



## Sign on to **make a difference** with the goBEYOND Teach-In

**March 2010**

Have you ever considered...

... the impact that our lifestyle choices have on people in developing countries, be it driving cars, eating meat, or turning on the air conditioning? Who feels the increasingly devastating effects of climate change the most? Which people should be financially responsible for these impacts? Finally, who is engaged in the decision making process when it comes to climate change?

Such questions form the basis of climate justice, an exceptionally important aspect of climate change not often considered. Educators have the opportunity to open the minds of tomorrow's leaders to the possibilities and responsibilities relating to climate justice. The goBEYOND Teach-In offers you an opportunity to have an enormous impact in raising awareness and creating change, with minimal time and effort.

### **What is the Teach-in?**

The Teach-In is a dialogue that is grounded in ideas, but directed toward action. We're asking faculty to donate class time or assignments to engage their classes in ideas about climate justice, and the actions our colleges and universities can take to focus their incredible resources on generating equitable climate solutions.

Faculty need not be experts on climate change, as the exercise is about a two-way discussion that encourages us to explore how each of our disciplines – from social sciences, engineering, and visual art, to economics, forestry, education, and everything in between – can contribute to solving this global issue. And not to worry - we provide the discussion questions!

The Teach-In is a powerful tool because it unifies so many different schools and disciplines, and builds momentum toward a common vision. This year, the Teach-In is going beyond British Columbia's borders – the Sierra Youth Coalition is helping to bring it across Canada, and the Inter-Varsity Environmental Network will bring it to campuses across Africa. GoBEYOND has previously held two successful Teach-Ins, with participation from nearly 400 professors and 15 post-secondary institutions, reaching a total of approximately 20,000 students! This year marks the first ever international goBEYOND Teach-In.



## Why?

The goal of the Teach-In is to start focusing the minds and resources of tomorrow to tackle the issues of climate justice facing our world today. Post-secondary institutions have the potential to realize solutions to both climate justice and climate change. They bring together diverse expertise, have large economic impacts and are cradles of innovation. Most importantly, however, post-secondary institutions are educators and it has been proven time and time again that education is the key to change.

## Sound like a great way to make a difference...?

Sign up today by emailing [info@campusclimatenetwork.org](mailto:info@campusclimatenetwork.org). More resources for faculty and students are available at [www.go-beyond.ca](http://www.go-beyond.ca).

We provide the questions, a 3 minute introductory video, tips on facilitation and the next steps for getting involved. To ensure the Teach-In is flexible and can be implemented by any professor, we have created a diverse number of ways to participate:

### Tier 1: 15-20 Minute Class Discussion

1. How can our discipline be part of creating a just and equitable climate solution?

### Tier 2: Full Class Discussion

1. What is climate justice and what does it mean?
2. How does climate justice relate to your discipline?
3. What is Canada's role in developing a just and equitable climate solution?
4. What would climate justice look like on a global scale? What about national and local scales?
5. How can your academic discipline contribute to achieving this vision?

### Tier 3: Assignment

1. Include a discipline-specific assignment in your course curriculum. See the goBEYOND Faculty Guide for examples!

### Tier 4: Regional Solutions Pilot Project

1. How can our region be climate neutral by 2050? Use a collaborative, problem-based approach to address a current climate-related issue in your region that is relevant to your discipline. Guidance/resources provided on a case-by-case basis.

***We look forward to working with you on this exciting initiative!***