Campus Sustainability Committee (CSC) Progress Report January 2010 – December 2011

Introduction

The University of Wyoming (UW) is positioning itself to become more sustainable in a logical and deliberate way. Over the last five years, significant advances have been made. President Buchanan created the Campus Sustainability Committee (CSC) in 2005 "to serve in an advisory capacity to all campus departments, colleges and other entities in an effort to advance environmental and economic sustainability at the University of Wyoming." In 2007, President Buchanan signed the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment (ACUPCC), committing UW to become carbon neutral by 2050. In 2009, UW submitted its Climate Action Plan (CAP), UW's guiding document to reducing carbon emissions and becoming more sustainable. This report is a review of UW's advances in sustainability through 2011 and serves as a marker for where it is currently on the path to more sustainable operations.

Background

The University of Wyoming campus includes 230 buildings totaling over 6.5 million square feet on 785 acres. Total student enrollment for the Fall 2011 semester is 12,920 students on its main campus.

Wyoming has a long history of energy development. Natural gas, oil, and coal are all mined in the state, and UW enjoys the financial benefits of these energy resources. Given this history, striking a healthy balance between fossil fuel extraction and curbing carbon emissions is challenging. Nonetheless, UW has made a commitment to reducing its institutional greenhouse gas emissions by reducing energy consumption, utilizing energy from renewable sources, and fostering a more sustainable culture among its faculty, staff, and students. As the only four-year institution in the state, UW hopes to serve as a leader in finding the balance between energy security, a healthy economy and an environmentally sustainable future.

Since signing the ACUPCC, the University of Wyoming has made considerable progress in its goal. Each fiscal year since the signing of the ACUPCC, the University has conducted a greenhouse gas emissions inventory (GGEI). The results of these inventories can be found on the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment website (at http://www.presidentsclimatecommitment.org/) and at www.uwyo.edu/sustainability. The GGEIs show that the University has remained relatively steady in the amount of greenhouse gases (GHG) it emits since the baseline year of 2005. As more efficient campus buildings begin to come online – including the Bim Kendall House (anticipating LEED Gold certification), the Berry Center for Biodiversity, Visual Arts Facility (anticipate LEED Platinum certification), and the College of Business (LEED Gold certified) – and as the development and use of alternative energy sources become more feasible at UW, emissions relative to the total square footage are expected to decrease more significantly. Creating sustainability awareness among the campus community and beyond, and encouraging behavior that leads to less resource consumption, is also critical to reducing carbon emissions. UW has made great strides to that end, as well. The graph below depicts UW's GHG emissions from 1998 through 2010.



Figure 1. Total greenhouse gas emissions from 1997 – 2010

The percentage of emissions from each Clean Air – Cool Planet (CA-CP) category source is shown in Figure 2 to provide a visual breakdown of UW's contributions to GHGs. Electricity (33%), stationary (45%), and air travel (15%), are the major contributors to CO_{2e} GHG emissions at UW. This distribution is consistent with other colleges and universities that have completed an emissions inventory.



Figure 2. Percentage of emissions by category for FY 2010.

The remainder of this report will present and discuss selected accomplishments toward GHG reductions at UW. The sections correspond to sections in the UW Climate Action Plan.

Accomplishments

The University of Wyoming has taken steps toward reducing institutional greenhouse gas emissions, particularly within the following key areas: energy, facilities, grounds, water, transportation, purchasing and procurement, recycling and waste management, policy, and behavioral change.

Energy

UW has taken steps to reduce its energy consumption through a phased approach. Phase I (2009 – 2015) calls for ramping up energy efficiency across campus. Phase II (2015 - 2030) will include the implementation and use of alternative energy. Phase III (2030 - 2050) will continue building on the first two phases and include purchase of carbon offsets where increased efficiency and alternative energy are inappropriate. The following list highlights progress made in 2010 and 2011 toward energy efficiency.

- Student interns completed the fourth annual Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory (GGEI) in the spring 2011 semester. That GGEI will be submitted to the ACUPCC in January 2012.
- A Sustainable Resources Team has been created as a sub-committee of the CSC to focus on energy efficiency in utilities and facilities. The team is currently drafting a position paper on renewable energy use and production for UW. The paper will be used to help shape university policy on renewable energy use and production.
- Interior lighting systems in several core campus buildings have been upgraded.
- Windows in five core campus buildings were replaced in 2009.
- One biomass test burn in the Central Energy Plant was conducted in 2009 and a second in 2010.
- Phase I of a steam trap upgrade project was completed in summer 2010.
- Phase I of a campus building controls system upgrade is complete and Phase II is underway.
- Phase two of the campus-wide controls upgrade is underway in concert with stimulus-funded projects, major maintenance expenditures and Energy Services Company (ESCo) projects.
- An Energy Performance Contract project using an ESCo is in progress with construction planned for 2012. Phase I includes 10 buildings. The project is planned to cost \$5.3 million with about \$500,000 in annual utilities savings.
- Phase I of a campus metering program is complete with installation of condensate, water, and electric meters for core campus buildings.
- Interior lighting upgrades continue to replace T-12 lamps with T-8 lamps, add lighting controls where appropriate, and replace incandescent bulbs with compact florescent bulbs.
- Twenty-five vending misers (mechanisms that turn vending machines off during non-peak hours or when outdoor beverage machines do not need to cool due to weather) have been installed with funding from Auxiliary Enterprises. These machines are in the lowest traffic areas on campus so the savings will be the greatest. Also, after analysis of the usage of vending machines, 17 were deemed underperforming and were removed. This program will be expanded to the card-

swipe type of vending machines if a demonstration test of the vending miser is successful.

- All light bulbs/ tubes in Washakie Center have been switched from T-12 to energy saving T-8 bulbs as they have needed to be replaced.
- The Residence Hall Association and the Residence Life & Dining Services Sustainability GA piloted a program to reduce electrical consumption by 6,379 kilowatt hours against the previous three year average in the month of February.

Facilities

Through the Facilities Planning office, all new buildings on campus are now constructed to Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) standards. More efficient buildings directly affect UW's greenhouse gas emissions and result in a more comfortable and healthy indoor environment for students, faculty, and staff. The following highlights UW's commitment to building toward LEED principles.

- All new buildings are being constructed to at least LEED Silver standards.
- The College of Business is certified LEED Gold, and the Kendall House is expected to be certified LEED Gold by spring 2012.
- ACRES Farm has a new passive solar shed, which is expected to be LEED certified in 2012.
- The Visual Arts Center, currently under construction, is pursuing LEED Platinum.

Grounds

University Grounds Services continues to operate and develop in ways that reduce impact on the campus and community ecosystem. Tree-planting is at the heart of this goal. Trees beautify campus and sequester carbon. In the last three years, the UW Physical Plant has added nearly 200 trees.

- Over 100 trees were planted in several key campus areas in 2009.
- An additional 60 trees were planted in several targeted campus locations in spring 2010.
- More efficient maintenance equipment is being acquired as replacement purchases are made.
- Environmentally friendlier fertilizer and pesticides are being used to maintain campus grounds.

Water

Water conservation involves educating the campus community, reducing water use, and upgrading plumbing fixtures. The first step in water conservation at UW is to better understand use so that education programs can be developed and upgrades can be made in key areas. A metering program is now in place and will guide conservation measures in the coming years.

• Installation of water meters for each major facility on core campus provide necessary data to track water usage, identify problem areas and recognize usage improvements.

- An irrigation system upgrade is being planned to replace individual controls with a centrally controlled automated system.
- Use of ground water and rain water is being evaluated for feasible applications.

Transportation

Transportation practices and services impact UW's institutional carbon emissions significantly. Facilities Planning, TransPark, and Transit Services aim to reduce UW's emissions through expanded shuttle services, bike and pedestrian routes, and by adding hybrid and other alternative fuel vehicles to the fleet.

- The campus shuttle system has been expanded to include express shuttles from a remote south lot and long-term east lot.
- UW has launched a citywide shuttle system (Gem City Grand) with 12 stops along Grand Avenue from downtown to East Laramie. The shuttle is free and open to the public and runs seven days per week. This is a pilot program, scheduled to run through August 2012 to gauge interest, gain community buy-in, and secure long-term funding.
- As part of the Long Range Development Plan (LRDP), defined transportation routes for shuttles, vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians have been developed.
- Three electric vehicles operate on campus, and nine hybrid vehicles are available through UW Fleet Services.
- A number of fleet vehicles can run on flex fuel including a 20% bio fuel mix.
- Six efficient diesel buses have replaced the shuttle fleet for campus and satellite lot use.
- The UW Bike Committee is working with ASUW to pilot a new bike path around the core campus (Prexy's Pasture). The Committee hopes the path will encourage students, faculty, and staff to bike to campus.
- Two new bus shelters will be completed in the East Shuttle Lot by spring 2012. The shelters will feature solar lighting.

Purchasing and Procurement

From paper and cleaning products to food and food service containers, UW is working to purchase products with post-consumer recycled content and products that are compostable.

- A contract was negotiated and executed to purchase 100% recycled content paper products for restrooms in campus facilities.
- Through the Procurement Office, many departments contract for 30% recycled content paper.
- Dining Services uses green cleaning products for every application where there is a certified green product on the market including: Geo Fusion 9000 Machine Detergent, Geo Fusion Silver Fusion Presoak, Geo Mag Fusion (Pot and Pan detergent), Geo Crystal Fusion Rinse Additive.
- Wherever possible, dining locations use compostable boxes, flatware, cups, plates, bowls, to-go boxes, sushi containers, salad and sandwich containers, and other packaging. The number of compostable/biodegradable products issued in February 2010 was 8,038,800, which approximates an average month.

- Dining Services sourced a supplier and product to be able to serve only cage-free liquid egg mix.
- Dining Services has worked to increase procurement of locally-grown foods when possible. Sources within 200 miles have been found for beef patties, eggs, lamb, and lettuce when in-season. A source for apples has also been found in Western Colorado when in-season. Milk is purchased through a local dairy in Denver, CO.
- Dining Services continues to work with ACRES Farm by purchasing locally grown produce when available.
- Dining Services serves organically-grown, fair-trade coffee in Washakie Dining Center, University Catering, Book and Bean, Elements, and Ross Hall.

Recycling and Waste Management

Recycling efforts at UW have advanced significantly over the last year. The improvements can be generally categorized as campus-wide collection efforts and residence hall specific efforts. The following list details the landfill diversion achievements UW has enjoyed in the last couple of years.

Recycling totals, 2009 – 2011

- UW participated in Recyclemania in 2009, 2010, and 2011 coordinated by UW Recycling, the Campus Sustainability class and support by the Wyoming Union. In 2010, UW placed 51/267 in the Grand Champion category; 120/346 in the Per Capita Classic category; and 62/199 in the Waste Minimization category. In 2011, UW collected 181,039 pounds of recycling during the competition, which placed us 107/363 among participating schools overall and 63/288 in the Grand Champion category. We recycled just over 13 pounds per capita during the competition time period, which placed UW 121/363 in the Per Capita category.
- Through the collection efforts in the residence halls, a total of 11.5 tons of material collected over the 2010-2011 academic year was redirected away from the landfill.
- Three tons of cardboard were collected and recycled from the residence halls on move-in weekend 2010.
- During the fall 2011 residence halls move-in event, about 11,200 pounds of cardboard were collected and recycled.
- In May 2010, 2.4 tons of reusable items were collected and donated to local charities during the "When You Move Out, Don't Throw It Out" campaign, organized by UW student groups.
- A similar campaign, The Don't Dump, Donate campaign of 2011, yielded a total of 4,357 pounds of food, clothing, furniture, and electronics collected from the residence halls and donated to local charities (rather than being thrown away).
- During the fall 2011 semester, 11,487 pounds of paper, glass, plastic, and aluminum were collected from the residence halls for a total of about 5.8 pounds of recycling per resident.

Recycling opportunities and waste minimization

• The campus recycling operation has been expanded to include additional pickup locations, one additional truck, one additional employee, and a drive-through Recycling Drop-Off Center open to the public.

- Recycling pickups have been increased from bi-monthly to weekly resulting in increased tonnage collected.
- Twenty cardboard-specific dumpsters have been purchased and placed resulting in significantly increased cardboard collections.
- Recycling efforts in the Athletic venues have been expanded by adding collection points, coordinating pick-ups after events and expanding the Recycling Cyclers Program in the tailgating lots. Athletics has also purchased additional bins, which will be placed in Athletics properties in early 2012.
- One project of the ENR 4600/5600 Campus Sustainability Class (spring 2010, 20 students) was a Furniture Round-Up to gather, store, and redistribute unwanted furniture after a semester ends and before a semester starts. The program continued in 2011.
- UW Facilities Planning and Custodial Services are working to implement a waste minimization program. The program will be piloted in spring 2012 in three core campus buildings by UW Green Teams

(http://www.uwyo.edu/sustainability/green-teams/index.html).

• Summit View Apartments deconstruction project diverted 85% of materials from deconstruction through recycling and reuse (approximately 15,000 yards of materials).

Composting and consumption reduction

- Approximately 70-105 gallons of compostable waste are sent to ACRES farm everyday from Washakie Dining Center, University Catering, and the Wyoming Union Food Court.
- Dining Services worked with the Laramie landfill to test the composting of food waste from the Washakie Dining Center.
- The Good Mule Project Conference used compostable dining utensils and compostable materials in 2010 and 2011.
- In both 2010 and 2011, the President's Barbeque was a zero waste event, where all waste from the event was either recycled or composted.
- In 2010, Washakie Dining Center conducted surveys/research on going tray-less within the dining hall and held two tray-less days, one each semester. These tray-less days netted a savings in pulp waste of approximately 300 pounds each day in addition to raising awareness about food waste.
- Dining Services removed drink straws from the Washakie Dining Center. Compostable boxes, flatware, cups, and plates are used in all Dining Services locations for take-out orders.
- Insulated drink containers are given to all students living in the residence halls.
- Residence Life and Dining Services has partnered with Recyc-Oil to have fryer oil from Washakie Dining Center converted to biodiesel.
- In spring 2011, the Residence Hall Association held "Do It in the Dark", an event that turned off lights during the lunch period at Washakie Dining Center.
- Washakie Dining Services discontinued paper menus in favor of digital signage.

Local foods

- Dining Services purchases meat from the UW Meat Science Department to serve at all specialty dinners. It also purchases community-supported agriculture (CSA) shares from ACRES student-run farm to incorporate local produce in its offerings.
- Residence Life and Dining Services hosted Food Week in October 2011. Local foods and waste/consumption minimization events were held throughout the week of October 24, 2011.

Policy

Policy related to more sustainable operations has helped institutionalize sustainability at UW. Both Facilities Planning and the Residence Hall Association have adopted new polices since 2010 to advance sustainability in their operations.

- All new construction is required to meet or exceed LEED Silver construction standards.
- The Residence Halls Association (RHA) modified its constitution to convert designated capital improvement funds within their budget to dollars committed to sustainability issues within the residence halls.
- Physical Plant has executed annual paper product purchasing agreements to purchase products with 100% recycled content. These products are used in all restrooms and labs.
- Procurement Services encourages and has negotiated purchasing agreements for supplies with recycled content.

Behavioral Change

Increasing awareness and encouraging changes in behavior among the students, faculty and staff can result in a significant decrease in GHG emissions. The following list highlights some of the lifestyle and educational programming sponsored by the CSC and others during 2010 and 2011.

Behavioral Change - lifestyle

- The University of Wyoming ranked among the nation's 286 most environmentally responsible colleges, according to the *Green Guide*, published by the Princeton Review and the U.S. Green Building Council in 2010.
- University of Wyoming received a B on the Sustainable Endowment Institute's green report card in 2010. This is an improvement from the 2009 score of B-. (The report card survey was not conducted by the Sustainable Endowment Institute in 2011.)
- A Green Cleaning program was implemented in 2010 with a first year reduction of 25% in routine cleaning chemicals.
- Two to three students are hired as interns to work on CSC efforts each year two on the annual GGEI and one on an annual sustainability survey and other special projects.
- The CSC wrote successful proposals for an AmeriCorps intern position for 2010-2011 and 2011-2012. A UW student was hired into the position to create and conduct online surveys for students, faculty and staff in 2011 and 2012. A baseline survey to better understand awareness, behavior, and willingness to

change behavior related to sustainability by students, faculty, and staff was implemented in spring 2011 and is planned for spring 2012. The 2011 survey revealed that about 80% of the campus community was willing to participate in sustainable activities; however, less than 20% were aware of what UW was already doing.

- Over 100 students helped weatherize homes around Laramie for the 2010 Days of Dialogue Service Day.
- Alternative Spring Break trips were led to the Grand Canyon and to the Everglades where students spent spring break helping preserve the native ecology and wildlife (2010).
- RHA and the GA of Sustainability awarded the winning residents of the Recycling and Electrical Consumption Challenge with recycled grocery bags (2010 and 2011).
- RHA created a new executive position, the Sustainability and Community Service Officer, committed to sustainability issues within Residence Life and Dining Services (2010).
- The Associated Students of UW (ASUW) student government created and hired an executive position in Student Programming and Sustainability (2011).
- The ASUW President created an ad hoc sustainability committee composed of interested students (2011).
- The University Bookstore has installed electronic signs to reduce paper signage for advertising. Digital signage has also been installed in the Student Union and the Classroom Building to reduce flyers and posters.

Behavioral Change - education and outreach

- A Sustainable Engagement Team has been created as a sub-committee of the CSC, which focuses on education and outreach to the campus community.
- A website has been created, and is continually maintained for the CSC, at <u>http://www.uwyo.edu.sustainability/</u> to make the sustainability vision, goals, reports and information readily available.
- A Campus Sustainability group has been created on WyoWeb, the UW intranet portal, to share files, collaborate on action steps and provide work areas for sub-committees and teams.
- A media relations program was implemented in cooperation with UW Media to publish sustainability-related articles twice per month (2010 through present).
- Development of a CSC logo was unveiled at Earth Day 2010 events. The logo was chosen through a logo contest held in the spring of 2010. The winner was a UW student, chosen from 58 entries and awarded a \$300 prize.
- The first Wyoming Sustainability Summit was held April 12-13, 2010 at the UW Conference Center in Laramie. Over 100 people attended the two-day event. The Summit was co-sponsored by the Campus Sustainability Committee, the Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources, and Residence Life and Dining Services with support from the Argosy Foundation.
- UW's collegiate chapter of the American Marketing Association and Alpha Kappa Psi student business organization co-sponsored the 3rd annual Sustainable

Business Practices forum in October 2010. The 4th annual event was held in September 2011.

- The Environment and Natural Resources program organized a "Green for Green" 5k on April 17th, 2010. Volunteers held signs along the race route to inform runners of various sustainability tips such as eating locally, properly insulating homes, and using CFL bulbs.
- Academic Affairs and the Office of Research and Economic Development sponsored a public lecture by world-renowned ecologist, E.O. Wilson in September 2010.
- Over 10 members of the CSC attended the 2010 Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) annual conference in Denver in October. Several committee members gave presentations and participated in panel discussions on topics ranging from implementing a CAP with a campus-wide committee to institutional recycling to teaching a project-oriented sustainability class.
- The CSC participated in the UW Homecoming Parade in October 2010 and 2011. Both years, the CSC entry featured the Physical Plant's electric truck and the Recycling Cyclers pedal pickups.
- The CSC hosted an informational booth in the Union Breezeway on Campus Sustainability Day (October 20, 2010).
- University of Wyoming was presented with the first Channel 5 Sustainability Award by Channel 5 News in Cheyenne. A 30-minute program featured some of UW's achievements in green building and recycling (2010).
- RHA hosted information booths on campus on Campus Sustainability Day (October 20, 2010) and Earth Day (April 22, 2010).
- The GA of Sustainability, with support from RHA, hosted many educational events throughout the 2010 2011 academic year intended to educate residents on various topics such as drinking water, electrical usage, and real benefits of recycling.
- In 2011, two students created UW Green Teams as part of their work for the Campus Sustainability Class (ENR 4600). Green Teams groups of faculty and staff fostering dialogue and increasing awareness of sustainable practices at the University of Wyoming. More about UW Green Teams can be found at http://www.uwyo.edu/sustainability/green-teams/index.html.
- The Sustainable Engagement Team of the Campus Sustainability Committee is organizing a speakers' series for spring 2012. Speaker and panel discussions around food, energy efficiency and renewable energy, and sustainability resources at UW and in Laramie are being planned.

Curriculum and Research

As the only four-year institution in the state, UW has a responsibility to take the lead in conducting research and offering educational opportunities in the areas of climate science, climate policy and sustainability. In the coming years, we intend to integrate academic efforts into advancing sustainability through the expansion of existing curricula and the development of new programs and engaging in ongoing and future research efforts. The following describes the academic accomplishments of UW related to sustainability through 2011.

- The University of Wyoming's School of Energy Resources (SER) received \$1.55 million from the Fossil Energy National Energy Technology Laboratory, under the U.S. Department of Energy for research and demonstration of geologic carbon sequestration. These funds will help SER prepare for field tests to fully characterize a potential CO₂ storage site in western Wyoming and to demonstrate the long-term storage of sequestered carbon.
- The project-oriented Sustainability Class is now in its fifth year. Several student projects from this class have been implemented across campus and continue to operate as part of the campus sustainability program.
- A sustainable Business Practices minor was added by the College of Business, Fall 2010.
- A new PhD in Marketing with a focus on Sustainable Business Practices began in Fall 2010.
- Campus Sustainability (ENR 4600/MKT 4600) was expanded to two sections for Spring 2012.
- A sustainability minor with four tracks is being planned by a campus-wide committee of faculty and staff and will be proposed in early 2012.

Next Steps

Over the next five years, University of Wyoming will build on the progress toward more sustainable operations reported above. As outlined in Phase I (2009-2015) of the Climate Action Plan, improving energy efficiency across campus will be critical to reducing our carbon emissions. Additionally, exploring opportunities for renewable energy development and use is underway. For example, UW has acquired a small, residential-scale wind turbine, and plans are underway to install it on UW property. Although it will serve mainly as a demonstration, it will generate some electricity. Furthermore, the Campus Sustainability Committee is currently drafting a paper in response to the UW Utility Master Plan that will evaluate the opportunities for greater use and development of renewable energy such as wind, solar, and geothermal.

As UW continues to renovate existing buildings and construct new facilities, it will continue to focus on building performance and efficiency. Specific percentage targets for energy performance, renewable energy production, water efficiency, and material resources used or consumed by facilities will be set. In order to better conserve water, existing plumbing fixtures will be replaced with new low flow and occupancy sensor controlled fixtures. Additionally, plans to conduct a waste audit – including solid waste, wastewater, and heat – to identify opportunities to reduce waste are underway. Special attention will also be paid to the development and beautification of natural areas on campus. And in the next couple of years, UW Grounds Services will create a plan to protect or restore campus open spaces for natural habitats and connection to the environment.

Efforts to purchase more sustainable products and divert more waste from the landfill are ongoing. In the next five years, options for ensuring that purchases contain 10 percent post-consumer materials or 50 percent rapidly renewable resources will be developed. The recycling program will be further expanded and promoted in an effort to reach a 20% increase in campus recycling, and to reuse or recycle 50% of durable goods by weight or volume.

Efforts to expand sustainability curricula offerings on campus and community awareness are underway. In the next five years, we plan to establish a sustainability-themed Freshmen Interest Group (FIG). Further, continued community-wide sustainability program will be implemented by the Campus Sustainability Committee.

Conclusion

Over the past two years, the University of Wyoming has been successful in advancing campus sustainability in several major areas. The University's particular focus in the areas of energy, facilities, grounds, water, transportation, purchasing and procurement, recycling and waste management, policy, and behavioral change suggest that the UW campus is on its way to achieving its goal of significantly reducing its carbon emissions. In fact, even in light of tremendous growth in square footage (over 500,000 SF since 2006), campus stationary and purchased electricity have remained fairly steady. This is a testament to ramping up energy efficiency in existing buildings and adding more efficient buildings through capital construction projects.

Plans for further improvements are ongoing and demonstrate that the University of Wyoming will continue to progress toward a more sustainable future. The Residence Life and Dining Services Sustainability GA and the ASUW Director of Student Programming and Sustainability positions, in particular, shows the university's commitment to a consistent creation and enhancement of sustainable initiatives among students living on campus. Implementation of more local food options at Washakie Dining Center and consideration of other dining initiatives represent behavioral changes that will help move the campus toward more sustainable operations through behavior modification. The requirement that all new campus buildings are built to LEED standards and the shift in purchasing toward products with more post-consumer recycled materials and Energy Star qualified products demonstrate a commitment to sustainability from across campus.

In addition to the University of Wyoming's progress in reducing GHG emissions, the education and outreach efforts show a commitment to encouraging behavior change among the campus community. Approaches that involve students directly and provide them with hands-on experience, such as the greenhouse gas emissions inventory internships and the AmeriCorps position in sustainability, as well as the sustainability GA in Residence Life & Dining Services, conserve staff resources and provide valuable learning opportunities for students.

Although UW still has much ground to cover before it reaches its goal of carbon neutrality by 2050, the accomplishments highlighted in this report provide a solid foundation upon which to build future programs, initiatives and policies.