To Tend the Earth

Responding to the Global Climate Change Crisis

In collaboration with:
Creighton University, John Carroll University, Marquette University, University of Detroit Mercy, and Xavier University
AJCU Environmental Sustainability Asset Mapping

Thursday, March 19
9-11:30 am
Goal

• What are the AJCUs collectively doing to address environmental issues and environmental justice?
• Are there opportunities to share best practice and/or learn from experience
• Are there sustainability related topics that are fundamental to our role as Jesuit institutions of higher education that we can lead on?
The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education

• A North American association of **colleges & universities** working to create a sustainable future. Over 1000 campus members.

• Professional home for **campus sustainability officers**.

• **Mission:** Empower higher education to lead the sustainability transformation

AASHE / AJCU Members:
• Boston College
• College of Holy Cross
• Creighton University
• Georgetown University
• Gonzaga University
• John Carroll University
• Loyola Marymount University
• Loyola University Chicago
• Loyola University Maryland

• Loyola University New Orleans
• Marquette University
• Regis University
• Saint Joseph’s University
• Saint Louis University
• Santa Clara University
• Seattle University
• University of San Francisco
• University of Scranton
• Xavier University
Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System

- A voluntary, self-reporting framework
- A guide for advancing sustainability in all sectors of higher education.
- A common standard of measurement for sustainability in higher education.
- A tool that promotes a comprehensive understanding of sustainability that includes its social, economic and environmental dimensions.

STARS Participants / AJCU Members:
- Boston College
- Creighton University
- Georgetown University
- Gonzaga University
- Loyola Marymount University - Expired
- Loyola University Chicago - Gold
- Loyola University New Orleans
- Marquette University - Silver
- Saint Joseph’s University
- Saint Louis University - Silver
- Santa Clara University - Gold
- Seattle University
- University of San Francisco
- University of Scranton
The St. Francis Pledge is a promise and a commitment by Catholic individuals, families, parishes, organizations and institutions to live our faith by protecting God’s Creation and advocating on behalf of people in poverty who face the harshest impacts of global climate change.

To join the Covenant, you commit to act on each of the five elements of the St. Francis Pledge.

- **PRAY** and reflect on the duty to care for God’s Creation and protect the poor and vulnerable.
- **LEARN** about and educate others on the causes and moral dimensions of climate change.
- **ASSESS** how we-as individuals and in our families, parishes and other affiliations-contribute to climate change by our own energy use, consumption, waste, etc.
- **ACT** to change our choices and behaviors to reduce the ways we contribute to climate change.
- **ADVOCATE** for Catholic principles and priorities in climate change discussions and decisions, especially as they impact those who are poor and vulnerable.

**Signatories / AJCU Members:**
- Creighton University
- Gonzaga University
- John Carroll University
- Loyola Marymount University
- Loyola University Chicago
- Seattle University
- Xavier University
• The mission is to accelerate progress towards climate neutrality and sustainability by empowering the higher education sector to educate students, create solutions, and provide leadership-by-example for the rest of society.

• ACUPCC institutions have agreed to:
  – Complete an emissions inventory.
  – Within two years, set a target date and interim milestones for becoming climate neutral.
  – Take immediate steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by choosing from a list of short-term actions.
  – Integrate sustainability into the curriculum and make it part of the educational experience.
  – Make the action plan, inventory and progress reports publicly available.

ACUPCC / AJCU Members:
• College of Holy Cross
• **Creighton University**
• Fairfield University
• **Gonzaga University**
• **Loyola Marymount University**
• Loyola University Chicago
• Loyola University New Orleans
• Saint Peter’s University
• **Santa Clara University**
• **Seattle University**
• Spring Hill University
• University of San Francisco
• **Xavier University**

Schools in **Bold** have a Climate Action Plan on file with ACUPCC
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Sustainability at your school

• Please share 5 minutes on your school’s sustainability assets and priorities
• Do not try to be comprehensive
• Try to share areas of strength that are either unique or provide common ground for collaboration
Group Reflection

• Are there areas that have just been shared that seem to be areas of unique strength?

• Are there areas that have just been shared that seem to be areas of common ground?
Next Steps

• Is there something that we can advance together as a community of Jesuit institutions? Ideas…

• Please indicate a point of contact for each school