

**Chancellor's Sustainability Committee Meeting minutes**  
**Monday, May 5, 2:00 – 3:30 pm**  
**Social Science & Media Studies Room 4315**

**Attendees:** Renée Bahl, Matt StClair, Jewel Persad, Katie Maynard, Jennifer King, Alan Grosenheider, Bella Ponce, David Pellow, Jen Bowser, Osamnthus Lynch, Bella Rosemarie Crosland Bell, Perrin Pellegrin, Ada Chibueze, Lainey Djajakusuma

**Open Forum:**

- Public Forum Comments
  - EAB's Sable pipeline Campaign Success - Coastal Commission decided to fine Sable 18 million for starting work when they hadn't received permission

**Announcements:**

- CycleMAYnia events
  - Bike to Work - Thursday, May 15th, from 7 to 9 AM at Henley Gate
  - Bike to Work Challenge, log bike trips for UCSB [here](#) during the month of May
- Central Coast Sustainability Summit Call for Proposals due June 20th

**Updates:**

- [Draft Climate Action Plan](#) Feedback Request
  - Reminder for the committee to spend some time reviewing the draft Climate Plan Update, particularly the section on Scope 3 emissions.
- TGIF funded projects - TGIF awarded ~\$204,000 to 26 projects. For a full list of projects, visit the [TGIF webpage](#).

## Approve [Meeting Minutes from April](#) - Approved

### Presentation and Discussion (2:21 - 2:25):

- [Presentation](#) from Matthew St.Clair, Chief Sustainability Officer, UCOP

#### Background on Matthew St.Clair

- 21 years of UC service, before that Matt was a graduate student at UCB and a member of the California Sustainability Student Coalition (CSSC). The CSSC was successful in getting the regents to pass our first sustainability policy in 2003, which went into effect in 2004. Matt was hired to implement the policy. The policy has since been expanded from green building and climate to 13 areas. Each policy area has a working group with members from each campus. The entire policy is developed by consensus, and working groups support each other, and collect data on goals.

#### UC Sustainability priorities:

- Decarbonization
- Sustainable Transportation - GCLC priority
- Streamline Sustainability Policy and working Groups - As it has grown, it is overdue for restructure, plus 13 working groups is a lot for staff.
- Crisis as an opportunity - forced to accept changes they would not normally accept, creates an opportunity for structural and behavioral changes.

#### Global Climate Leadership Council (GCLC)

- GCLC was created by the previous President in 2013, and Drake continued the work. GCLC is now wrapping up a decarbonization task force.

- Vision - a more equitable and sustainable world, prioritizing solutions for everyone
- Topics
  - 2022 - 2025: Campus Energy Systems
  - 2025 - 2026: Transportation (Fleet, commuting)
  - 2026 - 2027: Supply chain

## Living Labs

- Most living lab examples at each campus are ad hoc; the pilot program funded by GCLC is going to make it more strategic with lessons learned. All IVY League institutions have full-time living lab staff.
  - UCM and UCR were selected for a two-year pilot
  - The goal is to offer partial funding to create a staff position
- GCLC helped seed three centers - UC Center for Climate Health and Equity, UC Center for Climate Justice
- GCLC is offering a Grant to develop a climate literacy survey (UCSB and UCSD already had one)

## Electric vehicles + Scope 3 projects

- Electric Fleet ramp-up guide
- Sustain food tech assistance
- UC Health supply chain emissions
- Single-use plastics reduction small grant program.

## GCLC - Sustainable Transportation Focus Area

### Approach it based on 3 sprints

- Vehicle fleet - fall 2025
- Commuting - Winter 2026
- Air Travel? - Spring 2026

Fleet - Good sense of Barriers (Cost), decentralized decision making on each campus, each department buys its own vehicle.

Looking at the total cost of ownership approach (Electric vehicle is more expensive up front, but you may save costs over the life of the vehicle), also look at right-sizing of vehicle (May only need a vehicle twice a year, but may not need to own it)

#### Decarb Studies:

- All decarbonization studies were submitted, and based on those studies, each campus submitted reduction targets, and now campuses are developing plans that align with those targets. A final report was developed and submitted to Drake with the plan to publish in June
- Key findings
  - UC knows how to decarbonize, and electrification improves efficiency
  - Each campus is in a different place based on the energy infrastructure at the campus. Cost varies deeply.
  - UMass and Princeton are doing a phased approach and will not have money all at once.
  - UC Riverside (Best technical study) -what we need to do on campus, metrics on how to measure success, and here is who will do it. Also has great visuals
  - UCD and Berkeley are moving forward in implication, steam systems were falling apart, and they had to do something; that is what made it possible to do the right thing. It is still a challenging process that requires a phased approach.
  - UC Santa Barbara - Campus infrastructure happens to be in a state where we save money to implement. Still need to get the money, but one of the only campuses that would save money
  - UCLA - Looked at short-term approaches

#### Climate Action Plans

- Aren't accountability mechanisms always built into the plan, along with what UCR did, who would do those strategies, are they on board, implementation guidelines
- Equity and Climate Justice
  - Required:
    - Develop with community input
    - Discuss who will be impacted
    - Incorporate equity indicators
    - Incorporate the assessment questions from the UC framework for incorporating Environmental & Climate Justice into Climate Action
  - Preferred in-depth community participation

#### Federal & Budget Impacts

- Uncertainties
- Loss of research funding
- EDI investigations
- Climate
  - Inflation Reduction Act - question if we will receive funding for the projects that we submitted
  - Federal grants, cutting off current grants, and limiting future funding.

#### Budget Implications:

- State Budget cuts
- State + federal cuts
- Capital and staffing limitations

#### Crisis as opportunity:

- More support for efficiencies - right-sizing vehicle fleet
- More acceptance of structural and behavioral change

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion (EDI) - Should we change how we address

EDI? The short answer is no need to change; the long answer is UC legal is evaluating everything. Organizationally, nothing has come from UC saying we need to change any language

CA has had Prop 209 for years - reviewing and making sure we are compliant.

Any sense of how this might shake out in terms of curriculum?

- Strength of UC in maintaining control over the curriculum.
- Other States that have laws on the books have required that syllabi be submitted to the State for review
- Utah state law outlawed EDI, and the University had to change its language, changing it to "People or communities most impacted."

Sustainability policy process improvement

- Reduce the Length and complexity of the policy through the Guidelines section that isn't part of the policy.
- Reducing meeting frequency
- Consider combining working groups
- Formalizing WG primary points of contact

Sustainability Curriculum

- UCSD Gen Ed requirement
  - The Academic Senate Climate Crisis Committee organized and worked to create the GE
  - GCLC funding for curriculum workshops
  - Faculty can access modules from Systemwide courses like Bending the curve, climate risk course, climate justice course, and a course focused on climate and personal resilience (climate and mental health).
  - How do curriculum efforts merge with campus as a living lab?

- Assets for teaching and learning
- Living lab pilot - provide faculty with stipends to incorporate the campus as a living lab into their classes.

## UCSB Leadership

- Decarb study (finance + Faculty)
- Student Programming (Katie Maynard, all of the student interns and programs)
- Community Partnerships- a big strength of this campus
- Commuting
- Zero Waste working group, single-use plastics, procurement guidelines for policy implementations - Jen Bowser
- Sustainable Transportation working group - Jewel
- Sustainability and Wellbeing group - Katie is the founding Chair
  - Healthy vending
  - Chemicals of concern in furniture - Jen, Katie, Jewel

Are GCLC meetings open to the general public?

They are not; it is challenging with such a large membership and only 3 meetings.

Huge climate and mental health crisis - the vast majority of students and staff feel impacted.

Other courses have tried to be conscious about mental health and mindfulness. Learning about the impacts weighs on you and we know some about how to process it. Need to give them a sense of agency. UCSD's class is project-based and helps give them a sense of agency.

The Senate owns the curricula, so having the group look at this being a Senate committee really helped UCSD get the requirement passed.

UCSB had an academic senate work group that looked at this and developed a proposal. Jenny, an ELI student, is trying to bring this back.