



The Role of Teacher Organizations in Disseminating ESD Information in the United States

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Kappa Delta Pi

- The largest honor society for teachers in the United States; over 100 years old
- 40,000 members at almost 600 colleges and universities in the USA; two chapters in China, one in Hong Kong, and one in Taiwan
- Affiliated with the United Nations as a non-governmental organization (NGO) since 2010

How does KDP work?

- The member colleges and universities have chapters
- Each chapter is led by a college professor of education
- Majority of members enter the organization towards the end of their teacher preparation program
- As members, they receive three publications and use of the website and conferences
- www.kdp.org

KDP and ESD

- In August, I found out about Education for Sustainable Development.
- This information came to us through a visit by KDP leaders to China.
- Since August, KDP has hosted a webinar about ESD and will publish an article in our next journal.
- There is now an ESD link on our website - www.kdp.org

My role as a professor of curriculum

- The four tenets of the foundation of the curriculum in schools in the USA.
 - 1. Curriculum to build productive citizens
 - 2. Curriculum to build skilled workers
 - 3. Curriculum of knowledge for the sake of knowledge
 - 4. Curriculum of self-actualization

My understanding of ESD

- Best, and perhaps only change that I have seen in curricular vision in my career
- Idea of creating a sustainable world through environment, society, and economy is absolutely what is needed
- “Meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet needs...”
- www.esdtoolkit.org

Education for Sustainable Development is

- A vision of curriculum
- Supersedes environmental studies while putting it on the forefront
- Supersedes diversity, while embracing it
- Stresses responsibility – for the environment, for acceptance of all, for equity

www.kdp.org

- Education for Sustainable Development is a vision of education that seeks to balance human and economic well-being with cultural traditions and respect for natural resources. There is a worldwide movement focused on reorienting teacher education to address ESD and increasingly, teacher educators in the United States are becoming engaged with this work.

My comment to a friend

- ESD is a vision for curriculum that can not only save the planet, but produce responsible citizens for the world.
- Save the planet and personal and societal responsibility – what could be a better curriculum than that?

What is the status of ESD in schools in the USA?

Pockets exist where ESD is understood and implemented

- At the university level there are programs where ESD becomes a guide for teacher preparation
- Webster University in Missouri
- West Chester University, Pennsylvania
- Antioch University, New England, (New Hampshire)

Variety

- Webster University – Masters degree in education and innovation
- West Chester University – Certificate in Education for Sustainability

Antioch – Masters and doctoral programs for sustainable future

So – first we create the leaders in education

ESD in k-12 schools

- Most public schools strive for “green” campuses
 - Recycling drives
 - Awareness of the need for “reduce, reuse, recycle”
 - Science teachers and science teacher educators seem to have been leaders in sustainability.

Moving from pockets to full implementation

- There is a bigger question here.
- How does ANY curricular change happen?

Change teacher preparation

- Guidelines come from a professional association
 - NCATE, National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education
 - Each state's department of education has accreditation guidelines, but are generally aligned with NCATE.
 - This is how, 25 years ago, the diversity component came into the teacher prep curriculum.

Work with other organizations

- AACTE; American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
- AILACTE; Association of Independent Liberal Arts Colleges for Teacher Education
- Colleges are members; leaders bring information to campuses

Specialized Professional Associations (SPAs)

- National Science Teachers Association
- National Council of Teachers of Mathematics
- National Council of Teachers of English
- ACTFL - American Council on The Teaching of Foreign Languages
- Every field in the curriculum

Curriculum in schools in the USA is changing

- Common Core Standards
- Developed by chief school officers and association of governors of states
- These standards are NOT a national curriculum
- Standards were to have come from the national standards of the existing teacher organizations

Organizations for all teachers

- Honor societies – Kappa Delta Pi
- Others, unions, NEA, AFT
- Phi Delta Kappa
- Delta Kappa Gamma – boasts over 90,000 women teachers around the world

What next?

- Kappa Delta Pi can quickly disseminate information to its 40,000 members
- Each chapter counselor is a teacher educator – reach 600 teacher ed programs in the USA with any email
- Disseminate research and policy statements through our three journals – The New Teacher Advocate, The Record, The Forum

From what I have read

- There are resources for teaching about ESD.
Textbooks, online materials, policy statements.
- To get ESD into schools in the USA, we need to share the information through every possible channel, especially through the existing teacher organizations.
- KDP is ready to help.

I end my curriculum classes

- If you want to change the world, change the curriculum in the schools.
- If you want to create a sustainable world, change the curriculum in the schools to include the vision of ESD.