



**PRESIDENT'S  
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY**

Agenda  
September 11<sup>th</sup>, 1:00-2:30 pm  
**Virtual**

1. Intro for Presidential Fellows
  - a. Heather Reimer - The Presidential Fellows program is in its third year. The Fellows program is a professional development opportunity designed to help participants strengthen their leadership skills, enhance their understanding of higher education, and gain experience that will benefit them in their current and future positions. Some special projects this year include thematic year, climate, budget model, and professional development.
  - b. The Fellows attending today's meeting introduced themselves and PSC members also did a quick introduction.
2. What is the President's Sustainability Commission?
  - a. The PSC reports directly to the president and promotes and facilitates integration of sustainability across the university. We encompass an economic, social, and environmental sustainability approach. Colleges, divisions, student leadership orgs, and governance groups are all represented on PSC. Some projects include the CSU Greenhouse Gas Inventory, STARS report, CSU Sustainability Fund, strategic planning and goal-setting, support for student projects, and hosting visitors to CSU.
3. Update on PSC Intern
  - a. Jackie Carrillo is our new PSC Intern; she has some field experience in conservation and is passionate about sustainability. She is a second-year student excited to pursue a minor in sustainability. She is excited for the opportunity to work with PSC!
4. Update on launch of Sustainability Fund and EV Incentive
  - a. The CSU Fund has officially launched and the additional funding for greening the fleet is also live and ready to go. Mark in MarComm is working on a SOURCE story.
  - b. The fund is the same process as in the past. Faculty, staff, and students can submit a proposal. An info session will be offered every week to help with submissions and answer any questions. Mary and Stacey will trade off on these info sessions.
  - c. Past projects include replacing turf with pollinator-friendly plants, EV charger at the mountain campus, and mattress topper recycling.
  - d. \$25K is available and funds have to be used by the end of the fiscal year for the sustainability fund.
  - e. The new EV Incentive fund will have \$75K available to go towards a retirement incentive for ICE vehicles (\$2K per vehicle) and a purchase incentive for electric vehicles (\$5K).
  - f. Each department is eligible for up to three incentives on a first come, first served basis.
  - g. We hope to demonstrate impact with this funding so the program can continue in future fiscal years.

- h. Visit here to submit for the CSU Sustainability Fund or the EV Incentive Fund:  
<https://green.colostate.edu/csu-sustainability-fund/#tab1>

5. Renewable Energy Delegation from India

- a. Representatives from the Indian Government and US Trade and Development Agency hope to visit CSU and are very interested in renewable energy and purchasing requirements. We will be one of the few universities they visit. Tentative dates are set for either November 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> for their visit. We are hoping to arrange a meeting with a rep from the President's Office to assist with their visit and set up some meetings and tours for them including the geo-exchange system and solar arrays. Tonie will reach out with more information as it is solidified.

6. President Parsons attending October meeting

- a. We will be meeting with President Parsons in LSC Room 372-74 for the October 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting
- b. This will only be an in-person only meeting
- c. We will have 30 minutes with President Parsons
- d. If you have any subcommittee updates please send to Tonie or Carol to include
- e. Our focus will be to highlight some recent achievements and areas where we need to focus and improve

7. Greenhouse Gas Inventory - 10 minutes

- a. Carol and Stacey are still in the process of collecting some additional data. There is only a little bit left to plug in to run the calculations. No preliminary numbers yet, they need the emissions factor from Platte River Authority to apply to our electricity. Next month they will have some numbers to share. Fun fact – Amy Parsons was actually the one to approve the creation of our first climate action plan and launch the precursor to the President's Sustainability Commission!

8. Air Travel Offset Fee Update

- a. 18 months ago, a working group looked at our GHG emissions and flights have been something that need to be offset for the zero emissions goals. The travel offset fee applies to every plane ticket purchased through the university.
- b. Starting in February 2022 offsets were collected. \$10 on domestic flights and \$15 on international flights. These dollars are collected into a fund to go towards carbon reduction projects on campus. By June 2022, we collected \$23K and decided to do a project at Johnson Hall first floor to do a lighting retrofit/upgrade. The lighting project was priced at \$75K so some funds from the energy reserve fund will also be applied.
- c. This project will reduce energy consumption of this space by 60% when it is completed
- d. Follow-up SOURCE story to come.
- e. What projects can the fee go towards? The fee could go towards any carbon-reducing project on campus but right now there is a lot of lighting retrofit needs, so Stacey thinks in the near term that it might go towards more of those projects.

9. Member Updates

- a. Kirstie - Agendas will now be linked to the calendar invites from our PSC Microsoft Teams group. Minutes will still be emailed out and posted on green.colostate.edu. Kirstie will make sure everyone has access to the Microsoft Teams Channel but please reach out if you don't have access. As a reminder, anyone can post announcements and questions to the PSC Teams Channel!

- b. Tonie - Every Fall the sustainability ranking comes out including Princeton Review and the Sustainable Campus Index. For the Sustainable Campus Index, we were ranked in the top 10 in multiple categories based off our STARS report from January, including #1(tie) for curriculum, #3(tie) for research, #4 overall among doctoral institutions. SOURCE story to come out soon to highlight all the areas we were ranked in. No one does this commission full time, but when we put our resources together, we do amazing work! Congratulations everyone.
- c. Tonie – Wanted to give a shout out to two groups. The Growing Food Security Project did seed planting this spring at ARDEC and is now harvesting thousands of pounds of fresh produce for the on-campus food pantry. 9,000 pounds and counting! Also, shoutout to ASCSU for the Grill the Buffs event, they want to participate in Ram Food Recovery after the event ends if there are any leftovers.
- d. Haydyn - Bike to school next Wednesday to encourage students, faculty, and staff to bike with free breakfast and music, partnering with Alternative Transportation Services.
- e. Heather - The spoke rented over 120 bikes to students this year! They all went out during move in and within the first week of classes.
- f. Lynsey- The energy institute is preparing for NSF regional visits. <https://source.colostate.edu/co-wy-engine-named-finalist-for-nsf-regional-innovation-engines-program/>. Looking forward to hosting that group and are currently one of the finalists for the program.
- g. Stacey – Wanted to mention the Green Labs Program which incorporates sustainability best practices into the lab space. Looking for a lab in the Walter Scott Engineering and Natural Sciences to complete the green labs registration. Please reach out to Stacey if you know of any labs who are interested in participating!
- h. Brian Dunbar- Energy Institute is helping the Foothills Mall redevelopment. They want the new development to be LEED for neighborhood development. Are there CSU programs that would like office space at the Foothills Redevelopment? To have LEED certification they need better alternative transportation and are working with the City of Fort Collins and CSU to see if they can make better connections including for the CSU community. Mary – would recommend more EV chargers and chargers for scooters and other electric things.
- i. Mary – Is still looking for folks who would like to sit on the Sustainability Fund Committee. It isn't too much of a time commitment, only some time to review applications and meet a few times during the academic year. Please reach out directly to her if you are interested!
- j. Tonie – The Gear Swap is happening on October 13<sup>th</sup> during the Festival on the Oval. She will start to collect items this week in 201 Admin to collect some items to open the booth. All are welcome to bring items to the booth in person during the event but was hoping to have a good pile of materials to start with. SOURCE article to come.