

Take Part

Lehigh's Climate Action Strategy maps out the University's transition to a carbon-free campus. Throughout the implementation of the Strategy, there will be opportunities to center Lehigh's mission to advance learning through the integration of teaching, research, and service to others. We will utilize the outlined physical and operational changes to our campus to provide students with first-hand experiences to utilize Lehigh's campus as a living laboratory for experiential learning and to showcase potential synergies with faculty research interests. In partnership with the Office of Sustainability and Lehigh Facilities, we will work with faculty to identify opportunities to bring Lehigh's Climate Action Strategy into coursework, projects, and research. This will be an important part of Lehigh's legacy. We hope you will join us in taking part in this transition!

Background

In October 2020, Lehigh adopted its [Sustainability Strategic Plan 2030](#). It establishes a long-term vision for sustainability at Lehigh with six focus areas and 113 detailed near-term, intermediate, and longer-term goals. Additionally, Lehigh is in the process of finalizing a crucial component of that 2030 Plan - a [Climate Action Strategy](#). This strategy provides a detailed framework and serves as a comprehensive roadmap for measuring, planning, and reducing Lehigh's greenhouse gas emissions. It also establishes a net carbon neutrality date.

Ways To Engage

There are **FOUR main ways that you can engage with this work:**

1. **Experiential Learning:** Faculty are encouraged to collaborate with the Office of Sustainability, Lehigh Facilities, and other internal and external climate action partners to give students first-hand experiences in the process of implementing Lehigh's climate action initiatives. You can utilize this [experiential learning spreadsheet](#) as a tool to identify collaborative opportunities across programs and departments that support Lehigh's ongoing sustainability initiatives and the emissions reduction strategies in the Climate Action Strategy. You are invited to add ideas, as this spreadsheet will serve as a living document.
2. **Research:** There are opportunities within Lehigh's Climate Action Strategy that will require additional research to determine the feasibility and overall impact towards Lehigh's goal of net carbon neutrality. We look to faculty with content expertise to take the position of project or research lead - utilizing dedicated student interns to support their work. You can utilize [this research spreadsheet](#) as a tool to identify potential research opportunities that support Lehigh's ongoing sustainability initiatives and the emissions reduction strategies in the Climate Action Strategy. You are invited to add ideas, as this spreadsheet will serve as a living document.
3. **Internships:** Collaborative learning projects/internships provide students with a front-row seat at meetings with consultants and internal project management review sessions. This gives students a chance to understand how decision-making takes place at Lehigh. Students will walk away with personal experience on how decisions are made and how plans get implemented.
4. **Course Integration:** Faculty can use active Climate Action Strategy projects at Lehigh as examples in their current course work. This [Course Toolkit](#) was developed to provide examples of ways climate action themes can be incorporated into your class(es) that require varying levels of effort.