



College of Forestry

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Innovation credit: National Network for Sustainable Living Education (NNSLE)

I direct the National Network for Sustainable Living Education (NNSLE). Our program is accurately portrayed in the STARS document, and it meets the criteria for innovation credits.

I'd like to highlight some key points:

- Starting with a handful of interested colleagues in 2004, we now have 90+ colleagues from over 30 land-grant institutions, as well as several federal agencies. Many of us have never met face-to-face.
- Our goals, in a nutshell, are to share sustainable living education materials, develop useful products for our audiences, and model sustainable practices.
- We focus our energies on 4 to 6 projects per year, dividing into teams. We use conference calls and emails to get them done.
- Except for small grants for printing, we do NOT search for external monies. We want NNSLE to be self-sustaining, which means we use our network of contacts for support rather than outside sources.
- Besides the materials we produce, NNSLE's value has been validated in other tangible ways:

An email from Greg Crosby, National Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA) National Program Leader for Sustainable Development dated 1/25/07 states: *The National Network for Sustainable Living has shown up in the Office of the Environmental Executive (OFEE) and the Council for Environmental Quality in the White House. As a member of the Federal Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability Working Group, I'll be reporting on your work at some point soon. Also, the State Department and OFEE are co-chairing a federal discussion on Sustainable Consumption and Production – a first for the US. Your Living Sustainably guide will be in their briefing packet.*

Both Oregon State University Extension Service and the Association for Natural Resources Extension Professionals (ANREP) have acknowledged NNSLE's innovative qualities, with an OSU Search for Excellence Award in 2005, and an ANREP Innovative Program Silver Award in 2009.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. I am pleased to have NNSLE included in OSU's STARS application.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Viviane Simon-Brown'.

Viviane Simon-Brown

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