



# CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

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Friday, February 22, 2019 | SSC 122

**Members Present:** Chastain, Clyde, Connors, Daley, Goodsell, Guzzi, Johnson, Larson, Matiasek, Millard, Sherman, Sistrunk, Teves.

**Members Absent:** Crosswhite, Hanson, Miller, Ruiz, Souders.

**Others Present:** Chicoine, Kitchell, O'Leary, Rodriguez, Trujillo, Whiteley.

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## MEETING MINUTES

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1. Agenda approved.
2. Minutes approved.
3. Announcements

### Update on 2019 Higher Education Climate Leadership Summit (Chastain):

- Cheri and the President attended this summit put on by Second Nature and it was a great opportunity to better understand the commitment we've made. Overall impression is that it was a really powerful conference; attendance was primarily split between President and VP level individuals along with program management/director level peers. Impressed with the candid level of conversation during sessions and networking. There was a large call to action as representatives that we need to do a better job of educating our students on social issues and climate issues, ensuring that students from every discipline are leaving with a higher level of knowledge of climate change.

➤ **Attachment A:** Second Nature Call to Action for Higher Education Leadership 2-6-19

- The St. Louis Regional Emissions Reduction Commitment could be a good model for Chico State. 21 organizations from the St. Louis, MO area have signed this commitment to reduce emissions 28% below 2005 levels by 2025 and 80% by 2050. The St. Louis region has similarities to the north state / Butte County region (agriculture heavy economy and historically conservative stakeholders) and we may benefit from taking a similar approach.

➤ **Attachment B:** St. Louis Regional Emissions Reduction Agreement

### This Way to Sustainability Conference (Daley):

- The March 28-29, 2019 conference is on schedule and the [website](#) for registration is live. The program has been posted and a PDF and poster will be released soon. Nate and Mark have been involved in getting faculty engaged and students are planning a "get out and vote" strategy to invite students to attend. The planning stage is done and now the focus will be on getting people registered for the event. Please send feedback or suggestions to Cindy if you have them.

#### 4. Review feedback from open forums

- Based on the open forums held in Colusa on January 24<sup>th</sup> and February 5<sup>th</sup>, a list was created of the themes and topics most often discussed by attendees.

➤ **Attachment C: Sustainability Themes**

- An [Orion article](#) was also published about the forums. Provost Larson made a clarification regarding the Institute for Sustainable Development and budget impacts from last year's change. While there was roughly 10-15% saved, the bulk of those funds have already been dispersed to FMS and to the This Way to Sustainability Conference as these are a more viable way of being able to re-energize campus efforts for sustainability.

#### 5. Prioritize committee work plan for Spring 2019

- **A review of the [STARS report](#)** will be done in order to see where there are areas for improvement that we can focus on. Then we will tie those in with themes from the forums and determine how to engage students. Whiteley to present summary of the report to the committee at the next meeting.
- **Updating EM 11-017:** Sistrunk, Teves and Goodsell to review before next meeting and present a draft for updated version.
- **Student involvement:** Collectively the group agreed that there is a need to inventory what students groups are doing on campus and whether there is duplication of efforts. Chastain and Teves have done some inventory already and will share with the group. AS student representatives Patrick O'Leary and Nicholas Chicoine voiced wanting to offer more events related to sustainability that students can participate in without having joined a club (examples: Arbor Day tree planning, south campus trash clean up). Clyde discussed event allocation fund and sustainability fund and marketing these to students to generate more interest.
- **Alternative transportation:** Students from the Green Machine club have been working on several projects including collecting data for a bike rack and parking utilization study (Chastain). This dovetails on a transportation demand study completed in 2009 to assess parking passes and having restrictions on providing passes to those who live within a close radius of campus. (Guzzi). At the next meeting, Chastain and the students from Green Machine will provide a summary of the projects and any updates.
- Guzzi will share with the group the biannual report from [Cal Poly's campus biennial sustainability report](#). We may want to create a similar report which highlights our best practices and accomplishments in sustainability. FMS is committed to creating an hour brief each year at the This Way to Sustainability Conference as a way to provide a "report card" to the community and to be held accountable for commitments made for that year.
- **Education:** Millard noted that we need a good tool for measuring whether students have received the sustainability education we want them to when they leave Chico State.
- **Solar:** RFP is in the final contracting stage. Guzzi will give an update at the April meeting. The Center for Water and the Environment has a Northern California Solar Energy Research Initiative. Chico State will be involved as the data collector and will provide intellectual/analytical capabilities to the project.

6. Next meetings: March 1<sup>st</sup> (next Friday), April 5<sup>th</sup>, May 3<sup>rd</sup>

7. Adjourn

# Call to Action for Higher Education Leadership

## Guiding Principles for Accelerating Equitable and Just Climate Solutions

We, the undersigned leaders of colleges and universities, believe firmly in the power, potential, and imperative of higher education to shape the future of society. Not only are we deeply concerned about the increasing pace and intensity of global climate change and the potential for unprecedented detrimental impacts, we also believe that we can help advance necessary and just climate solutions through the strengths of our institutions.

For decades, leaders of colleges and universities across the United States and the globe have been taking climate action seriously. We have made long-standing commitments to decarbonize our operations, improve the resilience of our campuses and communities, and invest in climate solutions. Many of our institutions produce cutting edge climate science and solutions research that yields breakthrough technologies and deepen our understanding of climate solutions across the vast range of relevant disciplines. We have increasingly come to recognize the financial impact of climate risks in our endowment investment portfolios and the prudent opportunities to invest in climate solutions that responsibly steward the capital in our care and align with the mission of our institutions.

The best available science continues to demonstrate that these actions are not only necessary, but may be insufficient, creating greater urgency to innovate, scale, and accelerate progress. Collective actions that create transformative solutions are critically important. We, as higher education institutional leaders, share a commitment to act on this obligation. Additionally, climate change risks and impacts are unevenly distributed and put the greatest burden on marginalized and vulnerable populations. That is why climate solutions must be equitable, inclusive and serve the diverse array of voices and experiences that exist in society.

Therefore, we call on our colleagues in higher education around the world to lead by example and to catalyze cross-sector climate action with cities, states, countries, businesses, and other stakeholders with the following Guiding Principles:

- 1. Consistent with our sector's mission, expand educational opportunities for future generations of climate leaders with new academic majors, co-curricular programs, and community engagement.*
- 2. Review and refine our climate action plans to ensure our goals are consistent with benchmarks established by the best available science, reflect the urgency of the challenge, and emphasize inclusivity and equity. Mobilize institutional resources to invest in transformative climate solutions, demonstrate what is possible, and stimulate widespread market adoption.*
- 3. Leverage our role as anchor institutions and engaged members of our communities to drive solutions that serve all, especially those who are disproportionately impacted by the effects of climate change.*
- 4. Account for the full, long-term costs of our institutional activities, including those that negatively impact people and the planet, and strive to measure, internalize, and avoid these costs to the greatest extent possible.*

# Call to Action for Higher Education Leadership

## Guiding Principles for Accelerating Equitable and Just Climate Solutions

*5. Create applied research and/or educational initiatives that support our public sector's climate goals and explore enhancement opportunities that support the development of vibrant communities, economic prosperity, and social equity.*

*6. Host and participate in cross-sector climate activities that facilitate open exchanges of ideas and foster civil dialogue while striving to ensure all members of the community are represented.*

*7. Advocate for climate policies that support equitable and just climate solutions, consider climate impacts in the institution's goals at all levels of decision-making, and lend support to other leaders who are advocating for shared outcomes.*

*8. Consider ways to align endowment investments with scenarios for meeting science-based climate goals and transitioning to low-carbon economy by reducing climate risk in the portfolio, investing in inclusive climate solutions, and engaging with companies and the finance sector to accelerate equitable climate actions.*

In conclusion, we have taken action, but we resolve to do more. We believe leveraging all of our strengths as higher education institutions is critical to making this happen. We will help lead the nation in these efforts, and we urge other higher education leaders to join us in moving society towards a more sustainable, healthy, and prosperous future.

Sincerely,

F. Javier Cevallos, President, Framingham State University

Clifford Coppersmith, President, Chesapeake College

Michael Crow, President, Arizona State University

David Finegold, President, Chatham University

Dianne F. Harrison, President, California State University Northridge

Susan Herbst, President, University of Connecticut

Gayle Hutchinson, President, California State University, Chico

Robert Johnson, Chancellor, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth

Kurt Landgraf, President, Washington College

Dorothy Leland, Chancellor, University of California, Merced

Linda Lujan, President, Lamar Community College

Scott D. Miller, President, Virginia Wesleyan University

Mark Mitsui, President, Portland Community College

Stephen Mulkey, Faculty at University of Florida, and President Emeritus Unity College

Janet Napolitano, President University of California

Elsa Núñez, President, Eastern Connecticut State University

Laurie Patton, President, Middlebury College

Robert Robbins, President, University of Arizona

Mariko Silver, President, Bennington College

Timothy P. White, Chancellor, California State University

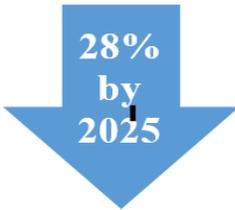
Wim Wiewel, President, Lewis & Clark College

List as of 2/6/19

**To join these leaders and sign your name please visit [www.secondnature.org/calltoaction](http://www.secondnature.org/calltoaction)**

## ST. LOUIS REGIONAL EMISSIONS REDUCTION COMMITMENT

*A St. Louis Regional Partnership to Strengthen the Economy,  
Improve Public Health, and Advance Climate Action*



Reduce emissions 28%  
below 2005 levels by 2025



Reduce emissions 80%  
below 2005 levels by 2050

We have come together as a partnership of St. Louis regional businesses, governments, institutions, and organizations to affirm the importance of the greenhouse gas reduction targets in the Paris Agreement and to commit to local action to address climate change.

Efforts to mitigate climate change will lead to tangible economic benefits to the St. Louis region. Due to advancements in energy efficiency and renewable energy, many greenhouse gas emission reduction strategies already lead to rapid payback periods and significant long-term savings. Investments in emissions reduction will result in job creation in existing green tech industries and the creation of a green innovation community of entrepreneurs developing new technologies, services, and products in our region. Increasingly, large companies are choosing expansion locations based on their ability to access clean energy as well as the livability and sustainability of the communities. Leading on climate mitigation is a critical strategy to keep the St. Louis region competitive.

Perhaps most importantly, successful emissions reduction will improve public health and quality of life for residents in our region. Cleaner air, water, and soil, are strongly linked to lower asthma rates, improved educational attainment, improved productivity, and lower absenteeism.

As we begin to see impacts of a changing climate in the St. Louis region, we realize that failing to reduce greenhouse gas emissions will harm our communities, result in significant costs to adapt to a changing climate, and exacerbate existing racial and socio-economic disparities. Climate change is already resulting in more severe weather events such as flooding, heat waves, and droughts which imperil lives, slow the economy, and damage homes, businesses, and infrastructure. Such events disproportionately impact the most vulnerable members of our community, including the elderly, sick, young, and the poor.



Adopting and achieving a St. Louis regional greenhouse gas reduction target will require leadership from all sectors of our economy. Due to the varying degree of current emissions reduction efforts in the region, OneSTL and its partners will provide ongoing peer-to-peer learning, technical assistance, and coaching opportunities to meet the targets outlined below.

We, the undersigned, endorse the establishment of St. Louis regional greenhouse gas reduction targets of 28% reduction below 2005 levels by 2025 and 80% reduction below 2005 levels by 2050. We recognize that achievement of these goals will require actions from and collaboration between all sectors and all communities in our region. To that end, we will:

- Adopt, publish, and begin efforts to achieve specific greenhouse gas reduction targets for our own institutions, businesses, governments, and organizations that contribute to the regional goal within one year of signing this letter. While some St. Louis regional entities have already made major commitments to reduce their emissions that far exceed the regional goal, we recognize that many other entities are only initiating their efforts.
- Support collaboration, best-practice sharing, and peer-learning by identifying a point person(s) within each of our institutions, businesses, governments, and organizations to lead internal greenhouse gas reduction efforts and to partner with others throughout the St. Louis region towards the realization of the regional GHG reduction goal.
- Invite and encourage our peers in business, government, institutions, and organizations to join the St. Louis regional effort and the global effort to address climate change, improve public health, and grow the green economy by signing on to this commitment.

Interdisciplinary efforts • Climate change

Student voices • Faculty involvement

Parking / Parking passes / Incentives

Recycling

Sustainability Major

Freshman orientation

Food waste

Bikes / Bike lanes / Bike parking/ Bike resources

Transportation / Alternative Transportation

Solar

Culture / Culture change

Curriculum

Clubs

Water  
Energy  
Heat  
Buses  
Transparency  
Research  
Lighting  
Gardens/ Edible Landscaping  
Fire/ Camp Fire

Extra credit  
Resilient Cities Initiative  
ISD  
Internship  
Habits  
Composting  
Community  
College involvement  
Accountability  
Plastic bottles

Carpooling  
Fun Events / Competitions  
RTP  
Research  
Communication  
Program scheduling times  
“Sustainability 101” course  
Think Tanks, Campus as living lab  
Homelessness  
Permaculture