PURPOSE: This research is designed to explain any relationships between creativity and sustainable design practices.

JUSTIFICATION: Sustainable design practices have reshaped the way in which design problems are analyzed, approached, and resolved. These data illustrate how creativity and sustainable design practices are symbiotic through environmental, psychological, and sociological concerns.

SAMPLE: 168 students pursuing a design related degree.

INSTRUMENTATION: Surveys and focus groups were included. The survey addressed student perceptions establish personal creative styles and the effects of sustainability practices on these various creative styles. The survey included three questions derived from Kirton’s Adaptor-Innovator creativity theory, three open-ended questions about sustainable design and the creative process, and the other survey questions relate to technology, assignments/projects related to sustainable development, and demographics.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS:
1. To what extent do assignments/creative projects inspire sustainable design practices?
2. How do design students define sustainable design practices and concepts?
3. Do sustainable design practices affect student creativity?
4. What types of creativity are most closely related to sustainable design?
5. How do design students define creativity?
6. How do students define the creative processes that shape sustainable design practices?
7. Do perceptions about sustainable design practices affect design students’ creativity?
8. According to Kirton’s Adaptor-Innovator creativity theory, to what extent are sustainable design concepts favored by the either the more adaptive or the more innovative?
9. In what manner does creativity affect group dynamics?
10. Are design classes presenting sustainable design practices? How?
11. How do instructors inspire creativity in design classes?
12. Does technology influence student creativity? How?

IMPLICATIONS: Society is affected by how available resources are utilized for the development of healthy and sustainable communities. Creativity and the design processes associated with sustainable design impacts well-being for individuals and groups. Professionals in design, art, business, architecture, and engineering lead the future in this time of necessary consciousness about the environment in which we all live and share.

REFERENCES:

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