Participant Action Items
Activities to Start, Stop, or Continue/Accelerate

Start Doing....

“Endowments invest in timberland that is sustainably managed to offset the carbon footprint of the University and utilize more wood in their buildings which act as a carbon sink.” - Brutus Clay

“The climate movement needs communication and marketing strategists. Let students lead the campaign.” - Keely Badger, Executive Director, Nada Nobani Foundation

“Deregulate electricity in every state.” Bruce McLeish ENGLE

“Commit our institutions to more electric cars and ability to charge large numbers on campus.” Kathy Jacobs

“Bridges within the university and across the community focusing on equity and empowerment = long-term relationship learning about sustainability from disadvantaged communities.” Trevor Ledbetter

“Can we set up a caucus for small rural colleges to share approaches to sustainability, investment, partnerships, and access to technology.” - Cliff Coppersmith, Chesapeake College

“Partner with 3rd parties for large capital projects e.g. geothermal e.g. district hot water.” Peter Shattuck, Anbaric pshattuck@anbaric.com

“Protect schools credit rating by increasing sustainability.” Credit Rating = Borrowing Costs + Financing Capacity. Tim Coffin - Joe Biernat

“Drive further investment from pensions and endowments to direct investment tech transfer clean technologies at Universities using innovative 3rd party administrators and PRI + MRI structures.”
There are technology solutions and they need capital to get to market.” Ashley Grosh, 3P Partners, Inc.

“Investment Office staff and trustees should be approached with the message that sustainable investing can reduce investment risks without sacrificing returns. Change the message.” Keith Johnson

“Use Drawdown. Take strategies 1-100 and college/university share the impact on students.”

“Make taking at least one foundations of sustainability course a graduation requirement.”

“Endorse climate fee and dividend legislation—Citizens Climate Lobby”

“Develop high capacity geothermal/water-source heat pumps that can replace heating plant fossil-fuel boilers.” Paul.scanlon@sru.edu

“Develop a national web of higher ed/local regional government/corporate collaborations around climate action, built from many regional networks like St. Louis example (1STL).”

“Investment portfolio management issues RFPs as opposed to “shopping” what’s “available” for up or down vote.”

“Professional certificates of academic programs in adaptation/resiliency through community engagement.” - Benjamin Newton

“Emergency planning is not equal to resilience planning.”

“Dear 2nd Nature Re: Atlanta 2020: Have a session that connects faculty to faculty. Why? Faculty need to connect w/admin to contribute to getting to 2050. Also, the obvious...faculty work with students i.e. the next generation of voters! Today’s students will be the who guide policy makers in the future. We need to educate them now as to why our actions today must be sustained; they will finish our work.” Steve Nathan nathans@easternct.edu

“Colleges to host environmental summer camp for teams of high school science teachers and students with mini grant to fund community environmental education stewardship project the following year. “Community Project Incubator.” paul.scanlon@sru.edu

“The system without incentives, policies, markets, and a focus on the leverage points, we will always be pushing this uphill.”

“We need to change market incentives rather than shame people into acting against their interest. E.g. carbon tax, extraction taxes, pesticide tax, etc. (higher gas/diesel taxes).”

“Students have power to get leaders to focus on and address climate change which will affect students more than the leaders.” Koeg Mebust and Meghan Chappele via Keith Johnson

“Increase and boost the end consumer engagement and awareness of energy production and of available alternative renewable energy production.” Neils Veletrep, Danish District Energy Advisor
“Political action at national and state levels. Go on a war footing nationally against an existential threat by electing leadership who understand the threats. Mobilize public opinion.” - Richard Cook, SN Board.

“Research project: what is the total carbon budget + footprint of electric cars?” - Judith Ramaley

“Within universities, highly siloed - need to connect both within and between universities. Networking - e.g. women + poverty connecting to decarbonization.” Caroline Fox

“Second Nature should create a structure that helps university endowments make investments in early stage technologies. It should identity and promote existing models.” Steve Knapp

“Resilience planning with shock testing. Test what if scenarios.”

“Education and bridge the science (et Institutions) with policy/legislation (Public Utility Companies) across states.” Tony Ichson, Portland Community College

“Share power. Build trust. Rethink carbon accounting vs. investing in new renewable energy (Illinois).” - Cindy Klein Bancu

“Work with University Foundation Board leadership”

“Involve alumni. Partner with alumni affairs. Increase engagement via donations/funders.”

“Start carving a piece of investing for higher education community college demonstration sites at campuses. Example: battery-linked solar system, or vertical demo project.” Karin Hilgersom Truckee Meadows Community College

“Diversify University Boards by gender, age, and race.”

“Increase the awareness of available proven technology.” Niels Vilstrup, Danish District Energy Advisory

“Change space use to a “Google” model. It will reduce square foot need for office space, enhance collaboration.” Cindy Klein Bancu

“Curriculum Research: The goal of a university, arguably its biggest impact, is through the students and graduates. Are we doing enough to connect w/faculty and provide resources to them to support their understanding of the broader connections that it is hiding in every subject. Science is stuck on the science side, it isn’t making it an understandable way to policy makers and through the public. We should be graduating students that understand these connections and/or communicate them.” -Calandra Waters Lake, William and Mary

“Demand more diversity at this conference (other industries are leading the way on this far and away.)”
“Bust myths around financial performance of fossil fuels. What was once a blue chip stock is now a speculative and volatile investment. Good for day traders but not institutional investors w/fiduciary duties.”

“Allentown Commitment for 2020 - where are the signatories? Are they closing the gap? Ways to have a collective approach to vet credits, etc.” Eileen Petula

“We do not need to own stocks or shares to influence companies behavior - we can influence them every day through the products we buy and the services we choose to use!”

“Request carbon current footprint and expected future footprints of corporations we invest into.”

“Portfolio managers integration of ESG into their investment process efficiently.”

“We own this change. Now!”

“In combination with smaller investment, advising companies, also need the big names, Morgan Stanley, Merrill Lynch, Schwab - at this table. They are the background noise for our investment committees.”

“Can we help our graduates start new innovative companies to directly compete with BAU companies and radically change the dialogue?”

“Campuses as experiments - rating system for carbon credits--leads to buy-in.” Eileen Petula

“Do more of breaking down silos at universities - work across curricula, contracts, investments, sustainability office, community engagement, and diversity offices.”

“Engage students and faculty to more bureaucratic systems more quickly.”

“Regular summit attendees should invite, fund, and bring a skeptic who needs to be in the fold.”

“Sustainability practices in 9-13 junior high schools. Young Leadership (Touchstones Leaders).”

“Focus on recruitment of qualified women and younger people to serve on investment committees and to bring benefits of diversity to decision-making.” Keith Johnson

“Modeling/visualizing/community/university performance as a basis of scenario planning.”

“We need to prioritize welfare aggregation over wealth aggregation.” Fred Rogers

“A system for communication of innovative programs in climate solutions across HE.” Tony Cortese
“Implement curriculum for students to learn about climate change then participate in on-campus research projects for sustainability.” *See UCLA’s ESLP program & action research teams as an example. - Alyssa@betterfutureproject.org

“Money is great and absolutely but moral commitment is the X-factor.”

“Contact Ruby (2nd nature) about resilience workshop.” - Hannah Ulloa

“Have DEI represented on the main stage.”

“Need to educate trustees/boards of governors about climate change.”

“Student projects to aggregate credits across schools for green energy investments”

“Discuss options and pathways for institutions + endowments of different sizes (large vs. smaller).”

“Every Higher Education institution should be partnering with their local municipality, county/state, Re: joint efforts and collaborations regarding sustainability and carbon reduction.”

“I’ve heard a lot of discussion about partnering w/government and business but I think we need to broaden the lens and think who else needs to be in the room when we are making collective decisions about the future of our climate and economy.” - Local community gaps advocacy, CDFIs, cooperatives, etc.

“Establish Country/City/University Commission for Divestment from Fossil Fuel Corps.”

“Establish “tax-free” industrial zones to incentivize renewable energy corps.”

“Make this an international conference - Atlanta 2020!!! It is a global program and requires a global solution.” -Karen Sherman

“Collaborative shareholder action on climate by endowments.”

“Join the Intentional Endowments Network and have my university join the Second Nature Network (to improve on sharing best knowledge about climate)”

“Explicitly address income inequality (within a country like the U.S.; between developed & developing countries) as it relates to climate change, its mitigation, and a just transition.” Peggy Delaney

“Don’t forget about water! (as part of the climate puzzle as well as its own challenge)” Mike Herman

“Investment managers and investment advisors--help students to improve their message when talking to board trustees regents by doing workshops for students to educate on sustainable/ESG investing.” - Karin Hilgersom, TMCC
“Increase and boost the end consumer engagement and awareness of energy production and of available alternative renewable energy production.” Neil Velstap, Danish District Energy Advisors

“As the climate action movement is becoming mature and experienced, can we take a more innovative, community-based approach to offsets? Can colleges and universities be leaders in verification of new models?” Susan Kidd, Agnes Scott College

“Need to establish and invest in the people who create long-term relationships between universities and community partners.”
Stop Doing...

“Stop thinking that we will sway anyone with “if it is the right” thing to do. This umbrella shades us all because it is the SMART thing to do. Smart for business, health, wages, opportunity, happiness (and the environment).” Calandra Waters Lake, William and Mary

“Using individual accreditation, unique mission, etc. as artificial barriers, to inter-institutional conversation, data-sharing and decision-making that benefits all Institutions of Higher Education and their communities.”

“Avoid the little token-level, feel-good, internally-focused actions.”

“Stop building renewable projects without storage.”

“CIOs need to meet with leaders and students regularly. CIOs are siloed and disconnected with the organization.” - Keith Johnson

“Reject cynicism.”

“Stop going to communities ONLY when you need something from them.”

“Bear in mind that the cheapest option is often the worst for our environment and health – in a similar vein, the investments with the highest returns are not always best for our society.”

“Stop using jargon and stop fighting about what is the correct terminology, and what is the proper definition.”

“Make sure we are focused on right problems is 0.2% fossil fuel investment really impactful considering the energy needed to impact 0.2%”

“Resolve tension between discipling and interdisciplinary relationships between departments in universities.” Caroline Fox

“Stop siloing ourselves and our institutions as well as pretending that higher ed is above all things.” Caroline Fox, Trevor Ledbetter

“Stop avoiding real conversations with students and trustees and staff about the need to address climate risk and the immorality of fossil fuels in our endowments.” Alyssa Lee, Better Future Project Alyssa@betterfutureproject.org

“Stop waiting to act on climate until the right/perfect solution technology comes. Don’t be afraid to enact something now.”

“Stop focusing on low-impact outreach and engagement programs.” - Hannah Ulloa

“Stop building projects that have fossil dependencies.” Cindy Klein Banau
“Stop underestimating the now clear impacts and likely further consequences of 2-4 degrees C changes.”

“Stop caring about those that don’t believe that human has a direct impact on climate change issues.”
Continue Doing....

“Statements led by Ceres on climate change”

“Solar Farms can save $ and provide more energy cost predictability - make budgeting easier” Meghan Chappele, Keith Johnson

“2nd Nature should be lifting up PCC and the work of signers. It is less visible now and not celebrated. Thus, very little in fact in expanding or joining.” Fred Rogers

“ACCELERATE: Use GESA to fund deferred maintenance and conservation projects. Now, rather than incrementally over 20 years. (Increases cumulative GHG reductions).” paul.scanlon@sru.edu

“Keep showing at this kind of conference.”

“Hubs of experimentation & innovation.

→ Pilot projects on campus
→ Demonstrations of new technology, feasibility demos
→ Invite community in!”

“Climate Research

→ Lead in Climate Research
→ Train the next generations of climate researchers”

“Boost awareness and understanding that investing in renewable energy and green transition is extremely profitable if done right and not a cost of economical burden on a country.”

“Be more interdisciplinary.”

“Deep dive energy efficiency (more than LHF), leveraging digital technologies and alternative financing as necessary.”

“Electrification of mobility. Increase tax credits for EVs.” - Bruce McLeish ENGIE

“Question conventional wisdom about:

→ Need for liquidity
→ Need for consultants to say yes
→ Need to be in proven strategies (real old)”

“Solar covered parking is low hanging fruit” Yevonne Allen via Keith Johnson

“Accelerate and integrate planning from within campus out into the community.”

“To address main goals of resilience and decarbonization:

→ “what role might green microgrids play?”
“What does a microgrid look like that contributes to decarbonization”
“How do you pay for it”? -Charlie Lord

“Revolving fund - Green Revolving Fund.
→ Students on revolving fund, students or RI committee educating on endowments and mission.
→ Students assess carbon footprint and link to savings
→ Workforce development and stipends for students of color
→ Get finance committee to set a goal even 2-3%; get started and track it (ROI – what we get out of it)
→ Invite early adopters to be speakers”

“Sunrise movement - the New Green Deal; Need to raise; Awareness/Connectivity between communication groups and universities.” - Mike Herman

“Cities and states working on SDGs are connected globally but not locally- need to see what is in our own backyard about reinventing the wheel. Need better infrastructure.” - Caroline Fox

“Use social networks for more connectivity on emergency preparedness and resilience--intergenerational conversations.” - Judith Ramaley

“Use the power of networks to implement carbon management, eg use network of networks approach like NCA.” - Kathy Jacobs

“Continue highlighting the human side of dealing with climate–shared leadership, proactive new forms of collaboration community-based learning within institutions and communities.” - Judith Ramaley

“Support, mentor and guide students who are being active and activists--don’t shut them down, punish them, or condescend them.” Alyssa Lee, Better Future Project

“Encourage and support students to be engaged in civics beyond the campus and model this by doing the same as colleges:
→ Write letters to your city legislation for more renewable energy
→ Issue statements and write op-eds in local papers”
-Alyssa Lee, Better Future Project.org

“Disruptive Education:
→ Re-envision teaching and learning
→ Team-based learning fosters collaboration, creativity, critical thinking, and innovation
→ Opportunities for student engagement in decision-making are campus in community
→ Help your community colleges make these changes. “
-Donna Powers
“Green Ribbon Commission. Cross-sector approach to climate action, Boston-based, possible replication”

“Use UN SDGS: share strategies and solutions with corporations who use this work for their CSR (corporate social responsibility) reporting.”

“Expand CWC (local weatherization nonprofit) partnership to include more nonprofits” Hannah Ulloa

→ Use of building metering data to optimize building performance.
→ Owner’s project requirement for new building design and goals that include. -EVI Goals
→ Thoughtful carbon offsets with local impact.
→ Electrifying buildings.”
- Cindy Klein-Banau

“Provide sponsors that advocate conference attendees about shareholders resolutions, their impact and proxy voting. Suggest at our conference make sure the voices for divestment are balanced by speakers on shareholder engagement and proxy voting.”

“Increase energy efficiency of existing energy systems like steam district energy and implementing districts cooling systems and utilising waste heat for energy production like electricity and district heating/cooling.” - Niels Vilstrup

“Reinvigorate on active IEN program on active owners/shareholder action encouraging active proxy voting, colleges announcing, the issues they support, more universities, supporting investors.” - Tim Smith

“The five California State Universities in Los Angeles formed a collaboration known as the CSU5 (California State University, Northridge, Cal Poly Pomona, Long Beach, Domingues Hills and CSU Los Angeles). As a collective we work with the city, county, and nonprofits to focus on a variety of climate change strategies and share best practices leveraging our research expertise and educational programs. Together, we represent 140K students and 40K faculty and staff.”