Higher Education’s Role as a Leader on Climate Change

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Key Questions for Today

- What is happening with climate policy in California?
- What role do universities play?
- How can the Registry help?
“As of today, California is going to be the leader in the fight against global warming... I say the debate is over. We know the science. We see the threat. And we know the time for action is now.”

- Governor Schwarzenegger
June 1, 2005

<table>
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<th>GHG Reduction Targets</th>
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<td>▪ By 2010: reduce to 2000 levels</td>
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<td>▪ By 2020: reduce to 1990 levels</td>
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<td>▪ By 2050: reduce to 80 percent below 1990 levels</td>
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Established by Executive Order S-3-05
2010 and 2020: How do we get there?

- Climate Action Team Report, March 2006
- Existing programs should get us about halfway there:
  - Vehicle Climate Change Standards (AB 1493, Pavley)
  - Accelerated RPS Standard - 33% by 2020
  - IOU Energy Efficiency Programs
  - Green Building Initiative
  - 50% Statewide Recycling Goal
2010 and 2020: How do we get there?

New recommendations from the Climate Action Team Report:

- HFC Reduction Strategies
- Afforestation/Reforestation
- RPS for Municipal Utilities
- Alternative Fuels (biodiesel blends and ethanol)
- Landfill Methane Capture
- Smart Land Use & Intelligent Transport
2050: 80% Reduction from 1990 Levels

This will require major technology breakthroughs and infrastructure changes.
Other Climate Policies in California

- **AB 32: CA Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006**
  - Mandatory reporting for “significant sources”
  - Reduce statewide GHGs to 1990 emission levels by 2020
  - Establish GHG caps by 2010
  - Recognizes certified inventories and reductions made by Registry members

- **CPUC Activities**
  - Load-based GHG Cap
  - GHG Performance Standard for IOUs
  - Carbon Adder in evaluating fossil generation bids
What Role Do Universities Play?
Higher education sector is a $317 billion industry\(^1\)

Enrollment from 2000 - 2013 expected to increase by 23\%\(^2\)

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Universities’ Role

- Train the leaders and decisionmakers of tomorrow
- Influence students to play a role in making change
- Promote and demonstrate sustainability
- Be part of the solution!
How Can the Registry Help?
Role of the Registry

- Serve as a voluntary GHG registry to protect, encourage and promote early actions to reduce GHG emissions

- Help organizations establish GHG emissions inventories and baselines

- Work with members to voluntarily:
  - Increase energy efficiency
  - Decrease GHG emissions
California Climate Action Registry

- Created by the State in 2000
  - Public/private non-profit partnership
  - Voluntary
  - Third-party certified

- Program launched October 2002

- “Gold Standard” for voluntary public reporting of GHGs
Three Step Process

1. **Inventory** according to the Registry protocols
   - CO₂ first 3 years, then all 6 Kyoto gases
   - Direct stationary, mobile, process and fugitive emissions
   - Indirect emissions from electricity and steam

2. **Certify** emissions inventory using Registry-approved certifiers

3. **Report** aggregated data publicly
The State “commits to use its best efforts to ensure that organizations that establish greenhouse gas emissions baselines and register emissions results... receive appropriate consideration under any future international, federal, or state regulatory scheme.”
Registry Resources for Members

- General Reporting Protocol
  - based on WRI/WBCSD guidelines

- CARROT: Climate Action Registry Reporting Online Tool

- Technical Assistance

- Suite of Member Services
Some of Our Members

78 members as of June 2006
Why Report GHGs to the Registry?

Registry = Infrastructure

- First step for any reduction policy option
- Clear understanding of your emission sources
- Identify opportunities for reductions (& cost savings!)
- Consistent and accurate reporting year to year
- State recognized program
- Opportunity to participate in standards development
Case Study: UCSB

**Why?**
- Student project spurred participation
- Part of campus sustainability efforts

**Costs**
- Annual membership fee = $3,000
- 2 staff - 120 hours total
- Certification = $8,000 (1st year)

**Benefits**
- Certified emissions report = confidence in data
- Demonstrating leadership on important issue
- Ahead of the curve re: carbon tax/regulation
- Knowledgeable about climate policy and activities in CA and beyond
Why Participate?

- Be a leader on issue of climate change
- Set an example - for students, for communities, for the nation
- Support statewide initiative
- Understand your GHG footprint
- Save money!
- Protect early action to reduce GHGs
- Build environmental reputation
- Affect policy development
- Become a Climate Action Leader
“You can’t manage what you don’t measure.”
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