Overview and Strategic Aims

This year the Council on Sustainability and Social Responsibility (CSSR) has continued to focus its efforts on the implementation of the Sustainability Strategic Plan, available at https://www.haverford.edu/sustainability. The Plan is centered on four overlapping areas of activity:

1. **Liberal Arts and Sustainability**: we will educate our students to be future citizens and leaders who will advance a broad array of sustainability objectives through their personal and professional lives.

2. **Campus as a Living Laboratory**: we will utilize Haverford’s distinctive natural and physical assets to connect curricular and co-curricular programs with local issues of sustainability and to model innovative solutions for broader audiences.

3. **Carbon Reduction and Resilience**: we will accelerate Haverford’s commitment to carbon neutrality and begin developing a physical infrastructure that can perpetuate our educational mission in a world significantly less reliant on fossil fuels.

4. **Impact Projects**: we will provide avenues for the College and our students to engage directly with urgent and consequential sustainability challenges through civic engagement, advocacy, and career and professional opportunities.

2018-19 Highlights

In the Plan’s third year of implementation, there has been much campus activity. With apologies for omissions, what follows is a non-exhaustive list of notable and/or illustrative happenings:

**Liberal Arts and Sustainability**:

- **Engagement across the disciplines**:
  - Planning commenced for **Fall 2019 TriCo Philly** semester with an environmental theme.
  - **2019 Public Policy Forum** featured alumni panel on renewable energy and keynote on climate action by David Hackett ’76
  - New **Sustainability Fellows program** in the President’s Office offers a practicum component to support students’ curricular and co-curricular interests.

- **Environmental Studies**:
  - The new **BiCo ENVS department** launched with two new tenure-track hires in place at Bryn Mawr.
  - **2 ENVS majors and 17 minors graduated** in the Class of 2019; **8 Haverford sophomores declared ENVS as a minor and 14 as a major**, in addition to similar numbers of Bryn Mawr students.
  - CSSR and ENVS 201 partnered on a live **waste audit** on Founder’s Green

- **Campus discourse**:
  - The Committee on Environmental Responsibility (CER) hosted numerous programs including:
    - Conversation about environmental policy with **PA Rep Greg Vitali**
    - Screening of films including **Paris to Pittsburgh**
Haverford College Republicans hosted **US Rep Brian Fitzpatrick** for a discussion of climate policy.

Arboretum hosted monthly **Nature Book Club, Joan Maloof** for Annual Hardy Plant Society Lecture, and its annual **Tree Canopy Conference**

Haverford and Bryn Mawr shared robust calendars of **Earth Week** programs.

CPGC engaged Lower Merion officials at a campus event about **bike/traffic safety**.

The Bi-Co Architecture Club brought **Tim McDonald**, a leader in radically progressive sustainable design.

Improved **Green Scene** calendar and mailing list centralizes information about sustainability-related programming on and beyond campus.  ([Subscribe](#))

**Campus as a Living Laboratory**

- **Energy:**
  - CER held its annual **Do it in the Dark** energy conservation challenge. This year saw Gummere win with a 20% reduction and an overall energy use drop of 10%, with over 5,000 kWh of energy saved.

- **Transportation:**
  - CER continued its pilot campus **bike share** program.
  - CER and the Arboretum hosted the Deveraux Foundation for their annual campus **sale of reused bikes**.
  - CER hosted a **bike fixing workshop**.
  - Lyft now has designated campus pickup locations; Uber is in the works.
  - Haverford continues to work with SEPTA to promote suburban student ridership.

- **Food Loop:**
  - The College exceeded its **Real Food Challenge** goal by devoting 24% of the campus food spend to sustainable, humane, fair trade, local foods.
  - The Dining Center achieved Level 2 Certification by the **Green Restaurants Association**.
  - The new **Haverford Food Co-op**, supported by CER and the DC, helps students source regional food in bulk.
  - **Haverford College Farm** Fellow Madison Tillman provided professional support and instruction to student farming initiative; led HaverFarm PE course; hosted numerous campus and community visitors; and supported Saint Mary’s food bank with produce.
  - CER expanded **composting** to the Coop. The **Dining Center** has composts an average of **2 tons of food scraps per week**.
  - Do it in the Dark included a corollary **Meatless Challenge**.

- **Waste:**
  - Dining Services eliminated **single-use plastic straws and dishes** from its operations.
  - The DC and CER piloted the **OZZI reusable take-out container**.
  - CER is partnering with Harwood House to **divert food waste** after meals.
  - The Library invited the campus community to **claim used furniture** liberated by the renovation project.
  - CSSR provided **electronics recycling** to community members during Earth Week to build waste stream awareness and provide an employee benefit.
  - CSSR organized another **office supply swap**.
  - CSSR visited the regional **materials recycling facility (MRF)** to discuss short- and long-term recycling strategies.
  - CSSR is organizing its second **Haverford Reuses** move-out collection program in partnership with Green Drop.
  - HIP supported the development of **DIBS platform** to facilitate sharing/reuse of unwanted campus items.
Incoming students (courtesy of Dining) and new employees (courtesy of CSSR) receive a **free reusable water bottle**.

The OAR is collecting used textbooks for its new **lending library**.

President’s Office continued its reuse program for **commencement regalia**.

### Campus Ecosystems:
- The Arboretum continued its comprehensive **revitalization** project to remove failing trees and replant them 2-to-1.
- CSSR completed a review of **grounds practices** to minimize chemical interventions and promote native habitats.
- **Campus bee hives** produced more HaverHoney (extraction workshops provided in collaboration with beekeeper Eli St. Amour and Friends School Haverford).
- Haverford recognized by Arbor Day Foundation as a **Tree Campus USA** for 2018.
- Student plenary resolution requested remediation of **light pollution** on campus.

### Health & wellness:
- HR convened a new **Employee Wellness Task Force** and held a **Wellness Fair**.
- The College adopted a **new smoking policy** to support the health and wellbeing of all community members and guests.
- CER held a campus **plogging** (picking up litter while jogging) event

### Policy and Administration:
- The College adopted a new **Sustainable Purchasing Policy** developed by CSSR.
- Student plenary resolution committed to incorporating sustainability criteria into **Students’ Council spending**.

### Carbon Reduction and Resilience:

#### Energy:
- Facilities completed the 5th year of a 5-year initiative to upgrade **Building Automation Systems** (BAS) in buildings across campus enabling finer & more efficient control of heating ventilating and air-conditioning systems (HVAC).
- The College adopted a new **Utilities & Carbon Master Plan** to enable it to reach carbon neutrality no later than 2035 by:
  - investing in high-ROI efficiency measures in buildings to reduce overall energy demand and expense
  - increasing use of campus-based and/or off-site renewable energy (solar/wind/geothermal)
  - transitioning from steam- to hot-water-based distribution on campus
  - following the above steps, shifting away from natural gas as the campus’s primary fuel to biofuel, electricity, and/or another more sustainable fuel source.
- **VCAM** received LEED Gold certification

#### Water:
- The College is undertaking a new **storm water master plan**.
- Facilities installed 4 additional **water bottle filling stations**, bringing campus total to 22.

### Impact Projects:

#### Public Advocacy:
- Haverford hosted Penn Environment and **state legislators** to discuss renewable energy.
- Haverford advocated for and is represented on Lower Merion Township’s new **Sustainability Steering Committee**.
- Haverford leadership engaged in targeted **sustainability advocacy** including with Lower Merion Township (which switched its municipal electricity supply to renewable) and
Haverford Township (which committed to transitioning to 100% renewable energy township-wide by 2050).
  o Haverford was a lead signatory in a national letter to suppliers to switch to corrugated pallets.
  o CER and CSSR partnered with the Humane Society to screen *Sharkwater: Extinction* to raise awareness about wildlife trafficking and a new PA bill to address it in.

- **Community Activism**
  o Haverford co-founded with the Shipley School and the Lower Merion Conservancy the Lower Merion Climate Action Coalition of schools and colleges to promote climate action within their institutions and across the Township.
  o CSSR partnered with PennEnvironment and Haverford Township EAC to host a Climate Expo for the local community.
  o The Architecture Club participated in a construction project in Ambler with the natural building group Pangea Builders.
  o Jesse Lytle has represented the College within the Ready for 100% Renewable campaign (which secured new commitments from Radnor, Whitemarsh, Plymouth Meeting, Haverford, and Narberth this year) and as a community presenter, including for the Arboretum, via the Climate Reality Project.

**Looking ahead to 2019-20:**

- Begin implementation of the Utility & Carbon Master Plan to meet carbon neutrality no later than 2035
- Implement organic waste digestion within the Dining Center
- Continue building efficiency and lighting upgrades
- Explore remediation steps around campus light pollution
- CER to conduct a sustainability audit of the Students’ Council budget
- New water bottle stations in Gest, VCAM, KINSC

**CSSR Executive Committee**
- Jesse Lytle, Chief Sustainability Officer (chair)
- Vaidehi Agarwalla ’19, CER Chair
- Maya Ahmed ’20, student representative
- Bill Anderko, Asst Dir of Facilities Management
- Anne Preston, faculty representative
- Franklyn Cantor, Special Asst. to the President
- Allison Carpenter, staff representative
- Claudia Kent, Asst Dir of Facilities Management
- Michelle Lin ’19, CER Chair
- Steph Lukez ’19, student representative
- Walter Sullivan, Director of Quaker Affairs
- Helen White, Environmental Studies Director

**Council Members**
- Fran Blase, Provost
- Muriel Brisbon, Director of Human Resources
- Don Campbell, Director of Facilities Management
- Mike Casel, Chief Investment Officer
- Bernie Chung-Templeton, Ex. Dir, Dining Services
- Nate Diehl, Director of Residential Life
- Ann Figueredo, VP for Institutional Advancement
- Megan Fitch, Chief Information Officer
- Eric Hartman, Executive Director, CPGC
- Tom Mitchell, Assoc. Dir Dining Services
- Madison Tillman, Haverfarm Fellow
- Jenny Ciborowski, Arboretum Program Coordinator
- Mitch Wein, SVP Finance and CAO