



**Welcome to the COPERNICUS Alliance Newsletter**  
**July 2017**

COPERNICUS Alliance news



## **Hamburg Sustainable Development Summit (HSDS) 2017** **“Sustainability at Higher Education Institutions”**

26th-29th September 2017

Universität Hamburg, Main Building, West Wing, Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1

The first “Hamburg Sustainable Development Summit” (HSDS) will take place at the Universität Hamburg from the 26th to the 29th September 2017. The program features

workshops, interactive sessions and innovative, engaging methods focusing on the topic of “Sustainability at Higher Education Institutions”. University president Prof. Dr. Dieter Lenzen (President Universität Hamburg) and Katharina Fegebank (Second Mayor of Hamburg and Senator for Science, Research and Equal Rights) as well as representatives of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) will open the international sustainability conference.



The HSDS is hosted by the Center for a Sustainable University (KNU) at the Universität Hamburg. The event brings together national and international academic sustainability networks and offers unique networking opportunities through the combination of the following events:

- COPERNICUS Alliance European Network on Higher Education for Sustainable Development Conference 2017
- 7<sup>th</sup> European Postgraduate Sustainable Development Symposium (SDS)
- HOCH<sup>N</sup> Sustainability at Higher Education Institutions Network Day, granted by BMBF

### **What is it all about?**

From 26th -28th September aspects of sustainable development at higher education institutions will be under consideration. Topics include: Governance, Reporting, Education for Sustainable Development, Campus and Urban Planning and Student Engagement. This interdisciplinary congress is addressed to all actors committed to fostering the transformation process towards sustainability in line with the Sustainable Development Goals. Several sustainability-related excursions will be offered 29th September.

**Registration, trailer and further information about the HSDS:** [www.hsds.uni-hamburg.de](http://www.hsds.uni-hamburg.de)

### **Background Information**

**COPERNICUS Alliance** European Network on Higher Education for Sustainable Development is a network of universities committed to transformational learning and embedding change for sustainability within higher education policy, teaching and research.

**HOCH<sup>N</sup>** is dedicated to embedding, implementing and establishing sustainable development at German Higher Education Institutions (HEI) within an open network. Eleven HEI as core institutions are collaborating within the project. The University of Hamburg (KNU) coordinates the network, which is continuously expanding with new partner universities. All interested HEIs are invited to participate. [www.hoch-n.org](http://www.hoch-n.org)

The **European Postgraduate Sustainable Development Symposium (SDS)** is an annual event that aims to bring together young researchers from a broad spectrum of disciplinary backgrounds interested in the major challenges posed by achieving Sustainable Development. The University of Hamburg (KNU) is the chair of the SDS for 2017. [www.nachhaltige.uni-hamburg.de](http://www.nachhaltige.uni-hamburg.de)

(photo: UHH/Dingler)



## CA Micro Funds supports CASE event



The Vienna University of Economics and Business has been awarded CA Micro funds in support of the final event of the *Competencies for a sustainable socio-economic development (CASE)* project. CASE "aims at innovative ways of teaching and learning in order to achieve sustainable entrepreneurial education, promotion of

sustainability-driven enterprises, and stronger collaboration between universities and companies." Read more about CASE at the project [website](#).

## CA Members' news

### Special issue on Professional Development in Higher Education for Sustainable Development online now!



This special issue in the International Journal of Sustainability in Higher Education includes pioneering experiences across the world in the training of higher education academics in Education for sustainable development (ESD). The articles showcase good practice and illuminate pathways to address some of the current ESD staff development challenges. Some authors have considered common questions related to the development of professional capabilities or competences for educators, in order to advance ESD; others have centred their analysis on methods and approaches that support critical reflection and individual change; and, finally, some contributions provide evidence of professional development strategies that support the development of academic leadership skills and institutional change and learning.

The special issue can be accessed at the journal website: <http://www.emeraldinsight.com/toc/ijshe/18/5>.

## New sustainability recommendations at UZH



**University of Zurich**<sup>UZH</sup>

The University of Zurich has added two new sustainability publications to their collection. *Recommendations for Action with Regard to Sustainable Investments* (available in German) and *Guideline: Sustainable Catering* (available in English and German).

*The Recommendations for Action with Regard to Sustainable Investments* is a University Executive Board adopted recommendation, addressed towards persons who represent the UZH in foundation boards or administrative boards, aims to provide members with a guideline for considering sustainability aspects in money investments.

*The Guideline: Sustainable Catering* publication presents criteria for sustainable catering and tips to prevent food waste. Written in collaboration with the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH), the publication outlines the impact of different dietary habits on the climate and provides in-depth criteria for choosing sustainable catering services. The publications can be downloaded from the [University of Zurich webpage](#).

## CfP: 21st century skills, individual competences and personal capabilities for sustainability: a management and education perspective



Central European Review of Economics and Management (CEREM) has issued a call for papers for a special issue on 21st Century skills, guest editor of which is Wim Lambrechts, Open University of the Netherlands. The deadline for sending abstracts is 15th September 2017. See the call [here](#).

## International Transdisciplinarity Conference 2017 Programme available!

11th-15th September, Lüneburg

**td-net**  
Network for Transdisciplinary Research



A rich programme of interactive and training workshops and parallel session is on offer at the td-net conference "Transdisciplinary Research and Education — Intercultural Endeavours" hosted at Leuphana University of Lüneburg. See information about the programme at the [conference website](#).

## Featured CA Member Institution

### Hamburg Center for a Sustainable University



The Center for a Sustainable University (KNU) is an interdisciplinary group dedicated to the advancement of sustainable development at Universität Hamburg, and beyond. The KNU acts as a research network and think-tank for innovations in new approaches, concepts and methods within the context of sustainability in Higher Education Institutions. Watch our KNU video trailer <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NhDc9jfE6mc> and find more information on our website: <https://www.nachhaltige.uni-hamburg.de/en.html>

Project examples conducted by the KNU:

- HOCH<sup>N</sup> collaboration: Initiating and coordinating the collaboration *Sustainability at Higher Education Institutions: develop – network – report (HOCH<sup>N</sup>)*, funded by the German Federal



Ministry of Education and Research. See <https://www.nachhaltige.uni-hamburg.de/en/projekte/knu-projekte/hochn.html>

- Interdisciplinary research on sustainability and multilingualism: <https://www.nachhaltige.uni-hamburg.de/en/projekte/knu-projekte/mehrsprachigkeit.html>
- Organizing the first Hamburg Sustainable Development Summit in cooperation with the annual COPERNICUS Alliance Conference: <https://www.hsds.uni-hamburg.de/>. The HSDS has its special focus on the contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) within education, research, governance, operation and outreach initiatives at Higher Education Institutions.

REGISTER NOW: <https://mi3.lambdalogic.de/unihamburg-online/HSDS2017.do>

The KNU operates through different teams concerned with special topics such as: sustainability in research, sustainability in operations and administration, Education for Sustainable Development, reflection on science as a meta-perspective on transformational processes, and Organizational Development for sustainability. The KNU involves all faculties and members of the university – professors, students, administration staff and junior researchers – to generate transformational knowledge, capacities and practices in order to foster a whole institution approach on sustainable development.

The various KNU activities are coordinated by the multidisciplinary core team: Prof. Dr. Alexander Bassen (KNU Director), Wolfgang Denzler (HOCH<sup>N</sup>, network and transfer), Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Ingrid Gogolin (Head of Multilingualism Project), Prof. Dr. Florian Grüner (KNU Consultant), Prof. Dr. Axel Horstmann (KNU Consultant), Sophie Palm (KNU Scientific Officer), Cordula Rüth (HOCH<sup>N</sup>, Project Assistant), Dr. Claudia T. Schmitt (KNU Managing Director & Scientific Coordinator), Christine Stecker (HOCH<sup>N</sup>, Coordination), Dr. Hilmar Westholm (KNU Scientific Officer).

Feel free to contact us: [knu@uni-hamburg.de](mailto:knu@uni-hamburg.de), <https://www.nachhaltige.uni-hamburg.de/en.html>

## Global news

### **GUNI International Conference on Sustainable Development Goals: Actors and Implementation**

18-19th September 2017, Barcelona



Hosted by the Global University Network for Innovation will be an international meeting aimed toward creating a permanent and multidisciplinary knowledge network on implementation of SDGs—with the intent of global multidisciplinary stakeholders (including universities, governments, cities, the public and social agendas) to seek collaboration, exchange knowledge, and exchange expectations surrounding the challenges involved with the SDGs. The Conference includes Education for Sustainable Development through its main focuses on collaboration between universities, utilizing university knowledge as a tool for sustainable development to transform society, understanding the role of education in policymaking in response to the SDGs, and encouraging the education of people in skills and competencies related to SDG implementation. See the [conference website](#) for details.

### **Global Climate Change Week**

9th-15th October



GCCW aims to encourage academic communities – including academics, students, and non-academic staff at universities – to engage with each other, their communities, and policy makers on climate change actions and solutions. Read more at the [GCCW website](#).

### **UN General Assembly encourages HEIs commitment to ESD**

The President of the United Nations General Assembly addressed all IAU Members and the broader higher education community to stress the importance of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and the key role of higher education and research in achieving that agenda. Read the address [here](#).

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