



**PRESIDENT'S SUSTAINABILITY  
COMMISSION  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Agenda**

November 10, 2025 | 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

**Teams**

**Attendees:** Kristin Olofsson, Jamie Pace, Colleen Duncan, Aaron Fodge, Mindy Hill, Asheley Keeton, Dimagi Kottage, Monica Latham, Greg Lewis, Mary Liang, Trina McDowell, Amber Sanchez, Sarah Badding, Stacey Baumgam, Tami Bond, Bella Conrad, Carol Dollard, Jake Drenth, Brian Dunbar, Matthew Selje, Matt Schild, Grace Wright, Tonie Miyamoto, Andrew Warnock, Rodolfo Valdes Vasquez, Greg Lewis, & Liri Sanes.

**Welcome and Introductions – All**

**Princeton Review Updates – Tonie**

- Green College Honor Roll – 12<sup>th</sup> Consecutive Year!
  - We're proud to announce that CSU has been recognized on the Princeton Review's Green College Honor Roll for the twelfth year in a row. This distinction is awarded to colleges that earn full points in the Princeton Review assessment, highlighting our ongoing commitment to sustainability curriculum, research, engagement, and operations.  
You can view the list here: [Princeton Review Green Honor Roll](#)
- CSU was included in the Princeton Review Top 50 Green Colleges this year as we were unaware that in addition to submitting the STARS report, we also needed to submit a student survey. This oversight occurred because the invitation to participate was sent to a former CSU employee.
  - In working with IR, the CSU contact has now been updated to Kacee Collard Jarnot. We are in the process of learning more about the survey's content and whether it would be beneficial for us to submit next year.
  - It's important to note that this survey is quite comprehensive and would be tailored specifically to CSU. Some questions we need clarity include:

- How closely do the questions align with the sustainability literacy and engagement survey we already conduct? Are the questions duplicative or complimentary?
  - When is this survey conducted?
  - What options do we have to avoid over-surveying students, and what alternatives might there be?
- Many committee members see value in participating in this survey, recognizing it as a strategic step toward being listed among the Top 50 Green Colleges. Since students often consult this list, it can serve as a valuable recognition of our sustainability efforts and admissions.

### **STARS Update**

- All credits have been submitted to 3<sup>rd</sup> party reviewer; we still need to submit to complete a couple of credit reviews.
- We hope to submit to AASHE by mid-November, with a confirmed report by the end of the calendar year.
- Our preliminary score is well above the Platinum threshold.

### **DEC and Project Scoring Criteria Updates – Grace**

- Moving forward, those submitting new projects at the university are now required to include a self-score based on specific criteria, with sustainability being one of the key areas considered.
- Since the launch of this process, we've identified opportunities to refine and tighten the language and criteria to improve clarity and effectiveness. There are areas for improvement so we will work on refining the criteria, but overall, this approach is a strong step forward in integrating sustainability into new projects.
- For more details, you can visit the project sustainability guidelines here: [CSU Project Sustainability](#)

### **District Energy Conversion**

- At the time of the meeting, State legislators were visiting one of the boilers at CSU, which has been on the state funding list for a number of years. This boiler is at end of life and is in need of replacement.
- It is expected that the boiler will be rolled into the larger funding plan for the district energy conversion.

### **FY25 GHG Inventory – Stacey and Carol**

- You may view the presentation here: <https://green.colostate.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/17/2025/11/GHG-Slides-for-PSC-NOV25.pdf>

- Electricity and natural gas make up 66% of our emissions so energy reduction is our biggest opportunity for improvement.
- From the presentation:
  - Things to Celebrate:
    - Scope 1 & 2 Emissions down from FY10 (baseline year) by 31%
    - Scope 1 & 2 Emissions down from FY24 by 16%
    - Grid getting greener and should improve again this year as local utilities add more solar and wind
    - Commuting getting more sustainable – especially students
  - Things to Work on:
    - Natural gas & fleet vehicles have not improved in years
    - Dollars spent on air travel are back to pre-COVID levels
  - Things to Note: – Air Travel is now calculated differently (more accurately) so emissions from air travel has dropped significantly

### **Member Updates – All**

- **Tonie:**

The DSA Sustainability Committee will be hosting a conversation/brainstorm about a campus thrift store during their December 2 meeting, if you'd like to join, please let Amber know.
- **Brian Dunbar:**

An elementary school in Ethiopia has requested CSU's help to integrate sustainability into their facilities and grounds. This represents a fantastic opportunity to grow sustainability professionals and foster a young interest in learning at CSU. Although the work will be primarily online, this could be the start of a valuable partnership that continues to develop as some of the graduating students have expressed interest in attending CSU.
- **Mindy Hill:**

The Center for Environmental Justice Conference will be held on campus April 13 & 14 as a hybrid event this year. The call for proposals has closed, with over 200 submissions from around the world! We have numerous global partners excited to engage with CSU and address complex environmental justice issues. Mindy encourages everyone to attend and share this opportunity with students, leaders, and community members. It's a great chance to show up and participate.

  - Conference details: [Global Environmental Justice Conference 2026](#)
  - Volunteer form: [Volunteer Sign-Up](#) — volunteers will have their registration fees covered.

Tonie mentioned we can promote this through PSC as part of Earth Month activities and PSC may have some limited funds for sponsorship.

- **Stacey:**

Paper selection has been restored/updated on ShopCatalogs, which means CSU departments will now purchase recycled paper and should no longer see non-recycled options in the catalog.

- **Mary:**

An update on the CSU Sustainability Fund: The deadline has passed and we received 11 applications. The committee will meet tomorrow to decide which projects will move forward.