

We're Back!

By Brian Czech, Executive Director

Hi friends. Ready for some good news? CASSE is back on a roll again! Here are a few recent highlights, all occurring since November 2017:

- CASSE hired an executive director (yours truly).
- Joshua Farley (University of Vermont) and Christopher Robinson (Clarkson University) joined the [Board of Directors](#).
- We established an office in Arlington, VA, handily located near the Ballston Metro Stop.
- We hired a projects manager, Skyler Perkins (more on Skyler below).
- We overhauled and updated the [CASSE website](#).
- We launched our new blog, the [Steady State Herald](#).
- We re-engaged with social media and now have

Mission

The mission of CASSE is to advance the steady state economy, with stabilized population and consumption, as a policy goal with widespread public support.

We pursue this mission by:

- educating citizens on the conflict between economic growth and environmental protection, economic sustainability, national security, and international stability;
- promoting a steady state economy as a desirable alternative to economic growth, and;
- studying the means to establish a steady state economy.

3,500 [Twitter](#) followers. Our Facebook page has been “liked” by nearly 8,000 visitors.

As with many non-profits, we have more ideas than the time to carry them out. Life at CASSE is all about prioritizing based upon needs, events, and opportunities. That said, we have several major initiatives that won't slide far from the top of the list, and I'll mention just three:

- Amending the Full Employment Act to the Full and Sustainable Employment Act, which calls for the establishment of a steady state economy in the USA as well as steady statesmanship in international diplomacy. This will be the centerpiece of CASSE's policy reform work for years to come. It may take decades to get traction for the "Full Seas Act" on Capitol Hill.
- Producing a professional-grade, 10-minute film clip for the website, conferences, and classrooms. We are working with the award-winning film producer Steve Michelson to get this done, and filming will commence this fall.
- Developing a curriculum to imbue the K-12 public schools in the Washington, DC Metro Area with the principles of steady state economics. This is a pilot project for potential use in regional and national venues in collaboration with the New York-based Children's Environmental Literacy Foundation (CELf).

Meanwhile, now that you're duly inspired that CASSE is alive and well - and working on important initiatives - I'm asking you three quick favors:

1. If you haven't yet signed the CASSE position on economic growth, please [sign it now](#). You'll be in good company among our 13,000+ signatories, including many prominent figures in sustainability science, policy, and commentary.

2. Please [make a small donation](#). CASSE is a 501(c)(3), non-profit organization, so your donation is tax-deductible. We need a broad base of public support to maintain our 501(c)(3) status, so please, everybody do

their part.

3. Follow [CASSE on Twitter](#) and back us up with "likes" and re-tweets. (If you don't have a Twitter account, it's easy to establish one on any computer or smartphone.) Our handle is @steadystateecon. We are gaining traction in the dialog on sustainability, but we need your help to make a bigger difference.

Thank you in advance! And remember, CASSE is the only organization in the world focused explicitly on advancing the steady state economy. You are part of a unique, important movement.

Introductory Letter by Skyler Perkins, CASSE's New Project Manager

Greetings steady staters,

I'm happy to be here at CASSE headquarters. It turns out D.C. is very pleasant; it must be the eye of the storm. I arrived here at the beginning of June, after having lived most of my life in Vermont where I studied with the Gund Institute and the Department of Community Development and Applied Economics at the University of Vermont.

At UVM, my research focused on ecological economics, food systems, and climate change. For me, steady state economics was the most promising framework for integrating these issues. Needless to say, it's an honor to be working with CASSE.

My projects so far are focused on:

- Expanding our online presence
- Targeted outreach to partner organizations
- Producing film clips for the CASSE website

- Potential amendments to the Full Employment Act

- Developing a K-12 curriculum

One great thing about working with CASSE is that we have a very dedicated community. Almost every signatory requests to receive emails. Further, many of our signatories offer support in various forms. One of my top priorities is to develop our capacity to put your expertise, connections and skills to use in advancing the steady state economy. It's slow and steady yet now or never! So, whether it's helping us spread the word on Twitter, producing steady state outreach materials, connecting us to a new community, providing expertise or helping us launch a campaign, I thank you for your efforts and look forward to hearing from you!

Some Recent Events

Preventing Cascading Collapses: Charting the Path to a Steady State Economy. Keynote address by CASSE president Brian Czech at the American Renewable Energy Day Conference, Snowmass, Colorado, June 20, 2018.

Supply Shock: Economic Growth at the Crossroads and the Steady State Solution. Earth Week seminar by Brian Czech, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, April 20, 2018.

Limits to Growth: What Ecological Economics Teaches Us. CASSE chapter director Jim Carpenter at the 15th Annual Sustainability Summit, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, April 12, 2018.

Recognizing the Limits to Economic Growth. Invited lecture, CASSE chapter director Jim Carpenter, Lakeshore Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Manitowac, Wisconsin, March 25, 2018.

Soil and Food: Bits and "Bites" in the Original Information Economy. Brian Czech at the Earth 2100 Conference, Washington, DC, March 24, 2018.

What is an Ecologically Sustainable and Ethically Responsible Economy. CASSE chapter director Haydn Washington for the New Economy Network - Australia Webinar, March 22, 2018.

The Steady State Economy: Thoughts for the Greenaccord Network. Brian Czech at the Greenaccord Annual Conference, Florence, Italy, November 5, 2017.

Understanding Growth, De-Growth and Steady State Economics. CASSE chapter director Haydn Washington at the New Economy Conference, Brisbane, Australia, September 2017.

To keep up-to-date, be sure to regularly check out our [Calendar of Events](#).

CASSE Chapter Updates

Newest Local Chapter



Los Angeles Chapter. Director: Forrest Woolman

Forrest Woolman became an advocate for the steady state economy after reading *Supply Shock* in 2014. He teaches accounting and business management through MBO Partners, Inc., and infuses these courses with big-picture thinking about sustainability, including the need for a steady state economy. He has a Bachelor of Arts degree in history and political science from UCLA and a Master's Degree in sustainability from the University of Saint Francis. Forrest likes to travel and camp with his wife, hike with his dog, and play drums, bass, piano and flute.

Publications

CASSE chapter directors authored or edited at least two notable publications recently:

Tormod Burkey, Norway Chapter Director, authored *Ethics for a Full World: Or Can Animal Lovers Save the Planet?* (Clairview Books, 2017).

Haydn Washington, New South Wales Chapter Director, edited *Positive Steps to a Steady State Economy* (CASSE NSW, 2018).

Chief Economist

James Magnus-Johnston was designated CASSE's Chief Economist on November 15, 2017. James is the Director of the Centre for Resilience at Canadian Mennonite University, where he teaches ecological economics and social entrepreneurship. He is also a board director with Assiniboine Credit Union, one of the largest independent financial cooperatives in Canada. James previously worked in the financial industry, in policy positions with lawmakers, and in the communications industry. He has a Master of Philosophy in Economics from Cambridge University, where he conducted research on the growth dynamics imposed by the global banking system.

Position Statement

Head Count

We've reached another milestone with over **13,000** individual signatures. Help us keep the list growing by adding [your](#) and/or your [organization's](#) signature, and ask others to sign!

New Notable Signatories

Lester Brown - founder of Worldwatch Institute and Earth Policy Institute; recipient of 25 honorary degrees; member of Earth Hall of Fame.

Kate Raworth - University of Oxford; author of *Donut Economics*.

Vance Martin - President, WILD Foundation; Bob Marshall Award winner.

Donate to CASSE

CASSE relies on contributions from friends like you. [Individual donations](#) are essential for our general administrative costs (which we keep as low as possible). Help keep the lights on and the website up, so we can continue to provide you and others with information and tools to transform the growth economy into a steady state. Check with your employer about a matching gifts program, too; we've gotten at least one matching gift from a highly unlikely source!

Until the next *Steady Stater*,



Brian Czech, Executive Director



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