



Preparing K-12
Students for
Sustainability
Education



Discussion Leaders

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Chair, KACEE Education Program Advisory Committee



Background

- KACEE is a non-profit association that promotes and provides effective, non-biased, science-based conservation and environmental education in Kansas.
- The KACEE education committee is assessing the needs of secondary school educators preparing students for sustainability and green jobs programs



2011 EE Conference Dialogue

- EE not on the same playing field
 - Does not receive same level of support as “hard sciences” in secondary schools
 - Lack of standards for sustainability
- Need to define career pathways
- Need for focused professional development

Sustainability-Focused Programs on the Rise

Year	Number of New Programs
2010	146
2009	113
2008	66
2007	27

Source: AASHE, 2010
Campus Sustainability
Review

Poll Question:

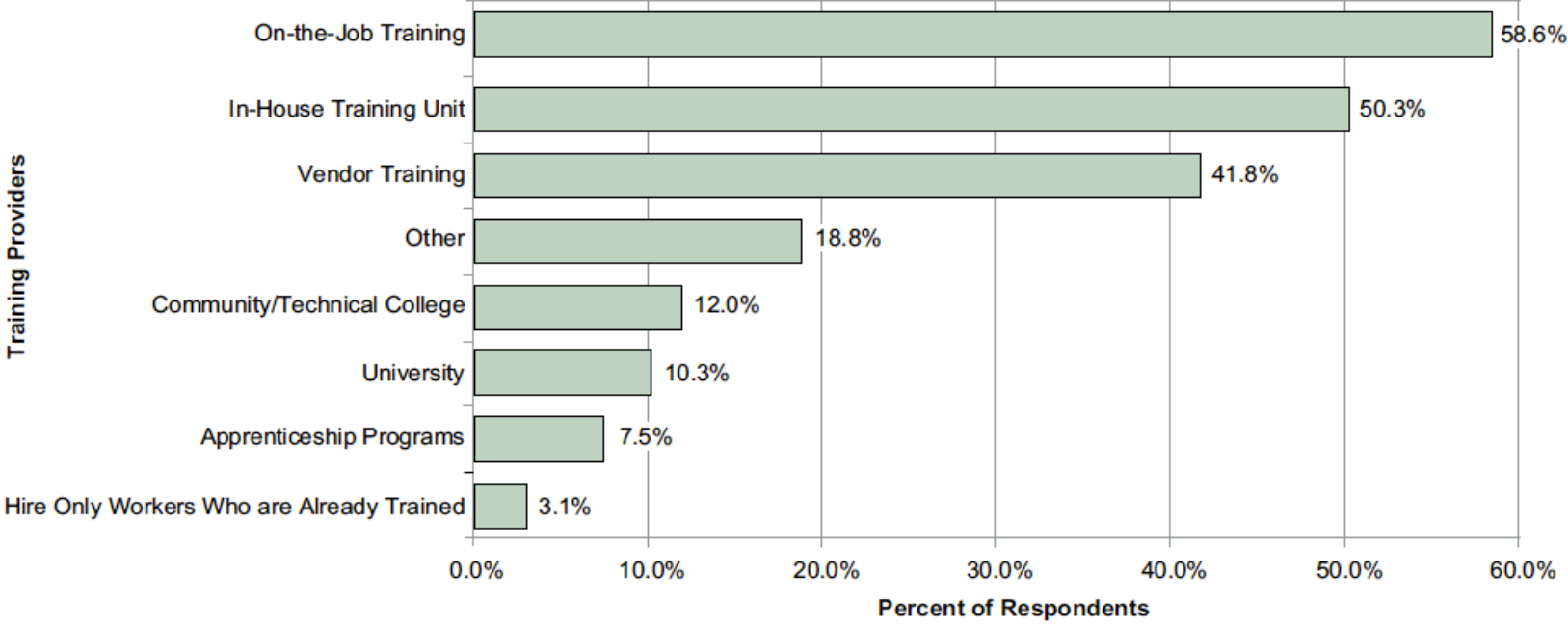
Does your institution have a green jobs or other sustainability-focused academic program (or plans to develop one)?

Discussion

- What types of green jobs or sustainability programs are offered or are being developed at your institution?
- What is the demand for these types of programs at your institution?
- What types of programs are students looking for?

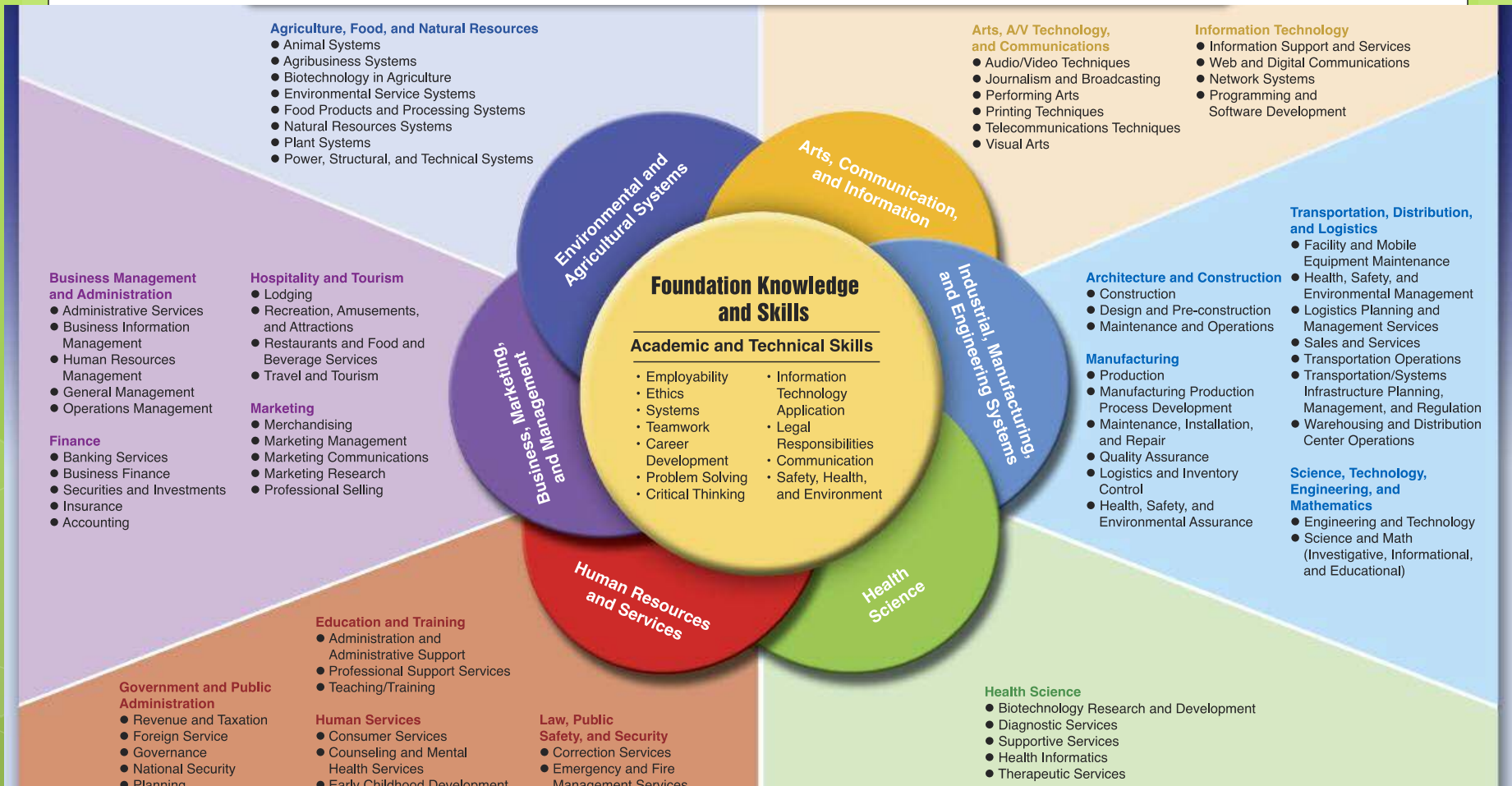
Green Jobs Training

Figure 6
Training Providers Used to Prepare Current Employees with Green Skills and Knowledge*



* Percentages are calculated as a proportion of employers who do have training needs related to green knowledge and skills.

Green Jobs Training





Poll Question

What core areas do your green jobs programs focus on?

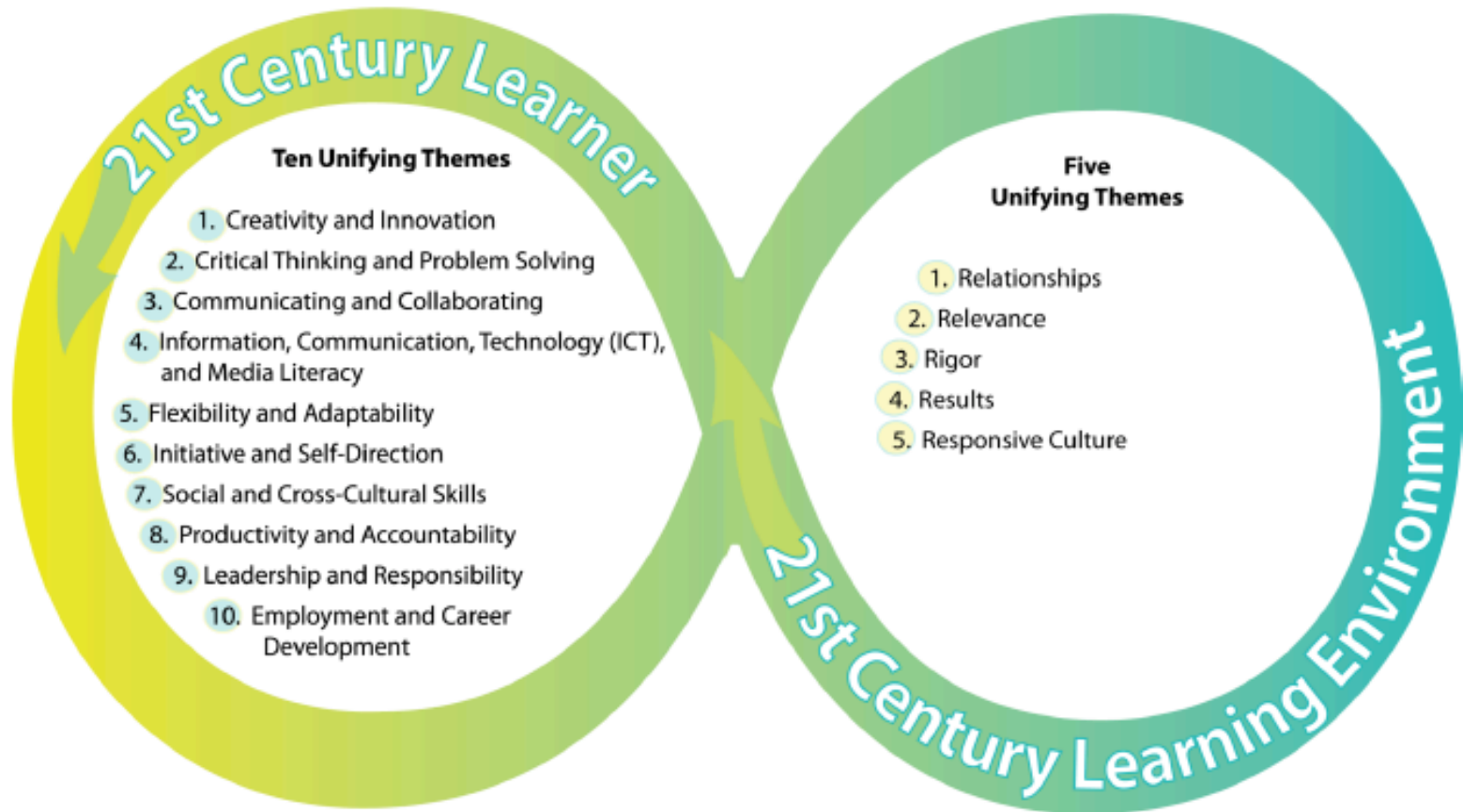
- A) Green Building
- B) Energy Efficiency
- C) Renewable Energy
- D) Resource Conservation/Management
- E) Sustainable Agriculture
- F) Pollution Prevention
- G) Sustainability Leadership/Management
- H) Transportation
- I) Other

Discussion

- What skill sets are needed for students entering green job programs?
- What career guidance is available for these students?
- What pathways exist for students to continue on to 4-year programs?
- What partnerships exist to support such programs?

Skills for Incoming Students

Profiles of the...





Discussion

- What is the basic foundational knowledge and skill sets expected from students coming into your programs?
- How would you describe the learning environment compared to other programs?
- How do they compare to 21st Century Learning Skills/Learning Environment



Educational Partnerships

- What types of outreach are you doing to secondary schools?
- What opportunities do you see for additional outreach/partnership with secondary schools?
- What do you want HS teachers to know about your programs and what do you want to know from them?



Statewide Partnerships

- Is there a role for educational organizations to help facilitate partnerships at a regional level

Examples may include

- Providing focused professional development for educators
- Facilitating dialogue between high school and higher ed educators and administrators
- Providing opportunities to exchange ideas through conferences



Questions?