



AMERICAN COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY  
PRESIDENTS CLIMATE COMMITMENT



The fight against global warming will shape the 21st century.

# The American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment

*The Ins and Outs of the ACUPCC*

Larry Eisenberg

Member

ACUPCC Technical Advisory Committee



## The Challenge



- Over-reliance on fossil fuels
- Threat to human progress
- Halt growth of global warming pollution
- Must slash GHG emissions by 80%
- Transformation of economy, institutions & daily lives
- Vision & leadership of higher education



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*Reversing global warming  
is a defining challenge  
of the 21st century!*



## The Initiative

- Led by presidents & chancellors
- High-visibility
- Joint action to leverage change
- Action plan for climate neutrality
- Research & education
- Develop societal capacity



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# US Higher Education



- Nearly 4100 Colleges and Universities
- Nearly 15 million students
- Annual expenditures nearly \$300 billion





## Critical Role of Higher Education



- Educational, research & public service missions
- Shaping tomorrow's leaders
- Faculty, staff & student involvement
- Role models
- Research, action & demonstration projects
- Catalyze investment & develop new markets



## Critical Role of Higher Education



- Demand for renewable energy
- Job creation
- Support green industries
- Innovative financing models
- Local communities engagement
- Living labs
- Incentives (scholarships, fellowships)



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## ACUPCC Signatories To Date



- 514 Colleges and Universities
- As Of April 6, 2008





## Latest ACUPCC Signatories



- Johnson County Community College  
Terry A. Calaway, *President*
- Seattle Pacific University  
Philip W. Eaton, *President*
- Gainesville State College  
Martha T. Nesbitt, *President*
- University of Connecticut  
Michael J. Hogan, *President*
- Tulane University (LA)  
Scott Cowen, *President*
- Vermilion Community College (MN)  
Joe Sertich, *President*



## ACUPCC – 5 Goals



- 1) Greenhouse gas inventory
- 2) Become climate neutral
- 3) Reduce greenhouse gas
- 4) Sustainability curriculum
- 5) Action plan public



## ACUPCC Commitment



- 1. Initiate the development of a comprehensive plan to achieve climate neutrality as soon as possible.
- a. Within two months of signing this document, create institutional structures to guide the development and implementation of the plan.



## Greenhouse Gas Inventory



- b. Within one year of signing this document, complete a comprehensive inventory of all greenhouse gas emissions (including emissions from electricity, heating, commuting, and air travel) and update the inventory every other year thereafter.
- **Handout – ACUPCC Greenhouse Gas Inventory Brief**



## Action Plan



- c. Within two years of signing this document, develop an institutional action plan for becoming climate neutral, which will include:



## Action Plan Steps



- i. A target date for achieving climate neutrality as soon as possible.
- ii. Interim targets for goals and actions that will lead to climate neutrality
- iii. Actions to make climate neutrality and sustainability a part of the curriculum and other educational experience for all students.
- iv. Actions to expand research or other efforts necessary to achieve climate neutrality.
- v. Mechanisms for tracking progress on goals and actions.





## Tangible Actions



- 2. Initiate two or more of the following tangible actions to reduce greenhouse gases while the more comprehensive plan is being developed.
  - a. Establish a policy that all new campus construction will be built to at least the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED Silver standard or equivalent.
  - b. Adopt an energy-efficient appliance purchasing policy requiring purchase of ENERGY STAR certified products in all areas for which such ratings exist.



## Tangible Actions



- c. Establish a policy of offsetting all greenhouse gas emissions generated by air travel paid for by our institution.
- d. Encourage use of and provide access to public transportation for all faculty, staff, students and visitors at our institution.
- e. Within one year of signing this document, begin purchasing or producing at least 15% of our institution's electricity consumption from renewable sources.



## Tangible Actions



- f. Establish a policy or a committee that supports climate and sustainability shareholder proposals at companies where our institution's endowment is invested.
- g. Participate in the Waste Minimization component of the national RecycleMania competition, and adopt 3 or more associated measures to reduce waste.

## Action plan public



- 3. Make the action plan, inventory, and periodic progress reports publicly available by providing them to the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) for posting and dissemination.



## Benefits & Opportunities



- Invite stakeholders into meaningful purpose
- Public-private partnerships
- Fulfill missions
- Lead technology race
- Operate more efficiently
- Stay ahead of regulatory curve



# The Commitment



First 2  
Months

Within  
1 Year

Within  
2 Years



Create institutional  
structures

Complete  
inventory of  
emissions

Develop institutional action  
plan & initiate two of seven  
suggested actions





## Climate Leadership in Action



- Energy independence at U Wisconsin
- Sustainability policies at U of California & California State
- LACCD green buildings
- U Oklahoma, Minnesota & Michigan State joined CCX
- Harvard's Green Loan fund
- U of Colorado-Boulder wind turbine



## Testimonials

*“Global warming is a defining issue of the 21st century, and higher education must be a leader in addressing global climate change through research, education, and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.”*



Amy Gutmann  
President, University of Pennsylvania  
ACUPCC Leadership Circle Member



## Testimonials

*“More than ever, universities must take leadership roles to address the grand challenges of the twenty-first century, and climate change is paramount among these.”*



Michael M. Crow  
President, Arizona State University  
ACUPCC Leadership Circle Member

## Testimonials



*“We are in the middle of one of those rare moments when the right thing to do it also the economically smart thing to do.”*

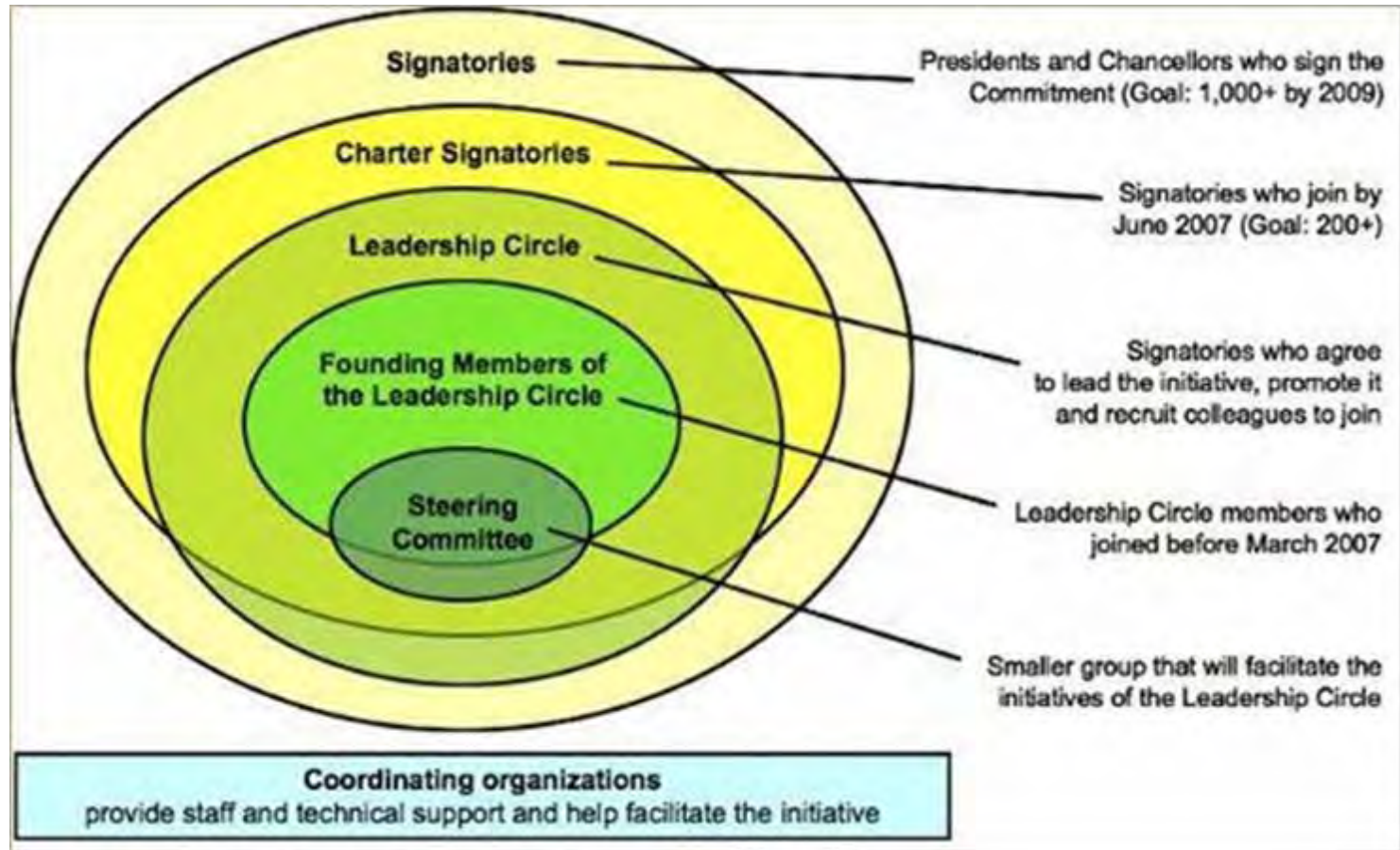


Kathleen Schatzberg  
President, Cape Cod Community College  
ACUPCC Leadership Circle Member





# Organization





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## ACUPCC & Clinton Climate Initiative



- Joint Effort on Energy Conservation / Demand Management
- Energy Performance Contracts
- Pilot Program - Replicable
- Tool Kit Available Soon





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## Clinton Climate Initiative



- 1. Energy Service Company Signatories
- 2. Bulk Purchasing Opportunity
- 3. Readily Available Financing



## Energy Service Company Signatories



- Ameresco
- Chevron
- Honeywell
- Johnson Controls
- Noresco
- Siemens
- TAC / Schneider
- Trane
- Others in Future



## Bulk Purchasing Product Suppliers



- Lighting
  - Sylvania
  - Cooper
  - Acuity
  - Lemnis
  - GE Lighting
- Window Films
  - 3M
  - Bekaert
- Roofing/Insulation
  - BASF
  - Tremco
- HVAC Optimization
  - Optimum Energy
- Future Participants



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## CCI Financial Partners



- Citi
- Deutsche Bank
- Hannon Armstrong
- JP Morgan Chase
- UBS



# Energy Performance Contract



- Investment – Grade Energy Audit
- Identify retrofit opportunities for all energy consuming elements for maximum efficiency (lights, fans, motors, pumps, etc.)
- Install conservation features in all buildings
  - Insulation, Low-E Glass
  - White Roof, Green Roof
- State of the art and new technologies
  - Occupancy Sensors, Metering / Monitoring Systems



# Performance Contract Financing



- Design – Installation – Financing By Private Sector
- 25 year payback maximum
- Uses Private Sector Funding
- Guaranteed Payback within existing utility charges
- Incentive Funds Available from
  - Public Utilities
  - Federal Government
  - Municipal Programs





## Performance Contract Arithmetic



- |  |               |
|--|---------------|
| • Electric / Gas Bill Before Energy Measures- Annual | • \$1,000,000 |
| • Electric / Gas Bill After Energy Measures - Annual | • \$ 800,000  |
|  | <hr/>         |
| • Difference (Amount Available for Payback) - Annual | \$ 200,000    |



## Financial Agreement Features



- No institutional Funding Required
- 10-20% Immediate \$ Savings
- Buyout of Agreement Possible
  - Use Capital Funds
- ACUPCC Toolkit
  - Standard Documents Available
  - RFP and Contracts on CD



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## Upcoming ACUPCC Initiative



- US Conference of Mayors
  - Explore relationship between colleges and universities and their host community



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## Co-Organizer Contact Information



Anthony D. Cortese

Second Nature

617.224.1611

[acortese@secondnature.org](mailto:acortese@secondnature.org)

Judy Walton

AASHE

859.258.2551

[judy@aashe.org](mailto:judy@aashe.org)

Lee Bodner

ecoAmerica

301.379.4200

[lee@ecoamerica.net](mailto:lee@ecoamerica.net)

[www.presidentsclimatecommitment.org](http://www.presidentsclimatecommitment.org)