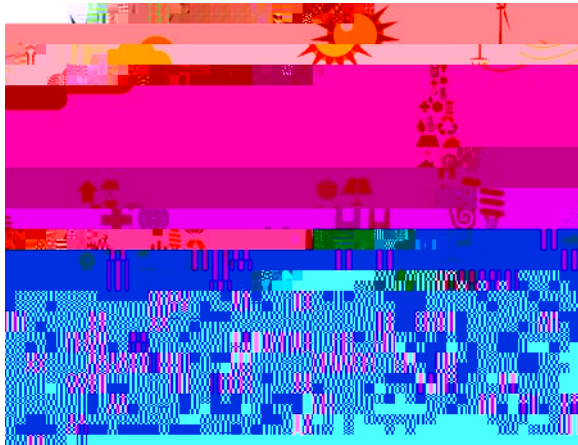


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Manifesto for a Sustainable University: Big Picture Thoughts



The e a e eas a s to thi ka out sustai a le u i e sites, a d ha d a s. E e the eas a s a e ha d, ut the uestio s the help pose a e at least elati el st aightfo a d. #a a u i e sit edu e its a o footp i t? Of ou se: u i e sites a i esti photo oltai s, ele ti usses, lo a o o stu tio ethods, lo all sou ed foods a d othe o su a les, high effi ie lighti g a d li ate o tol, a d so o . The e essa i est e tsa e ot heap, ut the ofte se e the ause of sustai a ilit ot o l edu i g the u i e sit 's e i o e tal i pa t, ut also ge e ati g lo g te sa i gs i ope ati g e pe ses, pe haps suffi ie t sa i gs that, a o tized o e the se i e life of pu hased e uip e t, a et ost edu tio esults. The e a e at least hopeful sig s that su h a st ateg a o k, as at the [Pennsylvania State University](#). The sa e holds fo the p ospe to ffo ulati ga di ple e ti g sustai a le esp o se to

#O†ID 9, a d i alpa de i si ge e al: agai , the e essa i est e tsi e ote i st u tio te h olog, i PPE, i i st u tio al spa es hospita le to so ial dista i g a e 't heap, ut the a ge e ate lo g te sa i gs.

The p o le fo ost u i e sites is that the o st ai ts of fu di g les, ele to al les, a editatio les, a d st ategi pla i g les a e i i al to o it e t so the e essa ti es ale. A u h ha de a to thi ka out sustai a le u i e sites is to thi k se iousl a out these o st ai ts, taki g the asa i itatio to deepe efle tio o the histo a d sustai a ilit of the e fu di g odel of o te po a a ade ia. The o te po a A e i a u i e sit s ste is the p odu t of a apid, d a ati e pa sio du i g the post a ea s, as it gea ed up to se e the a o o , a ge e atio u p e ede ted oth fo its size a d fo the a ess its e e se jo ed to the su plus ealth e essa fo pu sui g post se o da edu atio . That e pa sio as fu ded o the e pe tatio of go th, a e pe tatio that e ai ed u halle ged th ough the iddle of the 97 s.



Since the 1980s, however, the population has been consistently growing. As the population grows, the economy has shifted, and demand for postsecondary education has grown. While the economy has not stagnated outright, yet our financial model has not held its promise. We have lost economies of scale. The number of increased costs is shouldered largely by students, such that our net tuition, after the tuition is discounted to the actual amount, finds the student should be getting a dollar of student loans, setting the stage for our great financial crisis. During the past year, unemployment has reached its highest levels since the 1930s, and a default rate of 10% is a default. "And Madoff did not set out to ruin a Ponzi scheme. "But the financial model had the point he promises to old investors would be hoodlums of the strength of the suspension, he missed a line. At the present time, the American university system is