

Ranking of Sustainability Definitions at UCSC

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THE PEOPLE OF COLOR SUSTAINABILITY COLLECTIVE IS AN AWARD-WINNING CAMPUS INITIATIVE BASED ON A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE ETHNIC RESOURCE CENTERS, COLLEGES NINE AND TEN, AND THE SUSTAINABILITY OFFICE.

THE FINDINGS BELOW ARE FROM A CAMPUS-WIDE SURVEY ADMINISTERED IN SPRING 2019, WHERE UCSC UNDERGRADUATES RANKED EACH DEFINITION OF SUSTAINABILITY IN ORDER OF IMPORTANCE, WITH 1 BEING THE MOST IMPORTANT AND 5 THE LEAST IMPORTANT.

Overall Campus Rankings

		<u>RANK</u>
■ USING	SUSTAINABILITY IS <u>USING</u> NATURAL RESOURCES WISELY	<u>1ST</u>
■ CHALLENGING	SUSTAINABILITY IS <u>CHALLENGING</u> SOCIETAL ECONOMIC STRUCTURES THAT OVEREXPLOIT THE ENVIRONMENT	<u>2ND</u>
■ WORKING	SUSTAINABILITY IS <u>WORKING</u> TOWARD SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, AND ENVIRONMENTAL EQUITY	<u>3RD</u>
■ BUILDING	SUSTAINABILITY IS <u>BUILDING</u> GREEN FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE	<u>4TH</u>
■ PROMOTING	SUSTAINABILITY IS <u>PROMOTING</u> CULTURALLY DIVERSE KNOWLEDGES AND RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE ENVIRONMENT	<u>5TH</u>

"WE NEED TO FIND A WAY TO USE THE LEAST RESOURCES AS POSSIBLE TO GET THE MOST BENEFIT FOR US WHILE DOING THE LEAST AMOUNT OF DAMAGE TO THE PLANET."

USING ■

"EQUITY IS ESSENTIAL FOR SUSTAINABILITY, BECAUSE EFFORTS AREN'T SUSTAINABLE UNLESS THEY ARE SUSTAINABLE FOR EVERYONE IN ALL DEMOGRAPHICS....NOT JUST WEALTHY WHITE PEOPLE WHO CAN AFFORD TO BE ENVIRONMENTALLY CONSCIOUS"

CHALLENGING ■

"THE ENVIRONMENT'S BIGGEST THREAT IS BIG BUSINESS AND POLITICIANS WHO WIELD A DISPROPORTIONATE AMOUNT OF POWER, AND INHERENTLY BENEFIT FROM THE DESTRUCTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT. NOTHING LARGE-SCALE CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED UNLESS THOSE IN POWER ARE PRO SUSTAINABILITY."

WORKING ■

"WE NEED TO BUILD MORE INFRASTRUCTURE THAT WON'T ADD HARMFUL THINGS TO THE ENVIRONMENT."

BUILDING ■

"LEARNING FROM PEOPLE'S PRACTICES TO STEWARD THE EARTH."
"THE WORLD IS DIVERSE AND WE NEED TO KNOW HOW TO TAKE CARE OF IT WITH DIVERSITY."

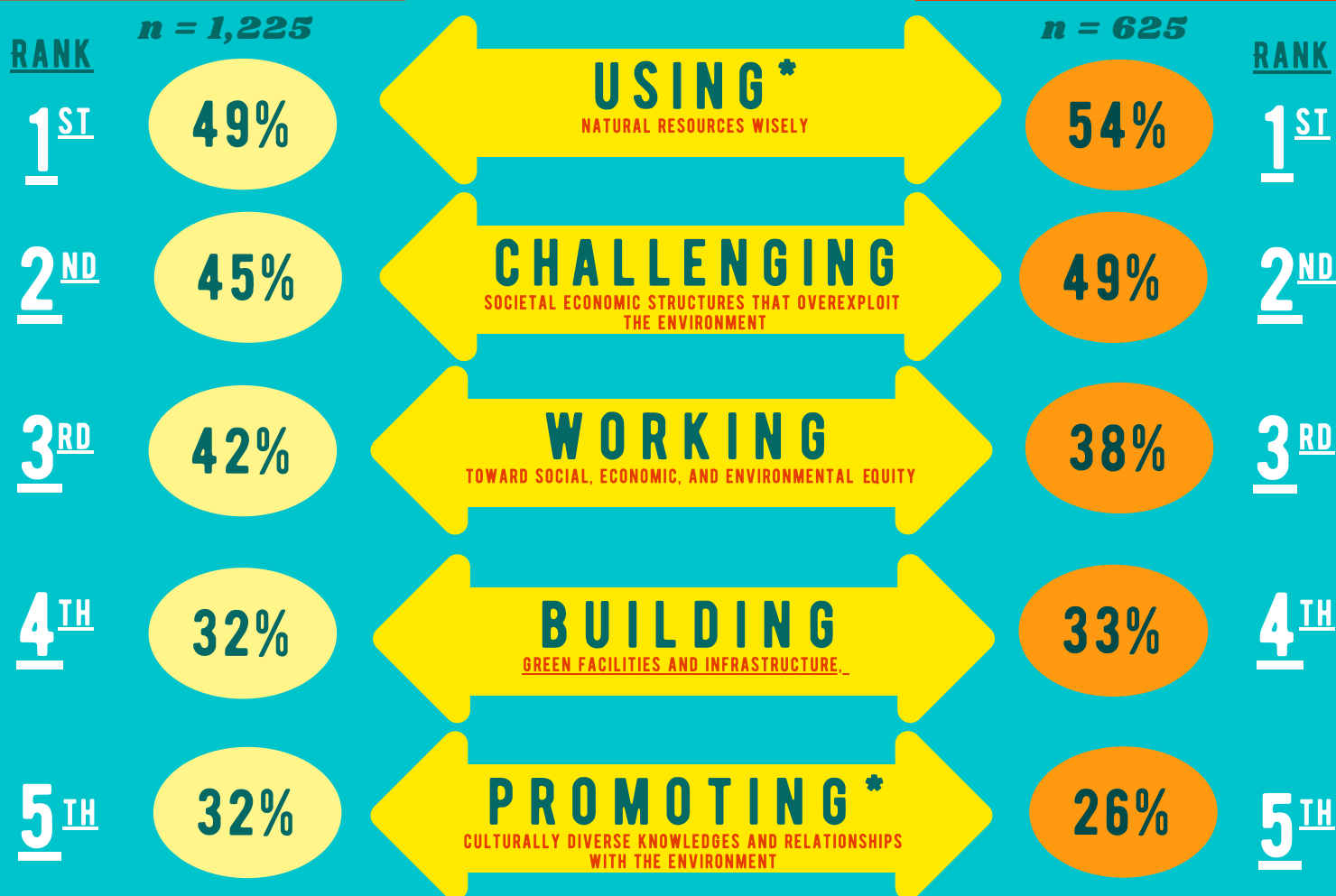
PROMOTING ■

Comparing Rankings

PEOPLE OF COLOR

WHAT PERCENT RANKED EACH DEFINITION AS FIRST OR SECOND

WHITE, NON-HISPANIC



Findings

- THE RANK ORDER OF SUSTAINABILITY DEFINITIONS WAS THE SAME BETWEEN POC AND WHITE STUDENTS.
- THERE IS A PLURALITY, NOT A MAJORITY, OF PREFERENCES AMONG SUSTAINABILITY DEFINITIONS. EACH DEFINITION RESONATES WITH MANY STUDENTS.
- *THE DIFFERENCE IN PERCENTAGES BETWEEN POC AND WHITE STUDENTS FOR THE DEFINITIONS "USING" AND "PROMOTING" WAS STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT (P<0.05).