



To: Center for Environmental Quality

White House American Campuses Act on Climate Pledge:


As institutions of higher education, we applaud the progress already made to promote clean energy and climate action as we seek a comprehensive, ambitious agreement at the upcoming United Nations Climate Negotiations in Paris. Although we are optimistic that world leaders will reach an agreement to secure a transition to a low-carbon future, we recognize the urgent need to act now to avoid irreversible costs to our global community's economic prosperity and public health. Today our school pledges to accelerate the transition to low-carbon energy while enhancing sustainable and resilient practices across our campuses.

We put forth our pledge as follows:

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

As a signatory of the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment, the Talloires Declaration and a gold-rated member of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education STARS program, UW-Stevens Point has a strong commitment to developing a sustainable future and working toward carbon neutrality. Our mission, vision and core values are advanced through our strategic plan, *A Partnership for Thriving Communities*. In this plan, we target four broad outcomes to help communities be vibrant, healthy, prosperous and sustainable. The university is committed to being more responsive to local needs and more relevant to solving regional and global problems by embracing the sustainability principles of "Planet, People and Profit." As part of our commitment we will:

- continue our shift from coal toward natural gas as our primary fuel and work toward reducing the use of energy from fossil fuels,
- ensure energy efficiency in buildings through sustainable construction of all new facilities and renovations of existing buildings that incorporate LEED/LEED-equivalent standards,
- ensure energy efficiency in buildings using sustainable facility management and operations, measured through performance-based contracting programs,
- use proceeds from the sale of carbon credits to increase our use of renewable energies on campus and continue to pursue opportunities to sell future carbon credits,
- increase our level of carbon offsets and carbon sinks through composting and recycling programs, purchases of renewable energy credits (RECs) and advanced forest management practices,
- meet or exceed our 2020 target of 25 percent reduction in carbon emissions, and fulfill the ambitious goal of carbon neutrality by 2050.


Chancellor Bernie L. Patterson
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

Nov. 11, 2015
Date