

**University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
James C. Moeser**

As one of the original signatories of the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment, I am excited about our progress in the fight against global warming here at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In 2007, five LEED buildings were under design or construction on the campus, three of which aspire to achieve platinum, the highest level of certification available. Our award-winning [co-generation facility](#) produces one-fourth of the electricity and all of the steam used on campus. At the same time, we are pursuing renewable energy sources. We unveiled our first solar-powered hot-water system when the renovated Morrison Residence Hall reopened in August. Funds from a renewable energy fee UNC students levied on themselves helped pay for the system, as well as a year of biodiesel fuel use in a campus bus system and new geothermal wells. A new ethanol fuel pump at our garage will reduce petroleum consumption.



Our accomplishments in sustainability continue into the new year, as we assess where we stand and where we need to go. By the end of January 2008, we will have replaced all incandescent light bulbs on campus with more efficient compact fluorescent bulbs. Our new greenhouse gas emissions specialist started work in early January. A team of students in our Institute for the Environment is calculating the greenhouse gas emissions associated with

our air travel. A consultant will help us incorporate renewable fuels in our central utilities and use renewable energy technologies in more capital projects.

Carolina is committed to reducing its carbon footprint even more as we plan a new mixed-use academic campus two miles away, called Carolina North. Guided by our own planners and consultants and robust feedback from the local community, we will make Carolina North a model of sustainability, adopting energy and resource conservation in all its aspects, including building standards and choice of technologies.

As the nation's first public university, we have a responsibility to lead in sustainability issues as well.