Climate Action Plan Review: November 2017

Reduction Goals:

- Minimize energy consumption of campus buildings
- Maximize onsite and offsite renewable energy production
- Minimize emissions of vehicles owned or operated by the college
- Minimize emissions from paid campus travel
- Minimize emissions associated with goods and services purchased by the College.
- Minimize landfill-bound waste from the College by diverting as much as possible through reduction, reuse, recycling, and composting.
- Integrate climate action and learning together to create positive behavior change that reduces emissions among students, staff, and faculty alike, as well as campus visitors.
- Become a beacon of sustainability and climate action in the region.

Operations:	**Goal: Minimize energy consumption**	
Immediate	Standardize building efficiency measures for new construction and retrofits, including the adoption of resource conservation technologies such as LED lighting, daylight harvesting, low-flow faucets, dual-flush toilets, etc. As recommended by PAE, this proposal would cost an estimated $43 million by 2050.	In-progress: Campus has not developed a standard. Some adoption during life cycle process and new construction
	Universal heating and cooling set point	Completed
Short Term	Install utility sub-metering and building dashboard systems on residence halls	In-Progress: Install completed in Jewett Hall 2016 will be installed in new residence hall 2018
Long Term	Install utility sub-meter and building dashboard systems on all major buildings	In-Progress: Installed in Olin Hall 2016
	Goal: Maximize onsite and offsite renewable energy production	
Immediate	Purchase RECs to offset 100% of renewable energy and 100% of natural gas use.	In-Progress: We currently offset 100% of electricity and close to 20% of natural gas use. We are on track to offset 100% of natural gas by 2020
Short Term	Pursue engineering studies for campus solar productivity no later than 2020. PAE's proposed solar power plan for campus would cost $9 million prior to incentives.	Minimal Progress: Installation of 116kW on Living at Whitman project. No engineering assessment.
	Install Solar thermal collectors on campus buildings to augment heat and hot water.	No primary buildings have solar thermal. Best candidate would be pool.

Long Term	Continue to explore wind and solar production on campus farms	Some exploration no active talks.
Long Term (continued)	Develop strategies for continuously funding renewable energy projects on campus.	Active funding mechanism not yet developed.
	Based on engineering studies of campus solar productivity, establish a goal for percentage of power from solar or total solar nameplate capacity	Not yet developed. Projection is around 2mW of capacity available.
Transportation	**Goal: Minimize vehicle-miles travelled to campus during commutes.**	
Immediate	Continue to support the revitalized Bike Share program run by the Office of Sustainability.	Budget insecurity is a threat to the program. The Bike Share submitted its first budget request this year for FY19. Currently operating with a severe deficit.
Short Term	Increase bicycle parking and bike safety on campus. Offer bike registration.	City denied allowing onsite bike registration. Bicycle parking has decreased on campus but bike facilities continue to be priority. Request has been made to reinstall bike racks at Maxey (9/2017).
	Align support for active commuting with campus wellness programming.	No progress
	Utilize a more efficient rideshare social network to assist with carpooling	In early stages. Fees are a challenge for software
	Provide an EV charging station in visible location on campus	Will be installed in 2018 as part of Living at Whitman project
	Explore car-share programs for students, staff and faculty like zip car.	We are too small for most car share companies we will likely have to develop an alternative.
	Goal: Minimize emissions of vehicles on campus	
Immediate	Institute no Idling policy	Policy was passed by PSAC and sent to cabinet currently pending approval.
Long Term	Switch campus vehicles to less carbon intensive fuels as appropriate by vehicle task.	Primary fleet vehicles have not progressed within this category.

		The campus still prioritizes the purchase of standard fuel for fleet and gators. Society of Physics students is currently developing an electric vehicle for recycling program.
	Consider producing biodiesel onsite through an academic pursuit	No Progress
	Goals: Minimize emissions for paid campus travel	
Immediate	By July 1, (FY17) be capable of tracking air travel via dollars and ground travel via miles with the intent of reducing unnecessary flights and eventually offsetting remaining flights.	Not Achieved- ASWC and OOS working to expand ASWC carbon travel tax.
	Encourage departments and offices to consider necessity of travel	No Progress
	Strongly discourage flights to Portland and Seattle. Encourage vehicle travel.	No Progress
Short Term	Create education program for staff and faculty about direct flights to reduce number of layovers, and improve data collection of flights. Takeoff most intensive part of flight. Third party software solutions	No Progress
Solid Waste/ Purchasing	**Goal: Minimize landfill-bound waste from the College**	
Immediate	Reduce printing across campus by continuing transition to digital	No active progress. Tech Services looking at the adoption of kiosks for student printing to minimize waste.
	Communicate clearly to students what they do and do not need before move-in	Some communications exist. Continued progress likely needed.
	Continue to strengthen the campus recycling program.	Rollout of bins in classrooms in Maxey and Olin and new bins in Olin Hall FY18. Mt. Trashmore FY17. Requested additional support for standardization of bins.
	Create an independent solid waste management plan to guide waste reduction efforts even further	ASWC Zero Waste Plan adopted by ASWC and PSAC in 2017. Currently discussions on components of implementation.
Short Term	Organize a campus rummage sale in alignment with spring move-out and coordinate with surplus sale.	Currently micro rummage sales exist through student clubs. Other items are donated. Come leftovers are

		taken by plant.
	Create a sustainable events guide in cooperation with Conference and Events.	No Progress
	Establishe Purchasing criteria and a universal progress	Some discussions have been had but no active progress had been made.
	Develop a food waste compost system	Some initiatives but only microcomposting
	Expand programmatic support of reusable containers on campus in coordination with Bon Appetit, such as rolling out a reusable to-go box system.	This has been attempted but with minimal success.
	Continue to work with Bon Appetit to increase the presence of locally produced food in dining halls and campus catering.	This is an ongoing issue especially with current activities by the port and the food shed organizations.
	Participate in Real Food Challenge to publically commit to increasing local food consumption.	No Action Taken
	Continue to increase recycled content, especially from post-consumer waste, in purchased products such as paper towels, toilet paper, printer paper, recycling bins, bin liners bags	We are doing really well within this category but this is a constant battle as no policy exists. We regularly have some slippage. This requires active engagement.
	Create a preferred office supplies list	This exists but needs to be rolled out more.
	Require all wood and paper products are FSC-Certified	We do not meet this standard in almost any category.
Curriculum and Research	**Goal: Integrate climate action and learning together to create positive behavior change that reduces emissions among students, staff, and faculty alike, as well as campus visitors. In effect, evolve the campus into a "living laboratory" of sustainability.**	
Community Outreach	**Goal: Become a shining light of sustainability and climate action in the region.**	
	Retool the Green Leader club into EcoReps run by the Campus Sustainability Coordinator. Implement a sustainability pledge or dorm certification.	CCC: currently runs a ecochallenge for residence halls. A specific certification does not exist. This year the office started a Green Leader Program.

	Renew sustainability in new student orientation and campus welcome to establish culture of accountability.	Sustainability was removed from Orientation in 2016-2017. We have requested to be added back into orientation.
	Continue to coordinate with student groups to cooperate on campus events and efforts	This is actively done.
	Initiate energy conservation competitions between residence halls after the installation of meters	Not currently available. We will have two halls in 2018
	Connect students with parents and alumni working in the field of sustainability, renewable energy, climate change, environmental protection and more.	This is done but active program doesn't exist through OOS.
	Establish volunteer sustainability leaders in campus offices and departments to bring about peer-to-peer sustainability education	Programmatically not addressed.
	Offer sustainability-related workshops for campus employees	Not yet addressed. The new staff training program may be an opportunity for a sustainability course.
	Expand education of parents, prospective students, and alumni on Whitman's Sustainability efforts	The office currently conducts sustainability tours for prospective students. We have also expanded media presence.
	Find direct, meaningful ways for donors to the College to contribute to emissions reduction measures.	Still attempting to establish a sustainable endowment. Fundraising for specific projects requires institutional directive. Currently there is a way for donors to donate directly to the office.
	Invite parents and alumni to sustainability programming or to be guest speakers.	Alumni and parents are likely underutilized
	Continue to collaborate and build relationships with neighbor institutions and organizations.	The Office actively engages with regional actors.
	Invite community members and organizations to connect with students, demonstrate their work or research on campus as guests, and collaborate for mutual benefit.	We have started integrating community organizations in program there is still room for improvement.

	Expand outreach of campus initiatives into off-campus partnerships and education.	Growing relationships but additional work needed.
Measurements and Verifications	The Office utilizes the Clean Air Cool Planet carbon calculator and AASHE STARS for verification. Additionally the program invests substantial labor on measurement and utility records.	Resources continue to be a challenge for utilization of appropriate software and measurement.
Emissions Offsets	Emissions offsets are an inevitability when aspiring for climate neutrality. The Working Group recommends a 'ramp up, ramp down' approach. As previously mentioned, starting July 1, 2016, the College will offset approximately 100% of its electricity emissions. These RECs will be purchased from Renewable Choice, one of Whitman's current providers. Additionally, staff and ASWC are assessing and building student support for offsets for the College's natural gas consumption. Between RECs for electricity and offsetting natural gas, approximately 50% of the College's emissions will be offset. The deadline of 2020 for Scope I and II neutrality is recommended for swift action. However, the Working Group must warn against using offsets as a crutch, as the low expense relative to many energy efficiency measures could cause reluctance to aggressively tackle emissions mitigation.	In Progress