ASSIGNMENT#2: 7 – 13 FEBRUARY 2006

On Tuesday, 7 February 2006, you should open the weekly home page on the course web site (http://courses.dce.harvard.edu/~envre105/lectures.htm). The narrative for this week is entitled, “Starting Our Journey to Sustainable Development.” Please read the narrative. You may wish to explore some of the Internet links provided in the footnotes. Please remember that you will not be tested on the content. Instead, you will have to work with your classmates to find ways to integrate the content and find a path to sustainable development for the “virtual” company described in the case and for the City of Cambridge (Massachusetts, USA).

After you have become basically familiar with the topic, you should read the case. You should be coming more familiar with the information in the Guide to Using the Case Method. Please make sure that you use the case to discuss the content. It is your opportunity to test the completeness and reality of what has been presented to you. You should also be addressing how you can integrate what you learned about sustainable development last week and how it can be used on the journey. How will these two topics help establish the environmental, social and economic responsibilities in the weeks yet to come?

Please re-read the Guide to Using the Discussion Board. You will need to access the discussion board using the tool bar on the course home page. Please look for the proper folder in the second week that was created for your discussion of the content with the perspective of the case. You should follow the discussion through the weekend. Remember that you will be graded on your entries according to the rubric that has been presented in the Guide. You can correspond with the teaching assistant that provided the grade to see how you might be able to improve in future weeks. If you do not post a discussion point during the week, you will receive a grade of “zero” for that week. Should you have any problems posting or with your travel schedule during the course, please contact the teaching staff to seek a waiver or to allow you to post at a later time. The class will be discussing this information and your ideas in the summary discussion on 13 February 2006.

Please re-read the Guide to Participating in the Weekly Summary Discussions. Please come to the weekly discussion summary session on 13 February 2006 with what you believe best answers to the questions posed at the end of the case and three (3) suggestions of what Charles River Printing needs to do to get on the path to sustainable development. If you are a distance learning student and wish to contribute to this discussion, please e-mail your suggestions to a member of the teaching staff on Sunday, 12 February 2006. We are hoping to assign interested distance learners to a resident graduate student as quickly as possible. Your patience during the first few weeks is appreciated and we will make sure that your points are raised in the discussion summary.
This is another reminder about the book report. Make sure that you have ordered or already purchased the three (3) books that are named in the *Guide to Preparing the Book Report*. Please do not delay your reading of these books until near the deadline for submitting the book report on **Friday, 24 March 2006**. These books should enrich your knowledge of sustainable development at the local level. I am hoping that you will cite information from these books as you participate in the discussions of the case each week.

Once again, please feel free to contact any member of the teaching staff if you are having problems keeping up with the pace in this case method course. As stated before, we want this to be a pleasant experience for you. It is our experience that most students require a few weeks to get into the routine of the course. Please try not to fall behind! During you transition, and after, we will do whatever we can to help you get the most from this course.

**Optional Assignment**

Many students in the past four years have claimed that this course “changed their life!” You might be able to measure that change for yourself by taking a short quiz on the Internet that will measure your environmental footprint. [http://www.myfootprint.org/](http://www.myfootprint.org/) An average person in US has a footprint of 24 acres. However, there are only 4.6 productive acres per person on this earth. You can read the book that describes the footprint methodology in detail¹. The book by Jim Merkel² also addresses the concept of your environmental footprint. There is also much information on this technique on the Internet.

There is another calculator on the Internet that should calculate your global greenhouse gas emissions: [http://www.climatecare.org//Calculator/view.cfm?content_id=65308F5C-2E8B-45EE-A71FA755BF54424B&cachebuster=6AE9CA45-7D2C-4F0F-89230CD4DAB0586](http://www.climatecare.org//Calculator/view.cfm?content_id=65308F5C-2E8B-45EE-A71FA755BF54424B&cachebuster=6AE9CA45-7D2C-4F0F-89230CD4DAB0586) While this largely a global issue, the problem starts and ends at the local level! You will see that the City of Cambridge (Massachusetts, USA) has a

So have you charted your own journey to sustainable development? You can take both of these quizzes over again at the end of the course to see how far you have ventured!

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