



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

**Minutes
Sept 9th, 1:00-2:30pm
LSC 308-310**

- Introductions of Co-Chairs:
 - Tonie Miyamoto- Co Chair, Vice President for Student Affairs Office
 - Carol Dollard- Co Chair, Facilities Management
 - Grace Wright- Incoming Co-Chair, College of Business.
- Group Introductions and overview of PSC and Mission:
 - <https://green.colostate.edu/presidents-sustainability-commission/>
 - Welcome to our new members!
- Carol Dollard Retirement:
 - After 25 years at CSU, Carol will be retiring at the end of December. Grace will be transitioning in this semester as the new PSC Co-Chair.
 - Carol has committed to returning on a part-time/consultant basis in 2025 to assist with the STARS 3.0 report.
 - Stacey Baumgarn is taking over Carol's responsibilities in Facilities.
 - Greenhouse Gas Footprint has been conducted by Carol since FY08. Carol has written a 30-page procedure manual on how to do the Greenhouse Gas Footprint at CSU.
- Kirstie Tedrick Leaving CSU:
 - After 8 years at CSU and with the STARS Team and 5 years serving as the PSC Admin, Kirstie will be taking a new sustainability role for the City of Broomfield. We wish her well and she will be missed!
 - Asuka Nosaka (she/hers) from the Vice President for Student Affairs Office is taking over some of the Admin responsibilities such as PSC scheduling and meeting minutes.
 - PSC Intern, Jackie, will also be stepping in to manage the website and listserv updates.
 - **If you are interested in filling in any of these roles that Kirstie held please let Tonie know:**
 - Earth Day Festival Coordination for PSC and PSC Sustainability Recognition and Milestones Event
 - CSU STARS Team (specifically public engagement and academic credits; this role may be eligible for supplemental pay)
 - PSC rep to the Pollinator Friendly Campus Committee – Grace Wright has volunteered to serve as the PSC representative
- PSC Budget Updates:
 - Budget amount is the same as last year.
 - Money has already been transferred to SoGES for Curriculum Innovation Grants
 - CSU Sustainability Fund will launch next week

- EV Grant will also launch next week
- Carbon Offsets with Envirofit International:
 - The remaining funds from last year's EV Grant were used to purchase certified carbon credits from Envirofit International to supplement the purchase of cookstoves in developing nations.
 - These credits are enough to offset CSU EV chargers, Mountain Campus, and Spur Campus. <https://source.colostate.edu/carbon-offsets-recently-purchased-to-help-reduce-pollution/>
- Climate Action Plan Update:
 - CAP was created in FY10 and has been updated every two years give or take with COVID. This is an update year. Currently we are at the halfway point to our net zero carbon goal of 2040 and we are not on track. We need to invest more in our climate action goals, particularly the District Energy Conversion project, which has significant upfront costs but a significant return on investment long-term. There is also a focus on integrating climate resiliency in this update.
 - The FY24 Greenhouse Gas Footprint is underway, with a preliminary update expected next month and full certification by the end of October. While natural gas and steam usage are down, this may be attributed to favorable weather conditions. There is concerning news for the second consecutive year, as Fort Collins Utilities has increased their use of fossil fuels. This shift is partially due to reduced hydroelectric power caused by drought conditions. Since electricity constitutes half of the institution's carbon footprint, and Fort Collins Utilities provides 80% of our electricity, this significantly impacts our goal of 100% renewable electricity by 2030.
- STARS 3.0 report due in late 2025:
 - Grace is helping recruit an Impact MBA student to join the PSC STARS Team in January to help with the report with Kirstie leaving CSU and Carol's retirement.
 - The report will begin in January 2025 and will take 9 to 12 months to complete. There is an increased level of difficulty with 3.0. A memo outlining action items to move the needle on both CAP goals and STARS has been submitted to CSU leadership. CSU has held Platinum status since 2015 and we hope to take tangible action to retain Platinum.
- Updates from Members:
 - Mark - A proposal to deconstruct and rebuild Glover will go to BOG in October. The project is a collaboration between the College of Engineering and the College of Natural Sciences. It was noted that PSC should advocate for sustainable building practices and certification for this project.
 - Bill - International project opportunity that connects sustainability with peace building. If there are folks who are interested, please reach out to Bill Timpson.
 - Grace – The student class group in COB working on incentives to reduce air travel is reviewing data and brainstorming creative solutions and ideas with the goal to encourage people to not fly. This is in addition to the existing airline travel offset and is a great example of reducing our carbon footprint and increasing our STARS score.
 - Grace - COB is reducing printing and has utilized software that tracks how many print jobs are being run. This software can also interrupt long print jobs and set personal printing reduction goals. For every tree they save, they will plant a tree.
 - Aaron - Open Streets this weekend (Sept 15) on Shields is a great opportunity to show what can happen in roads without vehicles. <https://www.fcgov.com/openstreets/>
 - Tonie – Several positive sustainability media stories to share:
 - CBS Denver did a story on active transportation options for the Showdown this weekend, including Transfort partnerships and RamRide.

- Zero Waste Team was covered at the Ag Game and sorting waste in the stadium.
 - CSU is celebrating a full decade in the Top 4 of doctoral institutions in the Campus Sustainability Index. We were also recognized in the Top 10 for several other categories including tied for No. 1 in curriculum; No. 2 in campus engagement; No. 5 in public engagement; tied for No. 7 in research and purchasing; No. 8 in investment and finance; and tied for No. 9 in water. <https://source.colostate.edu/csu-top-four-in-sustainable-campus-index-for-10th-straight-year/>
- Aaron - West Elizabeth Bus Transportation Corridor Project has been formally submitted. Project is estimated around \$120 million total. We have about \$11 million in hand to get started. Will know in a few months on standing of that larger grant. The project was presented to ASCSU Senate Wednesday as well.
 - Aaron - Lake Street redesign planning federal grant approved and procured by the City. The design will include a variety of safety considerations, midblock crossings, underpasses, mix of transportation modes, etc.
 - Aleta - SoGES co-leads [ANGLES](#) – a network of universities in the United States and Canada engaged in leadership development for graduate students in sustainability. CSU is bringing students from 15 universities next month to start piloting a merged leadership program. The goal next year is to bring students from universities who don't have access to these opportunities.
 - Aleta – In addition to sending a delegation to the UN Climate Change Conference, CSU will now also have a delegation at the UN Convention on Biological Diversity Conference at the end of October in Columbia.
 - Mark – The Advanced Beam Lab, a proposed new building on Foothills Campus will explore fusion energy. While this project has the potential to advance clean energy, a downside is the expected high electric energy usage. The design conversation for this building is set to take place in November, and those interested in contributing should plan to participate. The project is a collaborative effort involving a three-way partnership between Marvel Fusion, a German company; the U.S. Department of Energy; and CSU. The goal of this partnership is to advance clean energy technologies.
 - Tonie – We are piloting a proposal to pay The students on the Zero Waste Team for their labor. Housing & Dining Services will implement this pilot during the upcoming President's Fall Address and University Picnic. Tonie is currently acting as the interim supervisor for the team with the goal of establishing a permanent home for the Zero Waste Team in the future. The wage for team members will be \$17 per hour, with the student manager receiving \$20 per hour. The pilot proposal is attached for reference.
 - Aidan Lawton, a recent graduate of the Impact MBA program, has developed a unique Climate Action Plan board game here at CSU. PSC hired Aidan as a part-time, non-student hourly for the past several months to package the game for use by faculty, staff, and students here at CSU. We expect the game boxes to arrive this week and the game will be available on green.colostate.edu for check out soon.