



NEW JERSEY

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QuickTakes!

Kean University Introduces Minor in Sustainability Sciences

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Kean University is embarking upon a major expansion of its “green” offerings with a new Minor in Sustainability Sciences. The 18-credit undergraduate program teaches students the basic principles and tools of sustainability science through hands-on research and activities based on real-world situations and practical solutions.

“There is a growing demand for energy, water and food, and that puts stress on natural systems and elevates tensions between nations, industries and communities,” said Dongyan Mu, PhD, program coordinator and professor in Kean’s School of Environmental and Sustainability Sciences. “Dealing with these problems requires knowledge across disciplinary boundaries and collaborations among engineers, and social and natural scientists. The sustainability science major was developed in response to those demands.”

Students enrolled in Kean’s Minor in Sustainability Science will:

- Explore local and global challenges of sustainable development across various industries
- Access various technologies for increased sustainability
- Recognize environmental policies and laws
- Train in developing sustainable buildings, products, business and communities
- Understand the principles and tools of sustainability science

As environmental concerns intensify in America and around the world, the pressure will build for businesses and organizations to become more environmentally friendly. In turn, job opportunities will increase for educated and qualified persons to fill new positions in sustainable goods and services industries, environmental consulting firms, government agencies, nonprofit organizations and companies that plan to green their products and processes.

Kean’s Minor in Sustainability Science, the first minor program of its kind in New Jersey, will also help prepare students interested in obtaining professional certificates and credentials in sustainability-related careers. Courses include instruction in professional standards including those required to earn certification in Leadership in Energy & Environmental

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Design (LEED), Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), Certified Professional (LCACP), and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

“Having a minor in sustainability science will allow students across various disciplines to contribute to our quality of life and that of future generations through long-term ecological balance,” said George Chang, PhD, dean of Kean’s College of Natural, Applied and Health Sciences. “Kean’s program was developed to allow students across disciplines – design, business and communication, for example – to understand the impact of sustainability in a way that will influence their future design decisions, legislation, business strategies and communication choices.”

For more information, or to enroll in the program, contact Dr. Mu at dmu@kean.edu or 908-737-3689