Poll:
What civic engagement actions have you taken in the last 6 months?
Poll:
Have you organized a group activity to get people civically engaged?
Why Civic Engagement?

Teaching Civic Engagement:

1. Improves student learning
2. Prepares students to participate in democracy
3. Creates better problem solvers and change agents for students, for society
Why Higher Education?

1. Students will be affected by climate change. Students can become early cynics or active citizens and future leaders.

2. National and international literature on SD learning outcomes include teaching students how to create systemic change.

3. Higher education is a powerful sector representing experts, community leaders, and billions of dollars in economic capital. Higher education is a thought leader, influencer and role model.
Resources

- Citizens’ Climate Lobby
  www.citizensclimatelobby.org
- Our Climate
  www.ourclimate.org
- Congressional Management Foundation
  http://www.congressfoundation.org
- “Stop Dooming and Glooming”
  http://www.aashe.org/climate-solutions/
  and
  www.aashe.org/partners/heasc/initiatives/beyond-doom-and-gloom
Mission

To create the political will for climate solutions by enabling individual breakthroughs in personal and political power.
Resources for Higher Education

1. Higher Education Action Team
   https://goo.gl/forms/ME11lfrqOAeCwOEB2

2. Internships
   Clara.fang@citizensclimatelobby.org

3. Online learning
   community.citizensclimatelobby.org

4. Local chapters
   citizensclimatelobby.org/about-ccl/chapters
Higher Education Action Team

Aurora Winslade
Swarthmore College

Neil Leary
Dickinson College

Jason Zeikowitz
Arizona State University

David Folland,
Salt Lake City

Sign up at https://goo.gl/forms/ME11lfqO AeCwOEB2
Internships

• Start a student group
• Lead a Put a Price on It campaign
• Support a local CCL chapter

Contact Clara for more information
Clara.fang@citizensclimatelobby.org
Welcome to the Action Center

Choose an action option below to learn, plan, do and share the actions we know will help solve climate change.

Lobbying Actions

Schedule a Meeting
Lobby Congress
Write or Email Congress
Call Congress
Support the Climate Solutions Caucus
Support the Republican Climate Resolution
Attend a Town Hall

Schedule a lobby meeting

This section covers it all, from the basics to advanced tips for scheduling meetings with members of Congress.
CCL Chapters in the United States - 418

Find your local chapter at citizensclimatelobby.org/about-ccl/chapters
WE ARE THE GENERATIONS MOST AFFECTED BY CLIMATE CHANGE

WE ARE THE GENERATIONS THAT **MUST ACT**

First Name
Email Address

Last Name
Address, City, State, Zip

I'M IN
Resources for Higher Education

1. Put a Price on It
   www.ourclimate.us/opportunities_for_students

2. Years of Living Dangerously Collaboration
   yearsoflivingdangerously.com

3. Higher Education Carbon Pricing Endorsement Initiative
   www.ourclimate.us/higher_ed_initiative

4. State Campaigns
   www.ourclimate.us/state_campaigns
1. Student-led effort to gain president endorsements of carbon pricing.

2. 35 college and university presidents endorsed Our Climate’s carbon pricing letter to Congress.

3. Students use endorsements in lobbying for carbon pricing at the state and national level.

www.ourclimate.us/higher_ed_initiative
Our Climate is advocating for state carbon pricing in several key states, working closely with coalition partners on engaging students and youth. If you're interested in getting involved with state efforts, please get in touch with Cassidy at cassidy@ourclimate.us, and check out the links below if you see your state!

- [Massachusetts](#)
- [Vermont](#)
- [Washington, D.C.](#)
- [Oregon](#)
- [New York](#)

[www.ourclimate.us/state_campaigns](http://www.ourclimate.us/state_campaigns)
Fellowships
Field Reps
Action Team
Social Media

www.ourclimate.us
www.climatesolution.com
Mission

Build trust and effectiveness in Congress. Strengthening the bridge between Congress and the people it serves.
The Partnership for a More Perfect Union

Research

Training

Resources http://www.congressfoundation.org/citizen-engagement
Beyond Doom and Gloom: Climate Solutions

Act now to help remove barriers to clean energy growth!

The Higher Education Associations Sustainability Consortium (HEASC) and the Disciplinary Associations Network for Sustainability (DANS) have created this initiative to empower students, educators, and the public to advocate for climate solutions.
Beyond Doom and Gloom (continued)

Top Policy Resources

These organizations provide tools and resources to help you communicate your support for climate solutions to policy makers.

Solar
- Vote Solar
- Alliance for Solar Choice

Wind
- American Wind Energy Association

Clean Energy (General)
- Citizen’s Climate Lobby
- Union of Concerned Scientists’ Action Center
- ACEEE: National Energy Efficiency Policy
- Sierra Club
- Power Shift Network
- 350.org
- NextGen America
- Environment America

Natural Gas
How You Can Get Involved

You don’t have to be an energy expert to make a difference. Contact elected representatives today! Get their emails and phone numbers. Here are some tips for making effective calls:

- Emails and phone calls are best
- Be brief. Stick to one issue per email/call
- Introduce yourself/include your contact info
- Be polite! Anger and rudeness will not leave a favorable impression
- You can call policy makers even if you do not live in their districts!

You can use either or both of the scripts below. Call one day using the first script, and another day using the second!

“Hello, my name is ___________. My email is _______. I care about renewable energies and want a rapid ramp up in the implementation of solar and wind projects. Please work on energy policies to make this happen. It will produce jobs, help the economy, increase health, and protect the environment. Please let me know what you do.”

“Hello, my name is ___________. My email is _______. I care about energy efficiency standards and want to see an increase in policies supporting high efficiency buildings and transportation. Please work on energy policies to make that happen. What is holding you back from supporting clean energy policies? (and how can I help? optional) Please let me know what you do.”

You can also help businesses take action on climate. Use these suggestions from the We Mean Business coalition to find examples of what you can suggest to businesses.
Beyond Doom and Gloom Educators’ Page:

- All optional
- Assignment
- PowerPoint Slides
- Multiple choice questions
- Essential energy facts
- Link to webinar describing this initiative in more detail
Poll:
you haven’t done any civic engagement, why not?
Methods
Methods

1. Building consensus, overcoming cynicism, sharing success stories
2. Seeking common ground
3. Climate Solutions Caucus: Moving towards trans-partisan solutions
It’s about relationships
It’s about relationships

The Story of Gandhi & General Jan Smuts
"Oh, really? Do you have anything else to tell me?"

"I've come to tell you that I am going to fight against your government."
"How are you going to do that?"

"I'm going to prevail."

"With your help."
“He appealed to what was best and most noble in me.”
The Key to Relationships

Finding Common Ground

1. Shared values
2. Social connection
3. Places we care for
Methodology…so far

1. Respect and appreciation
2. Appeal to the BEST in others
3. Being for something
What Appreciation, Gratitude & Respect Matter

- Planned face to face meeting
- Changed to staff level meeting
- Showed appreciation for a specific piece of legislation- his wetland work
- The Congressman changed his opinion and leaned in for more conversation.

OUR ONE RULE:
Treat everyone, even those who disagree with us, with respect, appreciation and gratitude.
Every morning I awake torn between a desire to save the world and an inclination to savor it. This makes it hard to plan the day…

But if we forget to savor the world, what possible reason do we have for saving it? In a way, the savoring must come first.”

E.B. White
Author
One day, ideally in the not-too-distant future, when Congress finally passes major legislation to curb carbon emissions — to reduce the environmental and economic harm caused by climate change — Americans will owe a big thank you to the perseverance and discipline of the Citizens’ Climate Lobby. Special appreciation should go to one volunteer, Jay Butera, a businessman from Pennsylvania who has put intense effort into getting Democrats and Republicans in Congress to begin talking with one another about potential solutions.

The Citizens’ Climate Lobby is a network of volunteers who have come together in the last several years to advance climate policy in a bipartisan manner. Its support base has increased fivefold since 2015 to 60,000 supporters; among them, 23,000 are actively working to build political will for a national, revenue-neutral carbon fee-and-dividend system, a market-based approach that aims to reduce carbon emissions while spurring employment.
Bringing it all together

Jay Butera, CCL Volunteer

Reps. Ted Deutch & Carlos

“We have a moral obligation to the planet and preserving it for future generations.”

— Rep. Carlos Curbelo (R-FL)
WHEREAS The costs of climate change — including destabilized weather patterns, rising sea levels, extreme weather events, and other serious impacts — now pose a substantial threat to the health, prosperity and security of Americans. The costs are real, they are growing, and they are already burdening businesses, taxpayers, municipal budgets, and families. Our economy, infrastructure, public safety and health are directly at risk. Prudent action now will be far less costly than the consequences of delayed response and will create a more stable business environment for our nation.

THEREFORE I/we urge Congress to sponsor and/or support measures that will:

• Acknowledge the serious threat posed by climate change.
• Reduce greenhouse gas emissions in a clear, transparent and effective way.

Community Leaders’ Letter to Congress: Supporting Climate Action
Bringing it all together

First Meeting of the Climate Solutions Caucus
The House Bipartisan Climate Solutions Caucus

Educating members of Congress on economically-viable options to reduce climate risk and protect our nation’s economy, security, infrastructure, agriculture, water supply and public safety.

Republican Members

Democratic Members
“We’ve got to find a way to dial this back. I would give an example of people trying to do that in a small way. There’s a **Climate Solutions Caucus** here in the Congress, and what they’ve said is that for every Democrat that goes on, you can’t get on unless there’s a Republican that goes with you. And I think people are going to be looking for ways to do just that.” – Rep. Mark Sanford
Political Will

“Committed support among key decision makers and those who influence them for a particular policy solution to a particular problem.”

What does that mean?

Making strategic actions that will move our elected officials in the direction where we would like them to be.
Levers for building Positive Momentum

How citizens build political will

1. Informing policymakers
2. Media relations
3. Community outreach
4. Stakeholder engagement
5. Campus & student group development
Examples of what citizens can do:

1. Become a liaison (relationships & research)
2. Meet with elected officials
3. Be a subject matter expert (connect the dots locally)
Media Relations

Example actions:

1. Be the point person for a media outlet
2. Write letters and op-eds
3. Meet with an editorial board
4. Radio and TV interviews
Community Outreach

Recruitment & Education Actions:

1. Tabling
2. Public speaking
3. Organize events
4. Democratic/Civic Engagement
Stakeholder Engagement

Partnerships & Support
Actions:

1. Identify community leaders
2. Seek endorsements
3. Educate leaders
Campus & Student Group Development

Growth & Development actions:

1. Organize subcommittee monthly meetings
2. Chapter communications
3. Mentor new volunteers
Levers in Review

• Determine where you can contribute.

• Five levers:
  1. Informing policymakers
  2. Media relations
  3. Community outreach
  4. Stakeholder engagement
  5. Campus & student group development
Stuck lever? Use another one.
Resources

• Citizens’ Climate Lobby
  www.citizensclimatelobby.org

• Our Climate
  www.ourclimate.org

• Congressional Management Foundation
  http://www.congressfoundation.org

• “Stop Dooming and Glooming”
  http://www.aashe.org/climate-solutions/
  and
  www.aashe.org/partners/heasc/initiatives/beyond-doom-and-gloom
Poll:
Which of these resources are you most likely to utilize?
Thank you!

Q&A
Fostering Civic Engagement on Climate Change