary Level School/Division/College   | 8                  | 6                | 1          | 11%                       |
| Center/Institute  | 5                  | 9                | 1          | 11%                       |
| Other Location (Continuing Education, Graduate College, University Studies, etc.) | 7                  | 7                | 0          | 10%                       |
| Consortium of Institutions Program  | 3                  | 1                | 0          | 2.5%                      |
| Total/Proportion  | 63%                | 33%              | 4%         | 100%                      |

Table 5. Sustainability degree programs

| Institution  | Control     | Academic Unit  | Degree Programs   |
|--|-------------|--|---|
| <b>Doctoral/Research Universities - Very High Research</b> |             |  |   |
| Arizona State University<br>Tempe, AZ                      | Public      | School of Sustainability   | BA, BS, MA, MS, PhD Sustainability  |
| Brandeis University<br>Waltham, MA                         | Private NFP | Sustainable International Development<br>Graduate Program; School for Social<br>Policy and Management                          | MA Sustainable International<br>Development                                     |
| Columbia University<br>New York, NY                        | Private NFP | MS in Sustainability Management<br>Program; Earth Institute and School<br>of Continuing Education                              | MS Sustainability Management  |
|  |             | Sustainable Development PhD Program;<br>School of International and Public Affairs and<br>Graduate School of Arts and Sciences | PhD Sustainable Development   |
|  |             | Sustainable Development Program;<br>Earth Institute, Columbia College,<br>the School of General Studies                        | BA Sustainable Development  |
| Cornell University<br>Ithaca, NY                           | Private NFP | Environmental Science and<br>Sustainability Program; College of<br>Agriculture and Life Sciences                               | BS Environmental Science and<br>Sustainability                                  |
| George Washington University<br>Washington, DC             | Private NFP | Graduate Education Center  | Master of Professional Studies:<br>Sustainable Urban Planning                   |
| Harvard University<br>Cambridge, MA                        | Private NFP | Sustainability and Environmental<br>Management Program;<br>Harvard University Extension School                                 | MA Sustainability and<br>Environmental Management                               |
| Johns Hopkins University<br>Baltimore, MD                  | Private NFP | Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences;<br>School of Arts and Sciences   | BS Global Environmental<br>Change and Sustainability                            |
| Ohio State University<br>Columbus, OH                      | Public      | School of Environment & Natural<br>Resources; College of Food, Agricultural<br>and Environmental Sciences                      | BS Environment, Economy,<br>Development and Sustainability                      |
| Pennsylvania State University<br>University Park, PA       | Public      | Department of Energy and Mineral Engineer-<br>ing; College of Earth and Mineral Sciences                                       | BA Energy and Sustainability Policy   |
| Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute<br>Troy, NY               | Private NFP | Department of Science and<br>Technology Studies; School of<br>Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences                             | BS Science and Technology Studies:<br>Sustainability Studies                    |
| Stony Brook University<br>Stony Brook, NY                  | Public      | Sustainability Studies Program;<br>College of Arts and Sciences  | BA Sustainability Studies   |
| University of Florida<br>Gainesville, FL                   | Public      | Master of Sustainable Development Practice<br>Program; Center for African Studies and the<br>Center for Latin American Studies | Master of Sustainable<br>Development Practice                                   |
|  |             | Sustainability Studies Program;<br>College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  | BA Sustainability Studies   |
| University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign<br>Champaign, IL   | Public      | Global Studies Program; College of Liberal Arts<br>and Sciences  | BA Global Studies:<br>Environment, Sustainability,<br>and Social Responsibility |
|  |             | School of Earth, Society and the Environment   | BS Earth, Society and<br>Environmental Sustainability                           |

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Table 5. Sustainability degree programs (continued)

|  |             |   |  |
|--|-------------|---|--|
| University of Kentucky<br>Lexington, KY                                  | Public      | Interdisciplinary Studies Programs;<br>College of Arts and Sciences   | BA Environmental and<br>Sustainability Studies                             |
| University of Maryland-College Park<br>College Park, MD                  | Public      | Sustainable Development and<br>Conservation Biology Program; College of<br>Computer, Mathematical and Natural Sciences                    | MS Sustainable Development<br>and Conservation Biology                     |
| University of Massachusetts-Amherst<br>Amherst, MA                       | Public      | Department of Environmental Conservation;<br>College of Natural Science   | MS Sustainability Science  |
| University of Miami<br>Miami, FL   | Private NFP | School of Marine and Atmospheric Science  | Master of Professional Science in<br>Coastal Sustainability                |
| University of Michigan-Ann Arbor<br>Ann Arbor, MI                        | Public      | Sustainable System Program; School of Natural<br>Resources and Program in the Environment;<br>College of Literature, Science and the Arts | MS Sustainable Systems   |
| University of Oklahoma<br>Norman, OK                                     | Public      | Department of Geography and<br>Environmental Sustainability; College<br>of Atmospheric & Geographic Sciences                              | BA, BS, MS Environmental<br>Sustainability                                 |
| University of South Florida<br>Tampa, FL                                 | Public      | School of Global Sustainability   | MA Global Sustainability   |
| University of Utah<br>Salt Lake City, UT                                 | Public      | Environmental and Sustainability Studies<br>Program; College of Social and<br>Behavioral Science  | BS Environmental and<br>Sustainability Studies                             |
| Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State<br>University<br>Blacksburg, VA | Public      | Executive Master of Natural Resource Program;<br>College of Natural Resources and Environment   | Executive Master of Natural<br>Resources: Leadership for<br>Sustainability |
| Washington University in Saint Louis<br>Saint Louis, MO                  | Private NFP | International and Area Studies Program;<br>College of Arts and Sciences   | BS International and Area Studies:<br>Sustainable Development              |
|  |             | University College; College of Arts & Sciences  | BS Sustainability Studies  |
| <b>Doctoral/Research Universities - High Research</b>                    |             |   |  |
| George Mason University<br>Fairfax, VA                                   | Public      | Environmental and Sustainability Studies<br>Program; Department of Environmental<br>Science and Policy; New Century College               | BA Environmental and<br>Sustainability Studies                             |
| Illinois Institute of Technology<br>Chicago, IL                          | Private NFP | Environmental Management and<br>Sustainability Program; School of Business  | MS Environmental Management<br>and Sustainability                          |
| Miami University-Oxford<br>Oxford, OH                                    | Public      | Institute for the Environment and<br>Sustainability; College of Arts and Science  | BA, BS Sustainability  |
| New Mexico State University<br>Las Cruces, NM                            | Public      | Department of Anthropology;<br>College of Arts and Sciences   | BA Sustainable Development   |
| Northern Arizona University<br>Flagstaff, AZ                             | Public      | Sustainable Communities Program;<br>College of Social and Behavioral Sciences   | MA Sustainable Communities   |
|  |             | School of Earth Sciences and Environmental<br>Sustainability; College of Engineering, Forestry<br>and Natural Science                     | PhD Earth Science<br>and Sustainability                                    |
| Polytechnic Institute of New York University<br>Brooklyn, NY             | Private NFP | Department of Technology, Culture and Society   | BS Sustainable Urban Environments  |
| Rutgers University-Newark<br>Newark, NJ                                  | Public      | Professional Science Master's Program;<br>Graduate College  | Professional Science<br>Master in Sustainability                           |

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Table 5. Sustainability degree programs (continued)

|  |             |   |   |
|--|-------------|---|---|
| Saint Louis University<br>Saint Louis, MO          | Private NFP | Center for Sustainability   | MS Sustainability:<br>Science and Technology<br>MA Sustainability:<br>Business and Policy |
| San Diego State University<br>San Diego, CA        | Public      | Environmental Studies and Sustainability<br>Program; College of Arts and Letters  | BS Social Science: Environmental<br>Studies and Sustainability                            |
| Southern Methodist University<br>Dallas, TX        | Private NFP | Department of Civil and Environmental<br>Engineering; School of Engineering   | MA Sustainability and Development   |
| University of Alaska-Fairbanks<br>Fairbanks, AK    | Public      | Department of Resources Management;<br>School of Natural Resources and<br>Agricultural Sciences   | PhD Natural Resources<br>Management and Sustainability                                    |
| University of Dayton<br>Dayton, OH                 | Private NFP | International Studies Program;<br>College of Arts and Science   | BA International Studies:<br>Environmental Sustainability                                 |
| University of South Dakota<br>Vermillion, SD       | Public      | Sustainability Program;<br>College of Arts and Sciences   | BA, BS Sustainability   |
| University of Texas-Arlington<br>Arlington, TX     | Public      | Interdisciplinary Studies Programs;<br>School of Urban and Public Affairs   | MS Interdisciplinary<br>Studies: Sustainability   |
| University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee<br>Milwaukee, WI | Public      | Sustainability and Peacebuilding Program;<br>Center for International Education   | MA Sustainability and<br>Peacebuilding  |
| West Virginia University<br>Morgantown, WV         | Public      | Division of Resource Management; College of<br>Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Design   | PhD Resource Management and<br>Sustainable Development                                    |
| <b>Doctoral/Research Universities</b>              |             |   |   |
| American University<br>Washington, DC              | Private NFP | Department of Management;<br>School of Business   | MS Sustainability Management  |
|  |             | School of International Service (offered jointly<br>with Peace University of Costa Rica)  | Dual MAs in Natural Resources<br>and Sustainable Development                              |
| Hofstra University<br>Hempstead, NY                | Private NFP | Sustainability Studies Program; National<br>Center for Suburban Studies, Urban Ecology<br>Program, Department of Geology,<br>Environment and Sustainability | BS Sustainability Studies   |
| New School<br>New York, NY                         | Private NFP | Environmental Policy and Sustainability<br>Management Program; School of International<br>Affairs, Management and Urban Policy                              | MS Environmental Policy and<br>Sustainability Management                                  |
| University of Northern Colorado<br>Greely, CO      | Public      | University College  | BA Environmental Studies<br>and Sustainability  |
| <b>Master's Colleges and Universities - Large</b>  |             |   |   |
| Antioch University-Los Angeles<br>Los Angeles, CA  | Public      | Urban Sustainability Program  | MA Urban Sustainability   |
| Appalachian State University<br>Boone, NC          | Public      | University College  | BA, BS Sustainable Development  |
|  |             | Center for Appalachian Studies  | MA Appalachian Studies:<br>Sustainable Development  |
| Baldwin-Wallace College<br>Berea, OH               | Private NFP | Sustainability Program  | BA Sustainability   |

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Table 5. Sustainability degree programs (continued)

|   |             |   |   |
|---|-------------|---|---|
| Bentley University<br>Waltham, MA                             | Private NFP | Department of Natural and Applied Sciences (with Office of Sustainability)  | Bachelor of Liberal Studies: Earth, Environment and Global Sustainability             |
| California State Polytechnic University-Pomona<br>Pomona, CA  | Public      | Center for Regenerative Studies; College of Environmental Design  | MS Regenerative (Sustainability) Studies  |
| Chatham University<br>Pittsburgh, PA                          | Private NFP | School of Sustainability and the Environment  | MS Sustainability   |
| College of Notre Dame of Maryland<br>Baltimore, MD            | Private NFP | Environmental Sustainability Program  | BA Environmental Sustainability   |
| Creighton University<br>Omaha, NE                             | Private NFP | Energy Technology Program; College of Arts and Sciences   | BA Sustainable Energy   |
| CUNY City College<br>New York, NY                             | Public      | Sustainability in the Urban Environment Program; School of Architecture, School of Engineering, and Division of Science | MS Sustainability in the Urban Environment  |
| Daemen College<br>Amherst, NY                                 | Private NFP | Interdisciplinary Programs; Division of Arts and Sciences   | BA Global and Local Sustainability  |
| Hawaii Pacific University<br>Honolulu, HI                     | Private NFP | Global Leadership and Sustainable Development Programs; College of Humanities and Social Science                        | MA Global Leadership and Sustainable Development                                      |
| Kean University<br>Union, NJ                                  | Public      | Center for Sustainability Studies; College of Natural, Applied and Health Sciences                                      | BS Sustainability Science   |
| Lipscomb University<br>Nashville, TN                          | Private NFP | Institute for Sustainable Practice  | BS, MS Sustainable Practice   |
| Long Island University-C. W. Post<br>Brookville, NY           | Private NFP | Department of Earth and Environmental Science; College of Liberal Arts and Sciences                                     | MS Environmental Sustainability   |
| Maharishi University of Management<br>Fairfield, IA           | Private NFP | Sustainable Living Program  | BS Sustainable Living   |
| Marylhurst University<br>Marylhurst, OR                       | Private NFP | Department of Interdisciplinary Studies; College of Undergraduate Studies   | BA Interdisciplinary Studies: Sustainability Studies                                  |
| National University<br>La Jolla, CA                           | Private NFP | Department of Applied Engineering; School of Engineering, Technology and Media  | MS Sustainability Management  |
| Philadelphia University<br>Philadelphia, PA                   | Private NFP | Division of Liberal Arts and Sciences; College of Science, Health and the Liberal Arts                                  | BS Environmental Sustainability   |
| Rochester Institute of Technology<br>Rochester, NY            | Private NFP | Golisano Institute for Sustainability   | MS Sustainable Systems<br>PhD Sustainability  |
| Roosevelt College<br>Chicago, IL                              | Private NFP | Sustainability Studies Program; College of Professional Studies   | BA Sustainability Studies<br>Bachelor of Professional Studies: Sustainability Studies |
| Saint Edwards University<br>Austin, TX                        | Private NFP | Graduate College (offered jointly with Université Catholique de l'Ouest, France)  | Professional Science Masters in Environmental Management and Sustainability           |
| School for International Training<br>Brattleboro, VT          | Private NFP | Sustainable Development Program; Graduate Institute   | MA Sustainable Development  |
| Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania<br>Slippery Rock, PA | Private NFP | Department of Geography, Geology and the Environment; College of Health, Environment, and Science                       | MS Sustainable Systems  |

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Table 5. Sustainability degree programs (continued)

|   |             |   |  |
|---|-------------|---|--|
| Stephen F. Austin State University<br>Nacogdoches, TX | Public      | College of Liberal & Applied Arts   | BA Sustainable Communities   |
| Tennessee Technological University<br>Cookeville, TN  | Public      | Environmental and Sustainability Studies<br>Program; College of Arts and Sciences   | BS Environmental and<br>Sustainable Studies  |
| Texas State University<br>San Marcos, TX              | Public      | Interdisciplinary Studies in Sustainability<br>Program; Graduate College  | MS Interdisciplinary Studies<br>in Sustainability  |
| University of Baltimore<br>Baltimore, MD              | Public      | Division of Science, Information Arts and<br>Technologies; College of Arts and Science  | BA Environmental Sustainability<br>and Human Ecology   |
| University of Michigan-Flint<br>Flint, MI             | Public      | Department of Earth and Resource Science;<br>College of Arts and Sciences   | BS Energy and Sustainable Systems  |
| University of New Haven<br>West Haven, CT             | Private NFP | Department of Mechanical, Civil and Environ-<br>mental Engineering; College of Engineering  | BS Sustainability Studies  |
| University of Wisconsin-Stout<br>Menomonie, WI        | Public      | Distance Learning Center;<br>Sustainable Management Program<br>(consortium with UW-Extension,<br>UW-Stout, UW-River Falls, UW-Superior) | BS, MS Sustainable Management  |
| Viterbo University<br>La Crosse, WI                   | Private NFP | Environmental Sustainability Program; School<br>of Letters and Sciences and School of Business  | BA, BS Environmental Sustainability  |
| Western Kentucky University<br>Bowling Green, KY      | Public      | Division of Extended Learning and Outreach  | MA Social Responsibility and<br>Sustainable Communities  |
| <b>Master's Colleges and Universities - Medium</b>    |             |   |  |
| Antioch University Midwest<br>Yellow Springs, OH      | Private NFP | School of Liberal Studies   | BA Sustainability  |
| Delta State University<br>Cleveland, MS               | Public      | Department of Social Sciences;<br>College of Arts and Sciences  | MS Community Development:<br>Sustainable Development   |
| Dominican University of California<br>San Rafael, CA  | Private NFP | Humanities and Cultural Studies Program;<br>School of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences   | BA Sustainable Communities   |
| Goddard College<br>Plainfield, VT                     | Private NFP | Sustainability Program  | BA Sustainability  |
| Minnesota State University-Moorhead<br>Moorhead, MN   | Public      | Department of Physics & Astronomy;<br>College of Social & Natural Sciences  | BS Sustainability  |
| Mountain State University<br>Beckley, WV              | Private NFP | School of Arts and Sciences   | BS Environmental Sustainability  |
| New England College<br>Henniker, NH                   | Private NFP | College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics;<br>Division of Liberal Arts and Sciences   | BA Environmental Sustainability  |
| Northern Michigan University<br>Marquette, MI         | Public      | Department of Earth, Environmental<br>and Geographical Sciences;<br>College of Arts and Sciences  | BS Environmental Studies and<br>Sustainability   |
| Otterbein University<br>Westerville, OH               | Private NFP | Department of Biology and Earth Science;<br>School of Arts and Sciences   | BS Sustainability Studies: Science<br>BA Sustainability Studies:<br>Humanities/Social Sciences |
| Ramapo College of New Jersey<br>Mahwah, NJ            | Public      | Sustainability Studies Program; School of<br>Social Science and Human Services  | MA Sustainability Studies  |
| Richard Stockton College of New Jersey<br>Pomona, NJ  | Public      | Sustainability Program; School of Natural<br>Science and Mathematics  | BA, BS Sustainability  |

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Table 5. Sustainability degree programs (continued)

|  |             |   |   |
|--|-------------|---|---|
| Sierra Nevada College<br>Incline Village, NV           | Private NFP | Interdisciplinary Studies Program   | BA Sustainability   |
| University of Minnesota-Duluth<br>Duluth, MN           | Public      | Department of Geography;<br>College of Liberal Arts   | BA Environment and Sustainability   |
| University of Washington-Tacoma<br>Tacoma, WA          | Public      | Urban Studies Program   | BA Sustainable Urban Development  |
| University of Wisconsin-River Falls<br>River Falls, WI | Public      | Distance Learning Center;<br>Sustainable Management Program<br>(consortium with UW-Extension,<br>UW-Stout, UW-River Falls, UW-Superior)                 | BS Sustainable Management   |
| Western New England College<br>Springfield, MA         | Private NFP | Sustainability Program;<br>College of Arts and Sciences   | BA Sustainability   |
| Western New Mexico University<br>Silver City, NM       | Public      | Environmental Sustainability Program;<br>Department of Natural Sciences and<br>Department of Social Sciences  | BS Environmental Sustainability   |
| <b>Master's Colleges and Universities - Small</b>      |             |   |   |
| Mercyhurst College<br>Erie, PA                         | Private NFP | Sustainability Program  | BA Sustainability   |
| Oral Roberts University<br>Tulsa, OK                   | Private NFP | Department of Engineering, Computer Science,<br>Physics and Mathematics;<br>College of Science and Engineering  | BS Environmental Sustainability   |
| Prescott College<br>Prescott, AZ                       | Private NFP | Environmental Studies<br>Undergraduate Program  | BS Sustainable Community<br>Development   |
|  |             | Sustainability Science and Practice Program   | MA Sustainability<br>Science and Practice   |
| University of Wisconsin-Superior<br>Superior, WI       | Public      | Distance Learning Center;<br>Sustainable Management Program<br>(consortium with UW-Extension,<br>UW-Parkside, UW-River Falls, UW-Stout,<br>UW-Superior) | BS Sustainability Management  |
| <b>Baccalaureate Colleges – Arts and Sciences</b>      |             |   |   |
| Albion College<br>Albion, MI                           | Private NFP | Center for Sustainability and the Environment<br>(offered jointly with University of Versailles<br>Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines, France)                   | BA Sustainability Studies   |
| Castleton State College<br>Castleton, VT               | Public      | Department of History, Geography,<br>Economics, and Politics  | BA Social Science:<br>Environment/Sustainability  |
| Drew University<br>Madison, NJ                         | Private NFP | Department of History, Geography,<br>Economics, and Politics  | BA Environmental Studies<br>and Sustainability  |
| Eastern Mennonite University<br>Harrisonburg, VA       | Private NFP | Department of Biology   | BA Environmental Sustainability:<br>Environmental Science<br>BA Environmental Sustainability:<br>Environmental and Social<br>Sustainability |
| Furman University<br>Greenville, NC                    | Private NFP | Department of Earth and<br>Environmental Sciences   | BS Sustainability Science   |

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Table 5. Sustainability degree programs (continued)

|   |             |   |   |
|---|-------------|---|---|
| Hampshire College<br>Amherst, MA                            | Private NFP | Environmental Studies and Sustainability Program; School of Natural Sciences                                      | BA Environmental Studies and Sustainability       |
| Susquehanna University<br>Selinsgrove, PA                   | Private NFP | Interdisciplinary Programs  | BS International Studies: Sustainable Development |
| University of Wisconsin-Parkside<br>Kenosha, WI             | Public      | Sustainable Management Program (consortium with UW-Extension, UW-Parkside, UW-River Falls, UW-Stout, UW-Superior) | BS Sustainable Management                         |
| <b>Baccalaureate Colleges – Diverse Fields</b>              |             |   |   |
| Catawba College<br>Salisbury, NC                            | Private NFP | Environmental Science and Studies Program; School of Arts and Sciences  | BS Sustainable Business and Community Development |
| Davis and Elkins College<br>Elkins, WV                      | Private NFP | Department of Biology and Environmental Science   | BA Sustainability Studies                         |
| Lenoir-Rhyne University<br>Hickory, NC                      | Private NFP | Sustainability Studies Program; Center of Graduate Studies  | MS Sustainability Studies                         |
| Lyndon State College<br>Lyndonville, VT                     | Public      | Department of Natural Sciences  | BS Sustainability Studies                         |
| Meredith College<br>Raleigh, NC                             | Private NFP | Department of Biological Sciences   | BA Environmental Sustainability                   |
| Merrimack College<br>North Andover, MA                      | Private NFP | Environmental Studies and Sustainability Program; School of Liberal Arts  | BS Environmental Studies and Sustainability       |
| Messiah College<br>Grantham, PA                             | Private NFP | Department of Biological Sciences; School of Science, Engineering, and Health                                     | BA Sustainability Studies                         |
| Paul Smiths College of Arts and Sciences<br>Paul Smiths, NY | Private NFP | Division of Forestry, Natural Resources and Recreation  | BS Natural Resources Sustainability               |
| University of Maine-Presque Isle<br>Presque Isle, ME        | Public      | College of Arts and Sciences  | BS Environmental Studies and Sustainability       |
| Wilson College<br>Chambersburg, PA                          | Private NFP | Environmental Studies Program   | BS Environmental Sustainability                   |

### Disciplinary and Professional Field Degree Programs with Sustainability Specializations

The census identified 302 degree programs with sustainability specializations (formal concentrations, tracks, or focus areas within a degree) in a variety of disciplines and professional fields. Almost half of these degree programs are master's programs (47%), 7% are doctoral programs; the remainder are baccalaureate programs.<sup>7</sup> The degree programs cover a range of disciplines and professional fields; the largest proportion (25%) are in business administration and management, followed by various environmental and natural resources programs (21%), engineering and technology fields (13%), built environment and planning programs (15%), agriculture/horticulture (12%) public policy/affairs and administration (4%), geography (3%), and several other fields (7%) (Table 6).

<sup>7</sup> Each specialization within a degree program is counted as a degree program for the purposes of this report.

**Table 6. Disciplinary/professional degrees with sustainability specializations**

| Discipline/Professional Field   | Bachelor's<br>N=139 | Masters'<br>N=141 | PhD<br>N=22 | Total/Proportion<br>N=302 |
|---|---------------------|-------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| Business Administration/Management/Leadership                                   | 29                  | 44                | 3           | 25%                       |
| Environmental Studies/Sciences/Policy/Management                                | 38                  | 7                 | 2           | 16%                       |
| Engineering/Technology  | 7                   | 28                | 5           | 13%                       |
| Agriculture/Horticulture  | 30                  | 5                 | 1           | 12%                       |
| Architecture/Built Environment  | 9                   | 15                | 5           | 10%                       |
| Natural Resources/Ecology   | 5                   | 11                | 1           | 5%                        |
| Regional/Urban/Community Planning   | 1                   | 13                | 3           | 5%                        |
| Public Policy/Affairs/Administration  | 3                   | 7                 | 1           | 4%                        |
| Geography   | 8                   | 1                 | 0           | 3%                        |
| Other (Anthropology, Chemistry, Economics, Education, Geoscience, Law, Tourism) | 9                   | 10                | 1           | 7%                        |
| Total/Proportion  | 46%                 | 47%               | 7%          | 100%                      |

The administrative locations for the degree programs with sustainability specializations exhibit considerable diversity and include a wide variety of departments, programs that span academic units, centers and institutes, and locations in a school or division within a college, or housed within a primary level school or college (Table 7). Most of these degree programs are offered through a department (41%), by a program that spans academic units (23%), or by a school or college (27%). A few are offered by a degree-granting center or institute (7%) or another administrative location (2%).

**Table 7. Administrative location for disciplinary/professional field degrees with sustainability specializations**

| Administrative Location   | Bachelor's<br>N=139 | Master's<br>N=141 | PhD<br>N=22 | Total/Proportion<br>N=302 |
|---|---------------------|-------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| Department  | 60                  | 53                | 12          | 41%                       |
| Program that Spans Units  | 42                  | 21                | 5           | 23%                       |
| School/Division within a College  | 11                  | 11                | 1           | 8%                        |
| Primary Level School/Division/College   | 16                  | 39                | 3           | 19%                       |
| Center/Institute  | 8                   | 13                | 0           | 7%                        |
| Other Location (Continuing Education, Graduate College, University Studies, etc.) | 2                   | 4                 | 1           | 2%                        |
| Consortium of Institutions  | 0                   | 0                 | 0           | 0%                        |
| Total/Proportion  | 46%                 | 47%               | 7%          | 100%                      |

Only a few of the academic units awarding disciplinary or professional degrees with sustainability specializations include “sustainability” in their name: three departments—the Department Civil, Environmental and Sustainable Engineering (Arizona State University), the Department of Business for a Sustain-

able Future (Mary Baldwin College), and the Department of Sustainable Construction Management and Engineering (SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry); seven centers and institutes—the Institute for Sustainable Business Practice (Baldwin-Wallace College), the Institute for Sustainable Practice (Lipscomb University), the Golisano Institute for Sustainability (Rochester Institute of Technology), the Center for Sustainability and Global Change (Unity College), the Agricultural Sustainability Institute (University of California at Davis), the Center for Sustainable Enterprise (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill), and the Center for Sustainable Business Practices (University of Oregon); and one school—the School of Earth Sciences and Environmental Sustainability (Northern Arizona University).

### Sustainability Minors and Certificate Programs

The census identified 316 sustainability minor and certificate programs.<sup>8</sup> The programs are almost equally divided into minors (51%) and certificates (49%). About two-thirds (65%) are designed for undergraduates, including 34% of the certificate programs and all but seven minors (Table 8).

The seven graduate minors include a graduate minor in sustainable energy (Cornell University), a graduate designation in global sustainability for master of business administration majors (Fordham University), a minor that may be earned at the undergraduate or graduate level in sustainable agriculture (University of Maine), a graduate minor in sustainable agriculture for Master in Business Administration students (Iowa State University), a graduate specialization in business concepts for environmental sustainability and conservation (Michigan State University), a graduate minor in sustainable agriculture systems (University of Minnesota-Twin Cities), and a doctoral minor in conservation biology and sustainable development (University of Wisconsin-Madison). Certificate programs are predominately designed for graduate students and post-graduate continuing education: 50% are graduate certificates and 17% are professional certificates.

**Table 8. Sustainability minor and certificate programs**

| Program Type     | Undergraduate<br>N=206 | Graduate<br>N=84 | Professional<br>N=26 | Proportion<br>N=316 |
|------------------|------------------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Minors           | 154                    | 7                | -                    | 51%                 |
| Certificates     | 52                     | 77               | 26                   | 49%                 |
| Total/Proportion | 65%                    | 27%              | 8%                   | 100%                |

Sustainability minors and certificates cover a range of topics (Table 9). General sustainability (25%) and business management for sustainability (19%) are the most common. Environmental and natural resources sustainability together with sustainability and environmental studies or science(s) comprise

<sup>8</sup> Some programs offer undergraduate, graduate and/or professional options. Each option is counted as one program for the purposes of the census and this report. One minor provides an undergraduate or graduate option. Eighteen certificate programs provide more than one option. Nine certificate programs offer graduate and professional options; two offer undergraduate and professional options, and one offers undergraduate and graduate options.

15%. Sustainable development and the related areas of architecture/built environment and agriculture/horticulture make up 22%. Smaller proportions of programs are focused on energy and sustainability (7%), global or international sustainability issues (5%), engineering and technology (4%), and other areas (3%). Graduate programs are concentrated in business, general sustainability and built environment design. Most professional certificates are predominantly focused on business management. Undergraduate programs tend toward general or environmental sustainability.

**Table 9. Sustainability minor and certificate programs**

| Sustainability Topic                                | Undergraduate<br>N=206 | Graduate<br>N=84 | Professional<br>N=26 | Proportion<br>N=316 |
|---|------------------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| General Sustainability/Science/Studies              | 63                     | 15               | 2                    | 25%                 |
| Business Management/Leadership                      | 20                     | 27               | 13                   | 19%                 |
| Environmental/Natural Resources Sustainability      | 26                     | 4                | 3                    | 10%                 |
| Sustainable Development                             | 21                     | 7                | 2                    | 10%                 |
| Energy and Sustainability                           | 15                     | 4                | 4                    | 7%                  |
| Architecture/Built Environment                      | 11                     | 10               | 0                    | 7%                  |
| Agriculture/Horticulture                            | 12                     | 5                | 0                    | 5%                  |
| Environmental Studies/Science(s) and Sustainability | 14                     | 1                | 1                    | 5%                  |
| Global/International Sustainability                 | 12                     | 3                | 0                    | 5%                  |
| Engineering/Technology                              | 8                      | 4                | 1                    | 4%                  |
| Other (Law, Tourism, Politics and Policy)           | 4                      | 4                | 0                    | 3%                  |
| Total/Proportion                                    | 65%                    | 27%              | 8%                   | 100%                |

The administrative locations for the sustainability minors and certificate programs are varied, similar to the other sustainability academic programs covered in this report, and include a variety of departments, programs that span academic units, locations in a school or division within a college or a primary level school or college, or administratively housed in a degree-granting center or institute (Table 10). Most sustainability minor and certificate programs are offered by departments (34%). Roughly equal proportions are awarded through programs that span academic units (19%), schools, division or colleges (18%), centers and institutes (14%), and other locations (14%). Four certificates are offered through consortia.

**Table 10. Administrative location for sustainability minor and certificate programs**

| Administrative Location   | Minors      |           | Certificates |            |            | Total/<br>Proportion<br>N=316 |
|---|-------------|-----------|--------------|------------|------------|-------------------------------|
|   | UG<br>N=154 | GR<br>N=7 | UG<br>N=52   | GR<br>N=77 | PR<br>N=26 |                               |
| Department  | 68          | 2         | 11           | 20         | 6          | 34%                           |
| Program that Spans Units  | 44          | 0         | 6            | 8          | 3          | 19%                           |
| School/Division within a College  | 5           | 0         | 2            | 3          | 0          | 3%                            |
| Primary Level School/<br>Division/College   | 14          | 2         | 6            | 19         | 6          | 15%                           |
| Center/Institute  | 15          | 3         | 11           | 12         | 3          | 14%                           |
| Other Location (Continuing Educa-<br>tion, Graduate College, University<br>Studies, etc.) | 8           | 0         | 13           | 14         | 8          | 14%                           |
| Consortium of Institutions  | 0           | 0         | 3            | 1          | 0          | 1%                            |
| Total/Proportion  | 49%         | 2%        | 17%          | 24%        | 8%         | 100%                          |

Three consortia offer certificate programs: the Consortium for Sustainable Business Development (Pennsylvania State University, Nova Southeastern University, and West Virginia University) offers a graduate certificate in sustainable business practices; a consortium program operated jointly by Wellesley College, Babson College, and Olin College offers an undergraduate certificate in sustainability; a consortium of University of Wisconsin campuses and extension offers graduate certificates in sustainability management.

Quite a few academic units awarding sustainability minors and certificates include “sustainability” in their name, especially centers and institutes. Five are departments—the Department of Sustainable Living (Maharishi University of Management), the Department of Business for a Sustainable Future (Mary Baldwin College), the Department of Sustainable Construction Management and Engineering (SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry), the Department of Geography and Environmental Sustainability (University of Oklahoma), and the Department of Environmental and Sustainability Studies (Worcester Polytechnic Institute). Three are schools—the School of Sustainability (Arizona State University), the School of Sustainability and the Environment (Chatham University), and the School of Global Environmental Sustainability (Colorado State University).

Twenty centers and institutes awarding sustainability degrees include sustainability in their names: the Center for Sustainability and the Environment (Albion College), the Center for Sustainability (Aquinas College), the Great Lakes Institute for Sustainable Systems (Central Michigan University), the Clarkson Center for Sustainable Energy Systems (Clarkson University), the Institute for a Sustainable Environment (Clarkson University), the Sustainability, Energy and the Environment Initiative (University of Dayton), the Ozark Center for Sustainable Solutions (Drury University), the Center for Sustainability (Georgia Southern University), the Center for a Sustainable Future (Indiana University-South Bend), the Institute for Sustainable Practice (Lipscomb University), the Sustainable Futures Institute (Michigan Technological University), the Center for Sustainability (Pennsylvania State University), the Institute for Sustainable Solutions (Portland State University), the Center for Sustainable

Communities (Temple University), the Center for Sustainability and Global Change (Unity College), the Institute of the Environment and Sustainability Center for Interdisciplinary Instruction (University of California-Los Angeles), the Center for Sustainable Enterprise and Regional Competitiveness (University of Massachusetts-Boston), the Graham Environmental Sustainability Institute (University of Michigan-Ann Arbor), the Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture (University of Minnesota-Twin Cities), and the Center for Sustainable Development (University of Texas-Austin).

## Sustainability and Interdisciplinary Environmental Academic Programs: Competition or Perception of Sustainability?

During the analysis of the census data for sustainability academic programs it was noted that colleges and universities tended to have either sustainability degree programs or interdisciplinary environmental programs with sustainability specializations (IE: sustainability).

Table 11 illustrates that only 5% of colleges and universities that offer sustainability degree programs also offer IE: sustainability degrees. Likewise, only 14% of institutions that offer IE: sustainability degrees also offer sustainability degrees. Institutions offering IE: sustainability degrees are less likely to offer sustainability minors and certificates, but more likely to offer specializations within other fields.

Fewer schools offer IE: sustainability programs than other types of sustainability academic programs; but many more schools offer IE academic programs than sustainability academic programs. Sustainability is also an inherent primary focus and goal for all IE programs, not just those with formal sustainability specializations.

It is unclear why institutions offering sustainability degrees would tend to not offer IE: sustainability degrees and vice versa. It may simply be coincidence, or it may relate to the perception of sustainability as an environmental topic versus a boarder approach, or to competition related to the optimal location for sustainability education. Further research is needed to determine the relationships between sustainability and interdisciplinary environmental academic programs at different colleges and universities. The survey of sustainability program administrators may provide insight into this question and the differences and similarities between IE and sustainability programs.

**Table 11. Comparison of HE institutions offering different sustainability academic programs**

| Academic Program Type  | Proportion of Institutions |                            |                             |             |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
|  | Sustainability<br>N=113    | IE: Sustainability<br>N=52 | OD: Sustainability<br>N=112 | MC<br>N=219 |
| Sustainability degrees   | 100%                       | 5%                         | 26%                         | 46%         |
| Interdisciplinary environmental degrees with sustainability track (IE: Sustainability) | 14%                        | 100%                       | 36%                         | 36%         |
| Other discipline/fields with sustainability track (OD: Sustainability)                 | 30%                        | 11%                        | 100%                        | 55%         |
| Sustainability minors and certificates (MC)  | 19%                        | 5%                         | 26%                         | 100%        |



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Benedictine University  
Bentley University  
Bethune-Cookman University  
Boston College  
Boston University  
Bowdoin College  
Brandeis University  
Brown University  
Bryn Mawr College  
Bucknell University  
Case Western Reserve University  
Chatham University  
Clark University  
Clarkson University  
Clemson University  
Colby College  
Colgate University  
College of Charleston  
College of Menominee Nation  
College of Saint Benedict/St. John's University  
College of Wooster  
Colleges of the Fenway  
Colorado College  
Colorado State University  
Columbia University  
Cornell University  
Dartmouth College  
Dickinson College  
Doane College  
Drexel University  
Duquesne University  
Evergreen State College, The  
Flagler College  
Florida A&M University  
Florida Atlantic University  
Franklin & Marshall College  
Frostburg State University  
George Mason University  
George Washington University  
Guilford College  
Hartwick College  
Haverford College  
Hendrix College  
Heritage University  
Howard University  
Illinois Institute of Technology  
Indiana University at Bloomington  
James Madison University  
Johns Hopkins University  
Kean University  
Kentucky State University  
Lafayette College  
Lehigh University  
Lewis & Clark College  
Lewis University  
Louisiana State University  
Macalester College  
Manhattan College  
Marywood University  
Michigan State University  
Middlebury College  
Monmouth University  
Moravian College  
Morgan State University  
Mount Holyoke College  
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Old Dominion University  
Oregon State University  
Pace University  
Pennsylvania State University  
Pomona College  
Portland State University  
Purdue University  
Reed College  
Robert Morris University  
Rutgers-The State University of New Jersey  
Salisbury University  
Salish Kootenai College  
Sewanee, The University of the South  
Siena College  
Skidmore College  
Smith College  
South Dakota State University  
Southern New Hampshire University  
Stetson University  
SUNY-College of Environmental Science  
and Forestry  
Swarthmore College  
Temple University  
Texas A&M University  
Towson University  
Tufts University  
Unity College  
University of Alabama  
University of Arizona  
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