VIRTUES

Goals
1. Assess the needs of employers (particularly manufacturers in GA) as they relate to sustainability and workforce readiness
2. Review Georgia’s higher education institutions’ sustainability relevant education and training curricula and programs
3. Identify gaps between the needs of employers and the products of higher ed.
4. Develop a plan for narrowing or closing the identified gaps

Georgia’s employers and academics spoke: we listened
1. College students are segregated by discipline; lack real world collaborative experience
2. Students own strengths are untested; need understanding of other’s strengths
3. Sustainability is personal
4. At work, sustainability is about business
5. Students most likely to be introduced to sustainability through individual undergraduate courses
6. Graduate university and technical college education least likely to engage in sustainability
7. Extra-curricular and co-curricular activities vary widely in content and effort
8. Effect of campus facility on student knowledge unknown
9. Sustainability principles are easy to grasp
10. Assessment of sustainability education is limited
11. There is no sustainability “common core”

Post-secondary Sustainability Education
Meeting the needs of the students.
Meeting the needs of employers?
1. Formal degrees, minors, and certificates
2. Programs of study heavily influenced by sustainability (e.g. Ecology)
3. Individual courses
4. Campus as example / role model
5. Extra- and Co-curricular activities
6. Intensely infused and broad-based curriculum development and reform

Pre-wiring virtues for Sustainability
1. Find personal meaning in sustainability
2. Focus on connections more than depth
3. Know your own strengths and those of others
4. Acquire a holistic perspective
5. Understand that sustainability is not a goal; it is a process

The world’s most sustainable organizations have employees with relatively little formal education and training in sustainability, but communicate well vertically and horizontally, and collaborate successfully on teams to solve problems.

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