



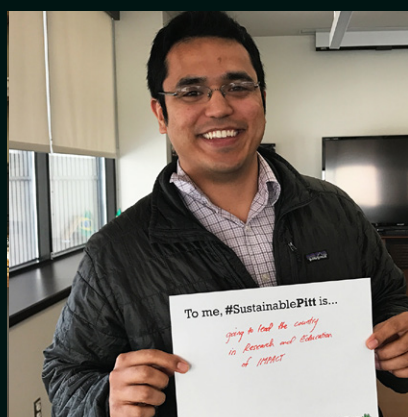
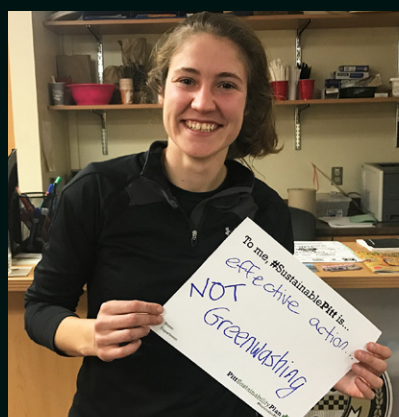
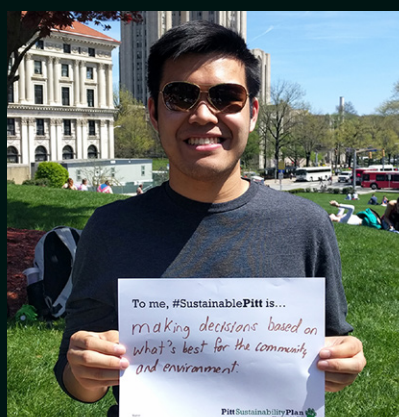
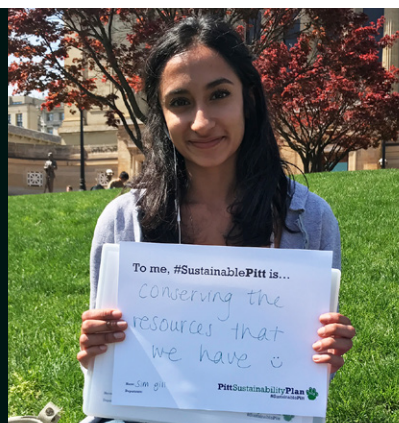
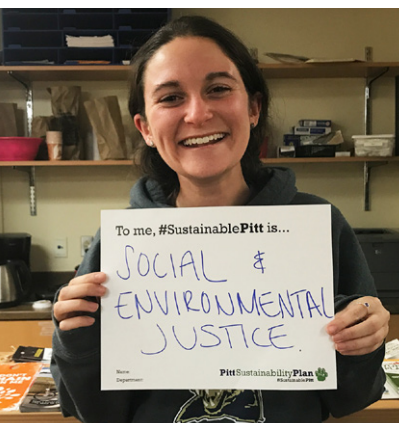
University of Pittsburgh

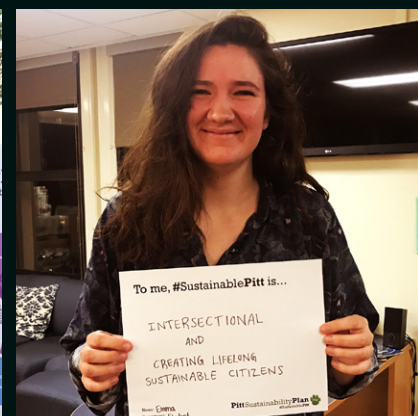
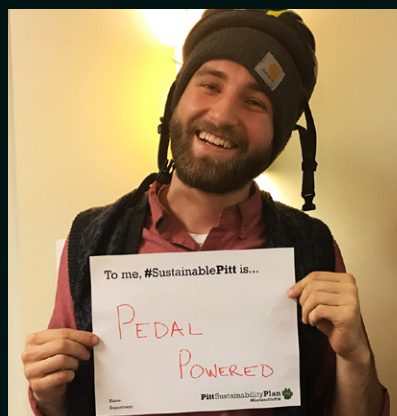
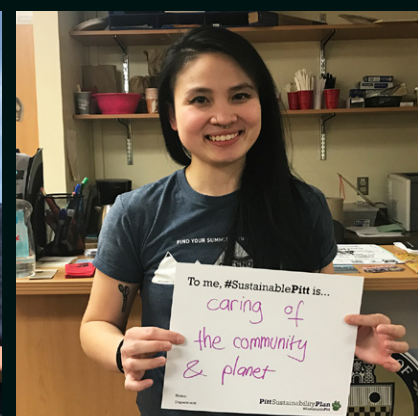
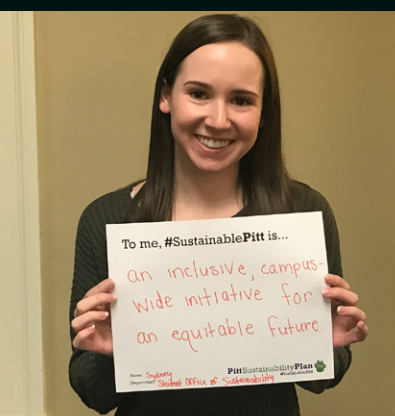
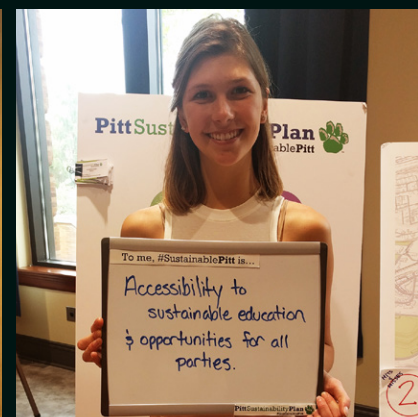
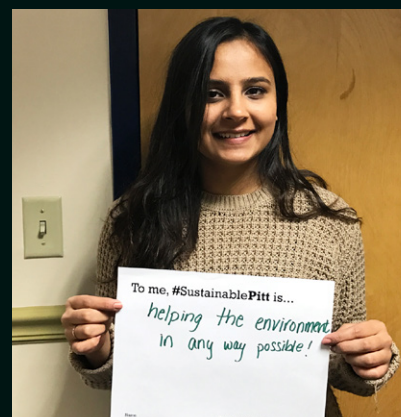
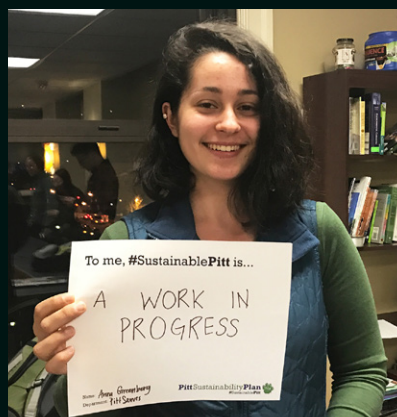
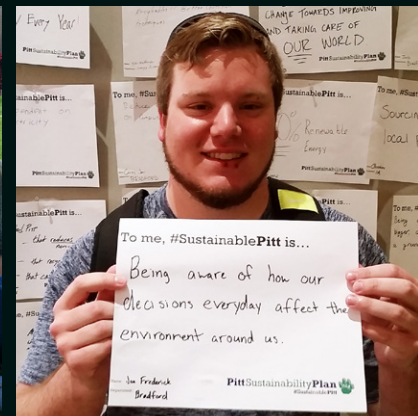
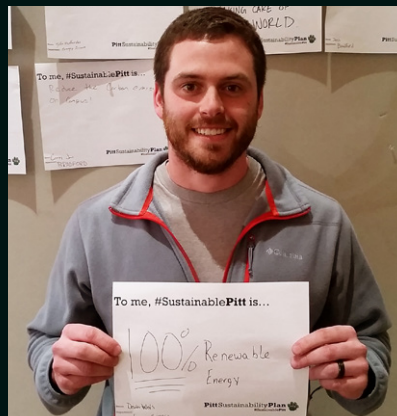
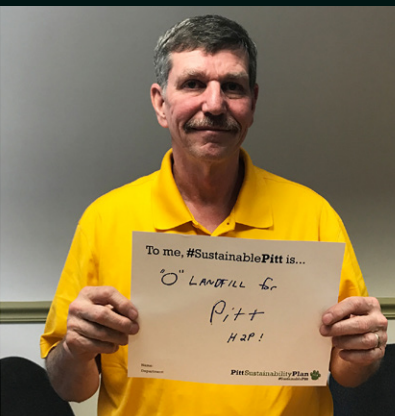
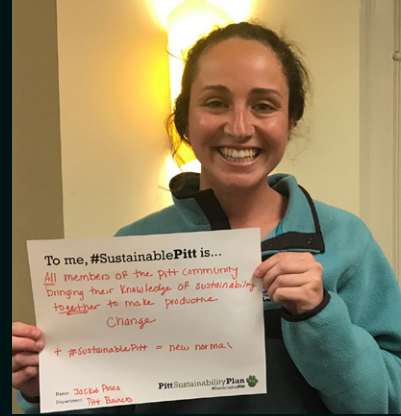
Pitt Sustainability Plan

#SustainablePitt



January 2018





FROM THE CHANCELLOR'S DESK

The overwhelming consensus of the global scientific community is that human activities are rapidly changing our planet's climate in ways that pose unprecedented challenges for the future of humanity. At the University of Pittsburgh, we view this knowledge as a clear call to action. It compels us to leverage our capacity as a premier research institution and community anchor to affect change through education, investigation and outreach—and to lead by our own example.

Pitt has long championed forward-thinking and innovative practices that have deepened the resiliency of our region and the world. As a university community, we have made great strides in supporting sustainable practices in our campus operations, classrooms, research activities and local partnerships. But we can—and must—do more.

Long-term sustainability extends beyond environmental practices. It requires deep and lasting changes that will enable future generations to thrive in a world that is environmentally responsible, socially equitable and economically robust. It is a great challenge—one that our University's mission, which is to harness knowledge for society's gain, perfectly positions us to tackle.

To advance this work, we established a University Sustainability Committee in the fall of 2016. These committee members set out to think boldly, develop goals and recommend supportive actions for promoting sustainable practices across the Pitt community. The result of their efforts—the Pitt Sustainability Plan—is a strategic framework that calls for dramatic improvements in sustainability across our University by 2030. These targets include:

- Reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 50 percent;
- Producing or procuring at least 50 percent of our electric energy from renewable sources;
- Achieving an energy use intensity that is at least 50 percent below the national average;
- Achieving water use intensity that is 50 percent below the district average; and
- Reducing the levels of GHG emissions from university commuting and campus transportation by 50 percent.

Such improvements will require dramatic action across all of our operations, especially in the areas of energy and transportation. In addition, we plan to implement green infrastructure and conservation technologies that will help reduce Pitt's impact on the city's vulnerable water and stormwater systems.

This plan is a critical component in Pitt's ongoing efforts to advance sustainability. The goals that it outlines are far from safe; they demand ingenuity and innovation as well as consistent and focused attention. As we begin to look to the future and shift this ambitious plan into action, I encourage you to join in. By working together, and propelled by your ideas, talents and passions, we can cultivate a thriving culture of sustainability at Pitt—one that has a far-reaching, long-lasting and meaningful impact.

Patrick Gallagher



“Propelled by your ideas, talents and passions, we can cultivate a thriving culture of sustainability at Pitt.”

ABOUT SUSTAINABILITY AT PITT

Pitt has been actively involved in sustainability initiatives and practices on campus for many years and is earning a strong reputation nationally for its emerging culture of sustainability. Founded in 1787, the University of Pittsburgh has a total enrollment of over 34,000 students and 13,000 faculty and staff, with campuses in Pittsburgh, Bradford, Greensburg, Johnstown, and Titusville.

Sustainability can be defined as the intersection of three tenets- Social, Economic, and Environmental- and is best understood when seen through a long-term lens. Investing in sustainable practices is investing in the future. It makes good business sense, as sustainability initiatives lead to energy and water cost savings, increased productivity, and an overall more resilient organization. The University Sustainability Committee was convened in the fall of 2016 to encourage sustainable practices and also to synchronize and align the efforts of the many sustainability groups and stakeholders across campus.

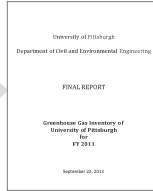
Through the plan, the committee develops strategies that will help to advance sustainable practices on campus. Chaired by the Facilities Management Division, the committee is composed of three subcommittees designed to directly relate to themes

in the Plan's vision: Stewardship, Community and Culture, and Exploration. Respectively, the subcommittees are chaired by Facilities Management, the Division of Student Affairs, and the Mascaro Center for Sustainable Innovation (MCSI).

The committee has drafted the Pitt Sustainability Plan to carefully connect to the goals established in the Plan for Pitt (the University's strategic plan) while incorporating the thoughts and ambitions of a diverse cross section of Pitt's student, faculty, and staff communities. The committee identified five in-depth impact areas for each of the plan's three themes. After several working sessions, each subcommittee developed a set of aggressive, achievable, and measurable goals for each impact area to track progress. **In 2018, the University plans to establish an Office of Sustainability to coordinate efforts, foster collaboration, and monitor progress toward the Plan's goals and aspirations.**

“The University of Pittsburgh will continue to advance sustainability on our campuses through innovative and thoughtful investment in stewardship, community, culture, and exploration.”
 - University Sustainability Committee

SUSTAINABILITY AT PITT: A BRIEF HISTORY

						
1990 Pitt signed the Talloires Declaration, which supports mobilizing the resources of higher education for sustainability.	2003 The University established the Mascaro Center for Sustainable Innovation, which spearheads the University's research and education programs in sustainability.	2008 The University Senate issued the Statement on Sustainability, and the first Greenhouse Gas Inventory was published, with updates in 2011 and 2014, to monitor and reduce emissions.	2013 The University published its inaugural <i>Report on Sustainability</i> to highlight sustainability efforts and achievements on campus.	2014 Pitt launched the Student Office of Sustainability, which is now an active voice in fostering awareness throughout the Pitt community.	2014-2015 Pitt declares 2014-2015 the Year of Sustainability, inspiring and providing matching funds for activities throughout the campus, from courses to forums.	2016 The University Sustainability Committee was assembled to establish cross-functional representation among faculty, staff, and students who serve as advocates for sustainability at the University.

COMMITMENTS AND REPORTING



AASHE STARS

The University tracks its progress each year through the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) framework managed by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). STARS provides a comprehensive benchmarking platform for cross-functional assessment of sustainability throughout the organization. Each year, a cross section of Pitt faculty, staff, and students works to complete the extensive survey tool, and the STARS data are shared electronically with both the *Princeton Review's annual Guide to Green Colleges* and *Sierra magazine's Cool Schools* survey. Pitt has earned positive recognition in both publications for the past several years.



LEED AND WELL BUILDING CERTIFICATION

The University of Pittsburgh is committed to green building. All new construction and major renovation projects at the University are evaluated for potential Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification or WELL Building Certification. The planning process for construction at Pitt strictly considers design and performance factors such as building performance, water use, storm water management, indoor air

quality, daylighting and views, and use of regional materials. These factors are incorporated into design standards that form the building blocks for the construction and renovation of University facilities. The University of Pittsburgh is home to 12 LEED certified projects:

- McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine (2005)
- Swanson School of Engineering's Benedum Hall Phase I Renovations (2011)
- Mascaro Center for Sustainable Innovation (2012)
- Chevron Science Center Annex (2013)
- Thomas E. Starzl Biomedical Science Tower 12th-floor Renovation (2013)
- Mark A. Nordenberg Hall (2014)
- Mid-Campus Research Complex - Nuclear Physics Laboratory Renovation (2014)
- University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg Sustainable Office and Classroom Building (Cassell Hall) (2014)
- University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown Nursing and Health Sciences Building (2015)
- Graduate School of Public Health Addition (2015)
- Benedum Hall - Phase 2a Renovation (2016)
- Salk Hall Pavilion (2016)

Pitt is also pursuing LEED certification for an additional nine current and recent construction and renovation projects. This Plan sets a goal to LEED and/or WELL certify all projects with value of more than \$5 million.



PITTSBURGH 2030 DISTRICT

The University of Pittsburgh was a founding partner in the Oakland expansion of the Pittsburgh 2030 District and is actively working toward achieving the target of 50% reductions in energy use, water use, and transportation emissions by the year 2030. These reductions are helping the University with improved air quality, increased returns on investment and growing regional success. Actively participating in research for the 2030 District, Melissa Bilec from the Mascaro Center for Sustainable Innovation is engaged in developing a new indoor air quality metric that will be launched in all national 2030 districts.

PLAN ORGANIZATION

THEMES:

To incorporate and advance sustainability across Pitt's facilities, infrastructure, operations, curriculum, research and community, the Pitt Sustainability Plan is organized into three overarching themes:

- **STEWARDSHIP**
- **EXPLORATION**
- **COMMUNITY AND CULTURE**

IMPACT AREAS:

The committee identified five in-depth impact areas for each of the three themes. The 15 impact areas, represented by weighted bubbles, help to focus goals and key performance indicators for tracking the University's progress. The size of the bubbles is meant to indicate priorities based on the connections to the Plan for Pitt and feedback from public engagement, with larger bubbles representing shorter-term priorities.



PLAN FOR PITT CONNECTIONS:

The Pitt Sustainability Plan presents a unified framework for sustainable initiatives and practices across the University. This framework also advances the goals outlined in the Plan for Pitt by forming close connections to the following six strategic goals:

- Build Foundational Strength
- Embrace the World
- Engage in Research of Impact
- Advance Educational Excellence
- Promote Diversity and Inclusion
- Strengthen Communities

FORMAT GUIDE

This section explains the following pages and their elements.

IMPACT STATEMENTS

Short statements that describe Pitt's ideals within each impact area

GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS

The statements that describe what Pitt is striving to achieve in greater detail, including short- and long-term targets where appropriate

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Metrics that Pitt will use to measure progress toward achieving the goals and aspirations

SUCCESS STORIES

Vignettes of the approaches that Pitt community members are taking to realize the goals and aspirations

PITT SUSTAINABILITY LEADERS

A few of our many stories of members of our community doing amazing work to advance the tenets of sustainability

TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY

● We strive for convenient multi-modal access to and through our campus, prioritizing low-carbon modes and a walkable campus to promote the health and safety of our community and the environment.

● **GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS**

- Achieve Silver-level Bicycle-Friendly University status from the League of American Bicyclists by the end of FY2020, and Gold by the end of FY2025.
- Reduce commuter travel and direct transportation GHG emissions to 8,590 MT CO₂e (50% of FY14 baseline) by 2030.
- Increase active Pitt registered carpools by 2% and create 1 new vanpool annually between FY2018 and FY2030.
- Reduce Pitt Shuttle fuel usage by 3% annually between FY2018 and FY2030.

● **KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

- # of Port Authority trip taps per fiscal year
- # of active Pitt registered carpools, vanpools, and bicyclists
- GHG emissions from University-owned transportation

● **SUCCESS STORIES**

The University of Pittsburgh has a total of 16 level 2 charging stations located at parking garages on campus. Pitt's investment in electric vehicle charging technology demonstrates a commitment to not only endorse more sustainable transportation and commuting but also to provide and maintain the infrastructure required to support it.

PITT SUSTAINABILITY LEADER

**NAOMI E. ANDERSON (ENGR '17):
DRIVEN BY PASSION FOR SUSTAINABILITY**

As president of Pitt's chapter of Engineers for a Sustainable World, Naomi Anderson coordinated projects to winterize students' homes; test the potential of wind belts (flapping straps that can generate power); and create a rain garden in conjunction with an Oakland community group.

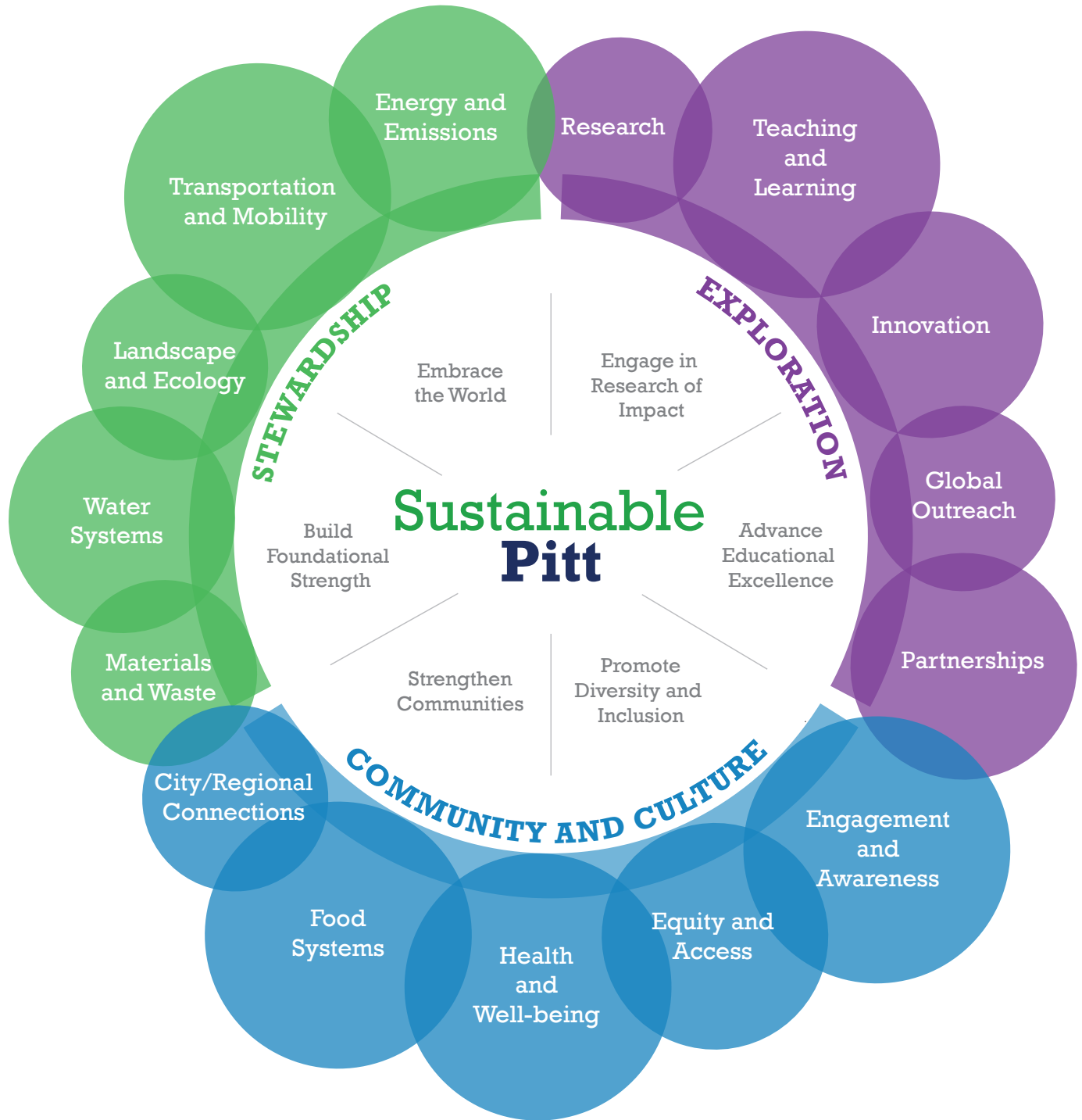
Anderson's interest in water resources led her to pursue international study of artificial glaciers. Anderson and her coauthor of a freshman research paper on the subject, fellow Pitt student Taylor Shipping (ENGR '17), were invited to travel to the mountains of northern India to research the structures up close.

An avid bicyclist, Anderson joined with her friends in 2015 to found the Pitt Bicycle Collective to support the campus cycling community. She also was one of the first two students to receive the new Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Engineering in 2017.

The Pitt Bike Collective's proposal for the Bike Cave in the Wesley W. Posvar Hall underpass won the top prize in the 2017 Sustainable Solutions competition and launched in the fall of 2017.

12 UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

ORGANIZATIONAL DIAGRAM



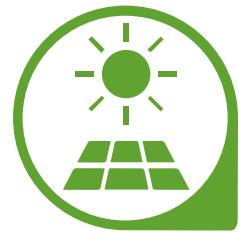
STEWARDSHIP

Pitt will care for both the built and the natural environment to ensure responsible and efficient resource management and will continually strive to minimize the environmental impact of our operations. Buildings, infrastructure, and operations play a primary role on Pitt's campuses, given the multifaceted impacts they have on resource conservation.

Pittsburgh Campus: 131 buildings, 13.7 million gross square feet (GSF), 145 acres

Regional Campuses and Ecological Laboratory Site: 127 buildings, 2.5 million GSF, 1,600 acres

ENERGY AND EMISSIONS



TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY



MATERIALS AND WASTE



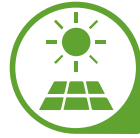
LANDSCAPE AND ECOLOGY



WATER SYSTEMS



ENERGY AND EMISSIONS



To combat the serious threat of climate change, we aim to dramatically reduce energy consumption and associated greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS

- Strive toward climate neutrality, with a goal to reduce GHG emissions by 50% by 2030 from 2008 baseline.
- Produce or procure 50% of the University's electric energy portfolio from renewable resources by 2030.
- Embrace 2030 District goals of 50% reduction below the national average in energy use intensity (consumption per square foot) by 2030 (from 2003 baseline) and establish design standards and operational practices to achieve them.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- GHG Emissions (mt CO₂e)
- Site/Source Energy use intensity (EUI) kBtu/sf-yr
- % of Renewable Energy (kWh)

SUCCESS STORIES

The Carrillo Street Steam Plant is one of the cleanest university heating plants in the United States, emitting relatively little pollution for a facility of its size. Prior to the plant's construction, Pitt's steam supply was generated primarily from coal. Ultra-low NO_x boilers and state-of-the-art emissions control technologies enable the Carrillo Plant to reduce the rate of GHG emissions by about half when compared to the emissions of a coal-fired plant.



LANDSCAPE AND ECOLOGY



We will cultivate sustainable landscapes that increase biodiversity and enrich all ecosystem services, which are vital to environmental and human health and well-being.

GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS

- Adhere to Pitt's Sustainable Landscape Design Guidelines in all new landscape designs.
- Increase tree canopy by 50% and replace 15% of lawn area with indigenous and adapted plants by 2030. (from 2017 baseline).
- Maintain at least 75% of landscaped areas in accordance with Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA) Standards for Organic Land Care by 2024.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- LEED Sustainable Sites points
- % of landscape areas maintained in accordance with NOFA standards
- # of tree plantings
- % increase of tree canopy
- % of lawn reduction

SUCCESS STORIES

In the spring of 2010, a group of students identified a vacant and blighted lot on Oakland Avenue and envisioned its transformation into a green space. The students jumped for joy after the groundbreaking of the Oakland Avenue Garden in the fall of 2010. The management of the edible garden has now transitioned to the Plant2Plate student group.



TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY



We strive for convenient multi-modal access to and through our campus, prioritizing low-carbon modes and a walkable campus to promote the health and safety of our community and the environment.

GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS

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- Embrace the 2030 District goal of 50% reduction below the district average greenhouse gas emissions from commuter travel and direct transportation by 2030 (from FY14 baseline).
- Increase active Pitt registered carpools by 2% and create 1 new vanpool annually between FY2018 and FY2030.
- Reduce Pitt Shuttle fuel usage by 3% annually between FY2018 and FY2030.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- # of Port Authority trip taps per fiscal year
- # of active Pitt registered carpools, vanpools, and bicyclists
- GHG emissions from University-owned transportation
- Gallons of Pitt shuttle fuel

SUCCESS STORIES

The University of Pittsburgh has a total of 16 level 2 charging stations located at parking garages on campus. Pitt's investment in electric vehicle charging technology demonstrates a commitment to not only endorse more sustainable transportation and commuting but also to provide and maintain the infrastructure required to support it.



PITT SUSTAINABILITY LEADER



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The Pitt Bike Collective's proposal for the Bike Cave in the Wesley W. Posvar Hall underpass won the top prize in the 2017 Sustainable Solutions competition and launched in the fall of 2017.

MATERIALS AND WASTE



We will strive for sustainable consumption and diversion practices by considering sourcing, usage, and ultimate disposal at time of purchase.

GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS

- Establish procedures, policies, practices, and educational tools to reduce the quantity and environmental impact of materials entering and exiting the University.
- Reduce landfill waste by 25% by 2030 from 2017 levels.
- Use healthy products for our built environment in accordance with future Pitt Green Building Standards.
- Expand the food waste composting program to compost 50% of food waste by 2025.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- Campus diversion rate
- Food waste composting(volume/weight)
- Annual landfill waste reduction (lbs)

SUCCESS STORIES

Students Liza Boulet (A&S '14) and Jessica McDonald (A&S '14) launched the BYO[Bag] program in 2014. Since then, the program has managed to reduce plastic bag use on campus, preventing more than one million bags from being used and raising more than \$3,500 for the Pitt Green Fund through the program's bag fee.



WATER SYSTEMS



We will strive for responsible consumption of potable and nonpotable water sources and use best-practice storm water management and reuse on campus.

GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS

- Work with the City to ensure clean, healthy drinking water for all in our community.
- Strive toward a water neutral campus, with a 3% reduction in water use by 2020 from 2017 baseline.
- Embrace the 2030 District goals of 50% reduction below the district average in water use intensity (consumption per square foot) by 2030 and establish design standards and operational practices to achieve them.
- Reduce impervious surfaces by 20% by 2030 from 2017 baseline.
- Divert 25% of storm water from remaining impervious surfaces to rain gardens, bioswales, or rainwater harvesting tanks by 2030.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- City water consumption (thousand gallons)
- Storm water capture and filtration (thousand gallons)
- % of graywater use
- % reduction of impervious surface

SUCCESS STORIES

As part of drainage system upgrades to the Cathedral of Learning lawn, a rain garden was created to manage the runoff of the system in an environmentally sustainable manner by allowing it to filter through natural vegetation. The rain garden area also has a stone perimeter and can be enjoyed by students, faculty, staff, and visitors as a peaceful seating area.



EXPLORATION

Through the integration of a creative, multidisciplinary curriculum, groundbreaking research, and social engagement, Pitt will educate every member of its faculty, staff, and student communities on sustainability, foster and support its environmental leaders, and promote innovation to contribute to a more sustainable world.

TEACHING AND LEARNING



RESEARCH



INNOVATION



GLOBAL OUTREACH



PARTNERSHIPS



TEACHING AND LEARNING



We will use sustainable principles to prepare students to lead lives of impact through a supportive environment focused on holistic and individualized approaches to learning inside and outside the classroom.

GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS

- Engage all undergraduate advisors and give them the tools necessary to connect interested students to sustainability-themed courses, majors, minors, internships, and community activities.
- Annually increase the number of students applying for and graduating with the Undergraduate Certificate in Sustainability starting with the 2017-2018 Academic Year.
- Increase sustainability-related service learning opportunities.
- Incorporate sustainability education into all freshman seminars.
- Create faculty tools, workshops, and incentives to encourage the incorporation of sustainability components into current syllabi.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- # of sustainability-related courses
- # of Undergraduate Certificates in Sustainability awarded
- # of mentoring, networking and professional development opportunities in sustainability

SUCCESS STORIES

Each year, instructor R. Ward Allebach inspires his students to innovate and create sustainability programming through his courses at Pitt. The Student Sustainability Symposium, which he organizes, showcases students' work in university focused sustainability projects and is a popular and well-attended event.



RESEARCH



We will advance the frontier of knowledge and make a positive impact on the world through collaborative and multidisciplinary approaches to sustainability-related research that focuses on areas of great social and environmental need.

GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS

- Use the Pitt campus as a living laboratory for faculty and students to implement new ideas and study outcomes over time.
- Provide more opportunities and incentives for interdisciplinary research as well as the bridging of academics and operations – promoting an environment of informing and working together.
- Raise external funds for endowed chair(s) to support faculty with research expertise in sustainability.
- Develop an endowed seed grant fund to provide greater opportunity for sustainability focused federal grants.
- Increase prestigious scholarship opportunities for undergraduate and graduate research in sustainability.
- Raise the visibility of faculty research in sustainability.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- # of added opportunities for graduate and undergraduate research in sustainability
- # of projects designed to use the campus as a living laboratory
- # of published papers on sustainability topics

SUCCESS STORIES

Researchers from the MCSI collaborated with the Green Building Alliance (GBA) and the Pittsburgh 2030 District on a pilot study on energy improvements made in harmony with air quality considerations.





INNOVATION

We will strive to ensure that our research translates into innovations that positively impact our community and the environment.

GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS

- Increase the number of sustainability-related patents, licenses, and start-ups (both for profit and non-profit).
- Collaborate with Pitt’s Innovation Institute, the University’s hub for innovation and entrepreneurship, to embed sustainability principles throughout the Institute.
- Work across impact areas to define innovations and ensure that there is a mechanism for students, faculty, and staff to advance ideas for impact.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- # of patents, licenses, and start-ups
- # of collaborative projects in sustainability

SUCCESS STORIES

The Student Office of Sustainability and the Office of PittServes host the month-long Sustainable Solutions competition each spring term. The competition offers student teams an avenue to create and develop their campus sustainability ideas in a supportive atmosphere. The winning idea receives a \$10,000 implementation budget. Past winners have developed energy efficient renovations for residence halls, solar-powered waste compactors, permaculture gardens, and the Bike Co-Op project.



PITT SUSTAINABILITY LEADER



LAURA ZULLO: PITT’S SUSTAINABILITY CHAMPION

Laura Zullo joined the Facilities Management Division 29 years ago, and her contributions to Pitt as Senior Manager of Utilities and Sustainability have helped the University to significantly reduce its carbon footprint. Zullo realized early on that energy and sustainability initiatives also could contribute to the bottom line and made it her mission to take steps toward sustainability.

On any given day, Zullo might be analyzing data from the buildings she manages, collecting statistics for submission to the Princeton Review’s *Guide to Green Colleges*, or scooping up bottles and papers alongside students for the RecycleMania competition. Championing sustainability, she established the University Sustainability Committee and was the committee leader for the Pitt Sustainability Plan. Her efforts have helped to foster collaboration among faculty, staff, and students for the successful implementation of the plan.

Zullo has recently taken a new role as Director of Administration in the Office of the Senior Vice Chancellor for Business and Operations and continues to advocate for sustainability at Pitt.

GLOBAL OUTREACH



We will engage with the world through sustainability to explore and address issues that improve global quality of life.

GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS

- Increase the number of sustainability-related international service projects.
- Track sustainability-related service and study abroad opportunities for students.
- Find alumni who are leading sustainability initiatives both nationally and internationally and connect them with University faculty and students.
- Promote sustainability-related topics at industry and academic conferences to tell our stories of impact to greater audiences.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR

- % of participation in sustainability-related Pitt study abroad programs
- # of sustainability-related international service projects.
- # of contributions (i.e. presentations, papers, abstracts) at sustainability-related conferences.

SUCCESS STORIES

University of Pittsburgh Chancellor Patrick Gallagher has announced the formation of the Chancellor's Global Advisory Council (CGAC) in support of the University's global strategy. Composed of accomplished alumni from eight countries and multiple sectors of the global economy, CGAC will advise the Chancellor and academic and administrative leaders on research, education, and outreach activities that will help improve quality of life globally through cyber security, sustainability, human rights, and other impact areas.



PARTNERSHIPS



We will support sustainability through a robust capacity to partner.

GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS

- Connect with industry and community collaborators to support applied sustainability research and education.
- Establish local and regional partnerships to accelerate the transfer of sustainability ideas from Pitt classrooms and laboratories through implementation.
- Link sustainability and Community Engagement Centers more explicitly.
- Invigorate our existing programs to increase the impact of sustainability education in the K-12 curriculum.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- # of local partnerships focused on sustainability (or with a sustainability component)

SUCCESS STORIES

The University of Pittsburgh has made a commitment to the sustainability efforts within the community of Millvale, Pennsylvania. The Office of PittServes partners with the community to send volunteers for large-scale days of service as well as smaller, more targeted sustainability projects throughout the year.



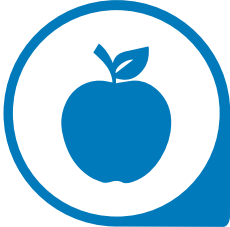
COMMUNITY AND CULTURE

Pitt will strengthen its campus and communities by creating a culture of shared responsibility for our impact on surrounding communities, the region, and the world. This will be achieved by supporting and facilitating opportunities for students, faculty, and staff to be active participants in advancing the University's social, economic, and environmental sustainability goals.

CITY/REGIONAL CONNECTIONS



FOOD SYSTEMS



EQUITY AND ACCESS



HEALTH AND WELLBEING



ENGAGEMENT AND AWARENESS



ENGAGEMENT AND AWARENESS



We will weave a culture of sustainability into the everyday fabric of our campus and community.

GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS

- Incorporate the tenets of sustainability into all student programming.
- Create an online sustainability education module for staff and develop departmental Green Teams.
- Train all staff (incoming and retained) on how to infuse the tenets of sustainability into their everyday work at Pitt.
- Create and deploy a comprehensive campus survey on student, staff, and faculty sustainability literacy by 2020.
- Share our stories of impact as leaders on a national scale and promote our model of sustainability.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- Responses to the campus-wide sustainability survey
- % of staff trained by the online sustainability education module and the # of departmental Green Teams

SUCCESS STORIES

A result of a sustainability-related class project, the University of Thriftsburgh is a student-run thrift store co-founded by Anna Greenberg (A&S '16) and Paul Heffernan (A&S '15). The store's mission is to be a working model of sustainability, encouraging students to think about how to reuse and recycle in a whole new way while also supporting fair labor practices and campus-wide sustainability efforts through donations to the Pitt Green Fund.



HEALTH AND WELLBEING



We will strive to enhance the physical and mental health as well as the quality of life of our campus community.

GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS

- Identify and improve the environmental quality of our indoor and outdoor spaces.
- Support physical health through fitness access and active design principles.
- Support the mental health needs of our students, faculty and staff.
- Embrace LEED and WELL Building Certifications, and WELL Communities for our built environment.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- # of participants in health and wellness programming
- # of LEED and WELL Building certifications

SUCCESS STORIES

The Stress Free Zone is a space where students can learn and regularly practice evidence-based mind/body stress reduction skills. These skills are primarily taught through mindfulness meditation, a form of attention training that involves an intentional, nonjudgmental observation of the present moment.



EQUITY AND ACCESS



We will continue to engage across campus to ensure that we are providing access and opportunity to all members of the Pitt community.

GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS

- Strive to create a resource net for incoming students that will allow us to proactively meet our students' physical, social, financial, and mental health needs.
- Form a committee or task force to consider socially responsible investing, to be composed of faculty, staff, student and administration representatives.
- Work across all impact areas of the Pitt Sustainability Plan to ensure benefits for all within the Pitt community.
- Integrate the tenets of sustainability into the University's procurement policies and guidelines.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- % of students, staff, and faculty who are aware of the University's sustainable purchasing policies and guidelines
- % of students who report that they feel supported by University efforts with regard to financial literacy and social supports

SUCCESS STORIES

The Pitt Pantry is dedicated to ensuring that all students have regular access to a balanced and nutritious diet by hosting regular shopping hours for students to obtain food and services. The Pitt Pantry is managed through the Office of PittServes with a dedicated team of student volunteers. The Pantry is supported through donations from the Pitt community and a partnership with the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank.



PITT SUSTAINABILITY LEADER



JESSICA E. COHEN (A&S '17, SOC WK '17): A FIGHTER FOR FOOD SECURITY

Solving food insecurity issues is a passion for Jessica Cohen, president of Pitt's Food Recovery Heroes from 2015 to 2017. Cohen believes that shelter and food are basic human rights. A recent graduate with a Social Work and Communications major, Cohen co-founded Food Recovery Heroes almost four years ago with co-founders Jonae Lloyd (A&S '15) and Samuel Ministero (A&S '15).

A truly dedicated and tireless leader, Jessie led a group of 30 Food Recovery Heroes, who collected and donated unsold salads, sandwiches, doughnuts, cookies, and pastries to local organizations and food banks in the city. They also helped the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank to raise money over a two-year period. These efforts helped Pitt to gain recognition as the first designated Food Recovery Certified ACC school. The Food Recovery Heroes were awarded the Pitt Sustainability Award in April 2017 for their contribution to fighting food insecurity.

Food Recovery Heroes helped to prepare food for families at the Ronald McDonald House, a home away from home for families with children receiving world-class care at the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC.

FOOD SYSTEMS



We will strive to build food systems that support a healthy body and a healthy planet, strengthen local communities, and minimize waste.

GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS

- Support a local, fair, ecologically sound, and humane food system by expanding the Real Food Challenge across campus to serve 25% Real Food by 2025.
- Serve 50% of to-go meals and beverages in reusable containers by 2025.
- Serve meals that put plants at the center of the plate by decreasing the amount of animal-derived products sold by 25% by 2025 (from 2017 baseline).

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- % Real Food
- % of meals sold in reusable containers
- Volume of animal-derived products served compared to 2017 baseline

SUCCESS STORIES

As the Environmental Chair of the Student Government Board (SGB) in the year 2014-15, Kacy McGill, along with fellow SGB members Linda Sun and Mikhaila Rice, worked with the Office of PittServes and Dining Services to create the Pitt Farmer's Market. The event provides the Pitt community with access to fresh, sustainable, and local food produced within 250 miles of campus.



CITY/REGIONAL CONNECTIONS



We understand that our campus and our community are part of a larger set of systems and will embrace Pittsburgh sustainability initiatives to be leaders within the region.

GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS

- Take active leadership roles in sustainability initiatives in Oakland, Pittsburgh and the surrounding region and demonstrate solutions to our grand challenges.
- Incentivize sustainability activism and community work and provide opportunities for volunteerism, internships, service, and community engagement efforts that focus on sustainability.
- Create a process of greater transparency between Pitt and our community for knowledge sharing and capacity building (building the tools for empowering change).
- Embrace a culture of impactful service through long-term investment in our communities.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- # of volunteer service hours
- # of community partners
- # of collaborative projects
- Quality of service experience (survey results)

SUCCESS STORIES

Community Engagement Centers are being established in select Pittsburgh neighborhoods. These centers will help us to further engage sustainability teaching and research projects with partners in those neighborhoods. The first center will be in Pittsburgh's Homewood neighborhood.



IMPACT AREAS AT A GLANCE

| STEWARDSHIP | EXPLORATION | COMMUNITY AND CULTURE

ENERGY AND EMISSIONS P.9



- Strive toward climate neutrality, with a goal to reduce GHG emissions by 50% by 2030 from 2008 baseline.
- Produce or procure 50% of the University's electric energy portfolio from renewable resources by 2030.
- Embrace 2030 District goals of 50% reduction below the national average in energy use intensity (consumption per square foot) by 2030 (from 2003 baseline) and establish design standards and operational practices to achieve them.

LANDSCAPE AND ECOLOGY P.9



- Adhere to Pitt's Sustainable Landscape Design Guidelines in all new landscape designs.
- Increase tree canopy by 50% and replace 15% of lawn area with indigenous and adapted plants by 2030. (from 2017 baseline).
- Maintain at least 75% of landscaped areas in accordance with Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA) Standards for Organic Land Care by 2024.

TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY P.10



- Achieve Silver-level Bicycle-Friendly University status from the League of American Bicyclists by the end of FY2020, and Gold by the end of FY2025.
- Embrace the 2030 District goal of 50% reduction below the district average greenhouse gas emissions from commuter travel and direct transportation by 2030 (from FY14 baseline).

- Increase active Pitt registered carpools by 2% and create 1 new vanpool annually between FY2018 and FY2030.
- Reduce Pitt Shuttle fuel usage by 3% annually between FY2018 and FY2030.

MATERIALS AND WASTE P.11



- Establish procedures, policies, practices, and educational tools to reduce the quantity and environmental impact of materials entering and exiting the University.
- Reduce landfill waste by 25% by 2030 from 2017 levels.
- Use healthy products for our built environment in accordance with future Pitt Green Building Standards.
- Expand the food waste composting program to compost 50% of food waste by 2025.

WATER SYSTEMS P.11



- Work with the City to ensure clean, healthy drinking water for all in our community.
- Strive toward a water neutral campus, with a 3% reduction in water use by 2020 from 2017 baseline.
- Embrace the 2030 District goals of 50% reduction below the district average in water use intensity (consumption per square foot) by 2030 and establish design standards and operational practices to achieve them.
- Reduce impervious surfaces by 20% by 2030 from 2017 baseline.
- Divert 25% of storm water from remaining impervious surfaces to

rain gardens, bioswales, or rainwater harvesting tanks by 2030.

TEACHING AND LEARNING P.13



- Engage all undergraduate advisors and give them the tools necessary to connect interested students to sustainability-themed courses, majors, minors, internships, and community activities.
- Annually increase the number of students applying for and graduating with the Undergraduate Certificate in Sustainability starting with the 2017-2018 Academic Year.
- Increase sustainability-related service learning opportunities.
- Incorporate sustainability education into all freshman seminars.
- Create faculty tools, workshops, and incentives to encourage the incorporation of sustainability components into current syllabi.

RESEARCH P.13



- Use the Pitt campus as a living laboratory for faculty and students to implement new ideas and study outcomes over time.
- Provide more opportunities and incentives for interdisciplinary research as well as the bridging of academics and operations – promoting an environment of informing and working together.
- Raise external funds for endowed chair(s) to support faculty with research expertise in sustainability.
- Develop an endowed seed grant fund to provide greater opportunity for sustainability focused federal grants.

- Increase prestigious scholarship opportunities for undergraduate and graduate research in sustainability.
- Raise the visibility of faculty research in sustainability.

INNOVATION P.14



- Increase the number of sustainability-related patents, licenses, and start-ups (both for profit and non-profit).
- Collaborate with Pitt's Innovation Institute, the University's hub for innovation and entrepreneurship, to embed sustainability principles throughout the Institute.
- Work across impact areas to define innovations and ensure that there is a mechanism for students, faculty, and staff to advance ideas for impact.

GLOBAL OUTREACH P.15



- Increase the number of sustainability-related international service projects.
- Track sustainability-related service and study abroad opportunities for students.
- Find alumni who are leading sustainability initiatives both nationally and internationally and connect them with University faculty and students.
- Promote sustainability-related topics at industry and academic conferences to tell our stories of impact to greater audiences.

PARTNERSHIPS P.15



- Connect with industry and community collaborators to support applied sustainability research and education.
- Establish local and regional partnerships to accelerate the transfer of sustainability ideas from Pitt classrooms and laboratories through implementation.
- Link sustainability and Community Engagement Centers more explicitly.

- Invigorate our existing programs to increase the impact of sustainability education in the K-12 curriculum.

ENGAGEMENT AND AWARENESS P.17



- Incorporate the tenets of sustainability into all student programming.
- Create an online sustainability education module for staff and develop departmental Green Teams.
- Train all staff (incoming and retained) on how to infuse the tenets of sustainability into their everyday work at Pitt.
- Create and deploy a comprehensive campus survey on student, staff, and faculty sustainability literacy by 2020.
- Share our stories of impact as leaders on a national scale and promote our model of sustainability.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING P.17



- Identify and improve the environmental quality of our indoor and outdoor spaces.
- Support physical health through fitness access and active design principles.
- Support the mental health needs of our students, faculty and staff.
- Embrace LEED and WELL Building Certifications, and WELL Communities for our built environment.

EQUITY AND ACCESS P.18



- Strive to create a resource net for incoming students that will allow us to proactively meet our students' physical, social, financial, and mental health needs.
- Form a committee or task force to consider socially responsible investing, to be composed of faculty, staff, student and administration representatives.

- Work across all impact areas of the Pitt Sustainability Plan to ensure benefits for all within the Pitt community.

- Integrate the tenets of sustainability into the University's procurement policies and guidelines.

FOOD SYSTEMS P.19



- Support a local, fair, ecologically sound, and humane food system by expanding the Real Food Challenge across campus to serve 25% Real Food by 2025.
- Serve 50% of to-go meals and beverages in reusable containers by 2025.
- Serve meals that put plants at the center of the plate by decreasing the amount of animal-derived products sold by 25% by 2025 (from 2017 baseline).

CITY/REGIONAL CONNECTIONS P.19



- Take active leadership roles in sustainability initiatives in Oakland, Pittsburgh and the surrounding region and demonstrate solutions to our grand challenges.
- Incentivize sustainability activism and community work and provide opportunities for volunteerism, internships, service, and community engagement efforts that focus on sustainability.
- Create a process of greater transparency between Pitt and our community for knowledge sharing and capacity building (building the tools for empowering change).
- Embrace a culture of impactful service through long-term investment in our communities.

PLAN ENABLERS

The Pitt Sustainability Plan strives to make a measurable impact in advancing its vision for a sustainable future. We realize that this plan will be faced with both challenges and opportunities that require a dynamic framework of strategies to achieve the goals and aspirations in the plan. The plan elevates five enablers which are critical to establishing the foundation for success. They are overarching in that they must be thought of as elevating all aspects of sustainability at Pitt to achieve institutional change. They are cross-cutting in that they are necessary as catalysts for the three themes: Stewardship, Exploration, and Community and Culture, and will help to guide each impact area's goals and aspirations.

Sustainability initiatives are not held in one department or office at Pitt. They are happening daily throughout our community in various ways. These enablers will help to coordinate and advance the efforts of all areas through organization, communication, and celebration.

Pitt is using these plan enablers to create short-term directives, which inform immediate actions coming out of this plan. Many of the initiatives listed here are happening in various ways on campus today but need higher-level buy-in and resources for them to be formalized.



1. IMPLEMENT SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS WITH CLEAR ORGANIZATION, LEADERSHIP, AND POLICIES

We will facilitate the implementation of comprehensive sustainability programs at Pitt with clearly defined organizational and leadership roles and campus-wide policies that will affect change.

NEAR-TERM INITIATIVE

Establish an Office of Sustainability to oversee and coordinate the implementation of sustainable initiatives across the University.

2. EDUCATE EVERY MEMBER OF THE PITT FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENT COMMUNITIES ON SUSTAINABILITY

We will educate all members of the Pitt community on the three tenets of sustainability, providing them with the tools to be better University and global citizens.

NEAR-TERM INITIATIVE

Integrate sustainability awareness into student and employee orientation programs.



3. CONNECT

ACROSS DEPARTMENTS,
ORGANIZATIONS,
DISCIPLINES, AND
COMMUNITY LINES

We will create mechanisms for fostering collaboration, connection, and exploration among our academic, research, and administrative areas, operations, students, and community partners.

NEAR-TERM INITIATIVES

Establish mechanisms for facilitating new connections and launch and fund a Living Lab program.



4. MEASURE

PERFORMANCE AND
INTEGRATE INTO A
UNIVERSITY-WIDE
STRATEGIC PLANNING
FRAMEWORK

We will establish efficient and effective collection and dissemination of data for the purpose of accountability and transparency within the University community.

NEAR-TERM INITIATIVE

Develop a performance-tracking and analysis dashboard integrated with the Plan for Pitt.



5. CELEBRATE

OUR SUCCESSES AND TELL
OUR STORIES

We will elevate our stories of impact to the world so that Pitt is recognized globally as a university that influences, guides, and affects change.

NEAR-TERM INITIATIVE

Build up to ten success stories and publish them in print and online media.

PLAN ENGAGEMENT



UNIVERSITY SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

The University Sustainability Committee is committed to establishing sustainability goals across campus, monitoring the implementation of strategies, and creating a formal process for reporting sustainability goals and metrics. The Committee was assembled in October 2016 with representation from Pitt's staff, faculty, and students and was charged with developing a comprehensive sustainability plan for the University. Over various working sessions, the committee benchmarked sustainability efforts in campus operations, education, and outreach, and made recommendations to implement standards and best practices. The Pitt Sustainability Plan was created as a tool for collaborative integration of sustainability across every aspect of the University.

INTERCEPT INTERVIEWS

The University Sustainability Committee teamed up with student leaders to conduct intercept interviews on campus. Intercept interviews are informal discussions between the planning team



and the Pitt community members. The interviews strengthened engagement with students and gave voice to perceptions of sustainability on campus while also promoting awareness of the work being done on the Pitt Sustainability Plan. Through a series of quick question-and-answer rounds, students expressed how important sustainability at Pitt was to them and their appreciation for the University's ongoing efforts to develop a comprehensive sustainability plan.

SURVEY

The Pitt Sustainability Plan incorporates the thoughts and ambitions of a diverse cross section of Pitt's student, faculty, and staff communities. The University Sustainability Committee launched the Pitt Sustainability Survey in March 2017 to understand perceptions, behaviors, and aspirations related to sustainability among members of the campus community. With a total of 1,050 responses, the online survey provided meaningful contributions to the plan, informing its goals and aspirations. The survey results clearly demonstrate that the Pitt community cares deeply about the environment and about sustainability issues on campus.

COMMUNITY LEADERS

The University Sustainability Committee realizes that the impact of the Pitt Sustainability Plan extends beyond campus borders. In accordance with the University's long-standing tradition of striving to serve the local community and the Pittsburgh region in its activities, the committee engaged in conversations with various local partners about sustainability activities at Pitt. Carnegie Mellon University, the Green Building Alliance, the Oakland Business Improvement District, the Oakland Transportation Management Association, the Oakland Planning and Development Corporation, and the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center provided valuable insights into the successful implementation of the Pitt Sustainability Plan.

WEBSITE AND TWITTER

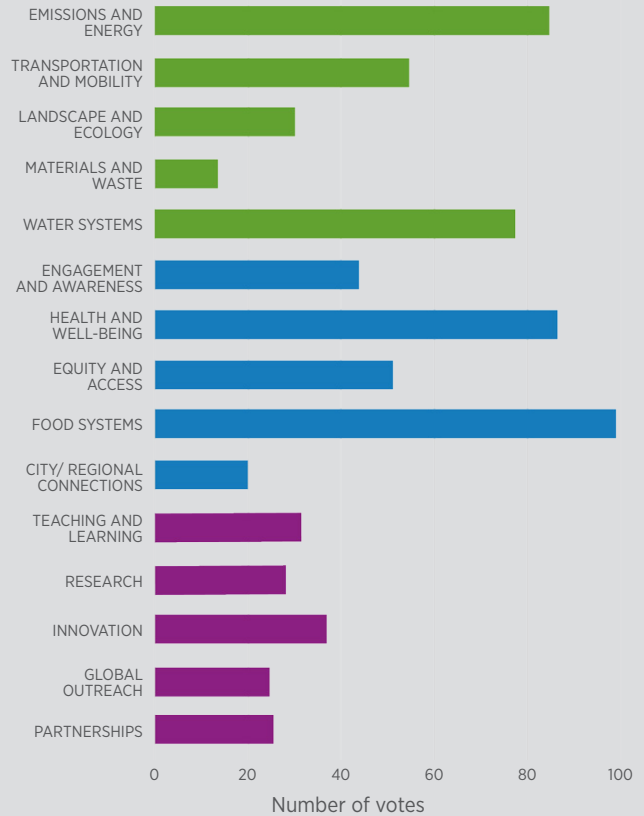
To keep the Pitt community up to date on news, events, and progress related to sustainability, a refreshed, interactive version of the sustainable.pitt.edu website will be unveiled in 2018. During the engagement phase, the Pitt Sustainability Plan took to Twitter (#SustainablePitt) to tweet about the plan and ongoing sustainability activities. The Sustainability Committee is working with University Communications to continue to engage the community through various news outlets, the website, and social media.



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

The Committee set up a booth at the Pitt Farmers' Market in April 2017 and gathered feedback on the Plan from a larger community of staff, students, alumni, prospective students, and Pittsburghers. The booth had four quick exercises: Photo Booth, Hits and Misses, Voting (with gum balls), and Big, Bold Ideas. The Photo Booth activity gave the Pitt community a chance to make their voices heard, as participants held hand-written signs with their thoughts on the Plan in front of the camera. The Hits and Misses exercise provided staff and students with an opportunity to point out sustainable and unsustainable practices on campus. Through the gum ball voting, the community voted for the three Impact Areas most important to them for the Pitt Sustainability Plan. Lastly, the Big, Bold Ideas exercise encouraged the community to post their thoughts, concerns, and ideas on a board.

FARMERS' MARKET VOTING RESULTS



MAJOR TAKEAWAYS FROM PLAN ENGAGEMENT

1. There is good work in sustainability at Pitt. There are many achievements, but we need to do a better job at telling our stories.
2. Sustainability at Pitt can't be "green-washed." There is a need to be honest with challenges.
3. There needs to be more interaction and collaboration between the University's organizational branches: operations, academics, research, and athletics.
4. It is critical to connect to the Plan for Pitt for high-level buy-in and consistency.
5. The planning effort needs breadth but should also focus on short-term wins for Pitt.
6. Pittsburgh is our campus. Our urban setting and connection to the city is a key differentiator for this plan.
7. It is critical to track and report performance and progress at Pitt.
8. The Pitt campus should be a Living Lab, increasing transparency and using the campus to teach and highlight our achievements to the community.

REGIONAL CAMPUSES

Regional campuses were an integral part of the Plan and are vital to the success of sustainability at Pitt. The following are just samples of the efforts happening on the regional campuses, representing the great advocacy and advancement of sustainability tenets throughout the University.

Pitt-Greensburg

A four-year liberal arts college surrounded by the Laurel Highlands and minutes from sought-after city amenities, the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg (UPG) is situated on 219 acres encompassing woodlands and Slate Run creek. Native trees, shrubs, and wildflowers adorn the campus roadways. Care is taken to preserve the water quality of the creek, which is a legendary trout fishing destination. Home to Frank A. Cassell Hall—a LEED Gold-certified building that boasts native landscaping with bioswales, natural lighting, radiant floors, and two green roofs that harvest rainwater—UPG is realizing significant energy savings. Recycling and other greening efforts are growing and include a composting program, reduction of dining hall waste, and paper elimination.

Pitt-Johnstown

Nestled in a wooded mountain setting comprising 655 acres, the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown (UPJ) is our first and largest regional campus. In an effort to maintain the picturesque integrity of the setting, during the original campus construction, then-President Theodore Biddle required that the utility companies install their lines around many of the existing mature trees. In 1967, *Look* magazine featured the state-of-the-art campus heating system where heat created from individuals, lighting, and equipment in the classrooms was recycled for use in other buildings. Today, UPJ continues this tradition of reducing its environmental impact with numerous endeavors, including recycling, plastic waste reduction, energy efficiency, sustainable dining practices, and LEED-certified construction.

UPJ Sustainable Kitchen

To increase safety and efficiency and create a more environmentally friendly kitchen, Pitt-Johnstown is introducing a closed-loop, automated oil management system. The new process will help reduce landfill waste by delivering fresh cooking oil in bulk and recycling used cooking oil into biodiesel. This approach is expected to eliminate 12 three gallon jugs per week or 1,200 gallons per year from landfills as well as minimize injuries from slips and heavy lifts.

Pitt-Bradford

Centered around the natural environment, with the hiking trails and streams of the Allegheny National Forest providing a scenic backdrop, the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford (UPB) is a 317-acre campus offering two sustainability-focused degree programs. UPB, with a sustainability committee established in 2011, has been recognized for its commitment to sustainability and the environment. It was named to the Princeton Review's list of green colleges and designated a Tree Campus USA college by the Arbor Day Foundation. This effort is further evidenced by the offering of free public bus transit, sourcing food from organic or local options, diverting 54 percent of its waste from landfills, and installing solar panels.



UPB Compacting

Converting the campus-wide, multi-stream recycling program to single-stream reduced collection costs by 66%. The savings paid for the new multi-stream compactor, which replaced three open containers, in three years. Coupled with student participation and education, recycling has increased to over 150 tons annually.

Pitt-Titusville

Two hours north of Pittsburgh, encompassing ten rural acres, the University of Pittsburgh at Titusville is Pitt's only two-year campus. Built around McKinney Hall, a mansion originally constructed in 1873, the campus is located on and around the former McKinney estate. Donated in 1963, it is a notable example of reuse, as is Bennett Davis Hall, which served as the former carriage house for the estate. In 2007, McKinney Hall was awarded the Crawford County Historical Society's Preservation Award for a multiple-use structure.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

University Sustainability Committee Co-chairs

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- Scott Bernotas**, Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities Management Division
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The University of Pittsburgh is an affirmative action, equal opportunity institution.

