



Over 400 college and university Presidents are standing with us for a climate neutral future...

Is yours one of them?

We know that global warming is the defining challenge and opportunity of our generation. We also know that changing light-bulbs and watching films is no longer up to the task of solving it. We need bold and comprehensive institutional change that can achieve real emissions reductions and set a powerful example for the rest of society.

The ACUPCC is a presidential and institutional commitment to create a plan, including timelines and milestones, to reduce and ultimately neutralize greenhouse gas emissions on campus. In keeping with the tradition of academic leadership, the presidents who have already signed are joining the first collective effort by any major sector of society to set a long-term goal of *climate neutrality* – not just a reduction in emissions.

This initiative is a way to ensure that *real change* happens on campus, with public plans to hold college presidents accountable and a way to call on other sectors of society to step up. If you are serious about the Challenge, getting your President or Chancellor to sign the ACUPCC is the campaign goal to set, not only for real campus change but also for building momentum for broader institutional change and a successful climate movement.

Why the ACUPCC?

- It provides the cohesive, **collective action** that is needed to take our movement to scale beyond the excellent but disconnected work being done by individual campuses
- It will accelerate the building of the clean energy economy through knowledge sharing, the development of common standards and best practices, and collective buying power
- It will produce real results, including the implementation of 2 tangible actions right away, the completion an inventory within a year and a long-term plan within 2 years, and ongoing public reporting to ensure follow-through
- It is flexible and compliments and strengthens current climate initiatives on any campus by providing an effective vehicle to engage at the national level, avoid reinventing the wheel, and catalyze efforts - whether your school is just starting or has been at it for years

Why You Have the Power:

- Surveys show that college presidents say that students are the number one influencers of their decision of whether or not to sign the ACUPCC and commit to climate neutrality

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Wait, what exactly is the American College and University President's Climate Commitment?

The ACUPCC provides a framework and support for America's colleges and universities to go climate neutral. Presidents signing the Commitment are pledging to eliminate their campuses' greenhouse gas emissions over time. This involves:

- Completing an emissions inventory
- Within two years, setting a target date and interim milestones for becoming climate neutral
- Taking immediate steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by choosing from a list of short-term actions
- Integrating sustainability into the curriculum and making it part of the educational experience
- Making the action plan, inventory and progress reports publicly available

We invite you to visit our website to learn more about the initiative, and see how many colleges and universities are already reaping these benefits.

We also have a new student power section to the site which shares sample letters to presidents, press releases, and event plans to help you with your organizing efforts. Check it out at www.presidentclimatecommitment.org/studentpower



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The ACUPCC is an initiative of college and university presidents, and is staffed and supported by Second Nature, the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), and ecoAmerica. We welcome your inquiries, input and support.



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