

Acknowledgements

It has been a great pleasure and intellectual adventure compiling this book on how universities can better contribute to regenerative sustainable development, that is, social and technological transformation for improving both environmental conditions and human quality of life. I hope that this enriching and formative experience of working in such a diverse, open and highly motivated team can be shared at least to some extent with our readers. The diversity of our team spans disparate geographic, organizational and disciplinary cultures. Our group of case authors from four continents argues from diverse academic perspectives, such as architecture, engineering, human geography, organizational sociology and Science and Technology Studies (STS). Some authors are practising architects, managers or engineers, and others focus on research and education at universities. Each perspective frames the purpose of living laboratories as a long run experiment allowing the emergence of new technologies and social orders reducing anthropogenic energy and material fluxes in practice. Each chapter however conceives of knowledge-production processes, and the places and networks they are embedded in, in a different manner.

The common ground amongst our author team is that all are personally engaged in fostering transformation for sustainable development of campus, the university and society at large. All are members of the International Sustainable Campus Network (ISCN), which serves as a platform for exchange amongst universities on how to become more effective in this novel feat of promoting such transformation.

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Ariane König, Luxembourg, 28 January 2013