

German Society for Human Ecology Symposium 2007

Higher Education for Sustainable Development Specific Contributions of Human Ecology

in cooperation with
University of Lüneburg and German Commission for UNESCO
10 – 12 May 2007
Sommerhausen, Main Valley, Bavaria, Germany

The German Society for Human Ecology (DGH - Deutsche Gesellschaft für Humanökologie) has dedicated its 2007 annual Symposium to the theme 'higher education for sustainable development (HEfSD) in Europe.' The Symposium theme is situated against the backdrop of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014) and the Bologna higher education reform process in Europe. The conference aims to explore how the discipline of human ecology can contribute to the emerging sustainability specialization 'higher education for sustainable development;' further, it seeks to reflect on and discuss how experiences of institutions engaged in the field of human ecology can enrich these new perspectives in European higher education. The Symposium is also aimed at intensifying the inter-European collaborations in higher education for sustainable development. Keynote speakers from the UNESCO Chair Higher Education for Sustainable Development, the DGH and the U.S. Society for Human Ecology will share stimulating ideas and perspectives on the leading edge of both fields and invite Symposium participants to entertain cross-pollination between these disciplines. Invited speakers from European countries will facilitate workshops and take part in panel discussions. Participants from many European countries are expected to the Symposium, promising an engaging and fruitful exchange. The Symposium is to culminate with a declaration addressed at policy makers requesting sustainability become a guiding principle in all areas of higher education.

The conference is organised by a DGH-working group on HEfSD in cooperation with the Institute for Environmental and Sustainability Communication, University of Lüneburg, the UNESCO Chair of Higher Education for Sustainable Development, University of Lüneburg and the German Commission for UNESCO. The Symposium will be held 10-12 May, 2007. The annual DGH Symposia are well-known for their open interdisciplinary exchange of expertise and opinions, facilitated by a wonderful conference venue and location, the village of Sommerhausen in the wine-heartland of Bavaria.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Symposium.