

**USF SUSTAINABILITY HISTORY**

**A. USF SUSTAINABILITY MILESTONES**

YEAR	EVENT	
Spring, 2006	Sustainability Analysis for USF Advocating the Creation of a USF Office of Sustainability	
2008	USF joins Association of the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)	AASHE
April 12, 2008	The American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment signed by USF	ACUPCC
Summer, 2008	Sustainability Initiative Steering Committee	SISC
2009	USF Office of Sustainability (OoS)	
2009	Founding Director, OoS	
2009	Student Energy Green Fund	
2010	Climate Action Plan	CAP
2010	USF School of Global Sustainability	
2010-2011	Annual Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory	GHG
2011	Sustainability Tracking Assessment Rating System	STARS
2011	First certified building (LEED Gold) on Tampa Campus	
2012	USF College of Global Sustainability	

**B. INDUSTRY ORGANIZATIONS (COMMON TERMS)**

ACRONYM	OVERVIEW
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**ACUPCC**  
American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment

**Mission and History**

The **American College & University Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC)** is a high-visibility effort to address global climate disruption undertaken by a network of colleges and universities that have made institutional commitments to eliminate net greenhouse gas emissions from specified campus operations, and to promote the research and educational efforts of higher education to equip society to re-stabilize the earth's climate. Its 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.

The **ACUPCC** provides a framework and support for America's colleges and universities to implement comprehensive plans in pursuit of climate neutrality. The Commitment recognizes the unique responsibility that institutions of higher education have as role models for their communities and in educating the people who will develop the social, economic, and technological solutions to reverse global warming and help create a thriving, civil and sustainable society.

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

The college and university presidents and chancellors who are joining and leading the Commitment believe that exerting leadership in addressing climate disruption is an integral part of the mission of higher education and will stabilize and reduce their long-term energy costs, attract excellent students and faculty, attract new sources of funding, and increase the support of alumni, business and local communities.

The **ACUPCC** originated from planning sessions among a group of college and university presidents and their representatives, **Second Nature**, **ecoAmerica** and **AASHE** at the **AASHE** conference in October 2006 at Arizona State University. Twelve presidents agreed to become founding signatories and launched the ACUPCC in early December of 2006 by sending a letter to nearly 400 of their peers inviting them to join the initiative.

[www.presidentsclimatecommitment.org](http://www.presidentsclimatecommitment.org)

<p><b>Second Nature</b> Second Nature is the lead supporting organization of the ACUPCC.</p>	<p><b>Mission:</b> Second Nature's Mission is to create a healthy, just, and sustainable society by transforming higher education.</p> <p><b>Vision:</b> We envision a world in which all current and future humans are healthy, live in socially vibrant communities, and are personally and economically secure within a flourishing and sustainable life support system.</p> <p><a href="http://www.secondnature.org">www.secondnature.org</a>  <a href="http://www.campusgreenbuilder.org">www.campusgreenbuilder.org</a>  <a href="http://www.secondnature.org/brochure">www.secondnature.org/brochure</a></p>
<p><b>AASHE</b> Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education</p>	<p>Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (<b>AASHE</b>) is a member-driven organization with a mission to empower higher education to lead the sustainability transformation. Learn more about AASHE.</p> <p><a href="http://www.aashe.org/">http://www.aashe.org/</a></p>
<p><b>STARS</b> Sustainability Tracking, Assessment &amp; Rating System</p>	<p>The Sustainability Tracking, Assessment &amp; Rating System™ (<b>STARS</b>) is a transparent, self-reporting framework for colleges and universities to measure their sustainability performance. STARS® was developed by <b>AASHE</b>, an acknowledged thought leader that advances sustainability by providing invaluable resources, with broad participation from diverse representatives of the higher education community.</p> <p><b>STARS</b> is designed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a framework for understanding sustainability in all sectors of higher education.</li> <li>• Enable meaningful comparisons over time and across institutions using a common set of measurements developed with broad participation from the campus sustainability community.</li> <li>• Create incentives for continual improvement toward sustainability.</li> <li>• Facilitate information sharing about higher education sustainability practices and performance.</li> <li>• Build a stronger, more diverse campus sustainability community.</li> </ul> <p>The <b>STARS</b> framework is intended to engage and recognize the full spectrum of colleges and universities – from community colleges to research universities, and from institutions just starting their sustainability programs to long-time campus sustainability leaders. <b>STARS</b> encompasses long-term sustainability goals for already high-achieving institutions as well as entry points of recognition for institutions that are taking first steps toward sustainability.</p> <p><a href="https://stars.aashe.org/">https://stars.aashe.org/</a></p>
<p><b>CAP</b> Climate Action Plan</p>	<p><b>Climate Action Plan</b> for University of South Florida Home / Climate Action Plan Submitted on May 14, 2010; last updated on May 14, 2010 Date Adopted May 11, 2010</p> <p><a href="http://rs.acupcc.org/cap/607/">http://rs.acupcc.org/cap/607/</a>  <a href="http://rs.acupcc.org/site_media/uploads/cap/607-cap.pdf">http://rs.acupcc.org/site_media/uploads/cap/607-cap.pdf</a></p>
<p><b>GHG</b> Greenhouse Gas Report</p>	<p><b>Clean Air-Cool Planet</b> Our Mission: To accelerate the transition to sustainable communities through climate mitigation, adaptation planning, and effective climate policies</p> <p><a href="http://www.acad.usf.edu/Office/Strategic-Initiatives/docs/USF-Greenhouse-Gas-Inventory.pdf">http://www.acad.usf.edu/Office/Strategic-Initiatives/docs/USF-Greenhouse-Gas-Inventory.pdf</a>  <a href="http://cleanair-coolplanet.org/">http://cleanair-coolplanet.org/</a></p>
<p><b>USGBC</b> US Green Building Council</p>	<p><b>USGBC</b> works toward its mission of market transformation through its <b>LEED</b> green building program, robust educational offerings, a nationwide network of chapters and affiliates, the annual Greenbuild International Conference &amp; Expo, and advocacy in support of public policy that encourages and enables green buildings and communities.</p> <p>The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization committed to a prosperous and sustainable future for our nation through cost-efficient and energy-saving green buildings.</p> <p><a href="http://www.usgbc.org/">http://www.usgbc.org/</a></p>
<p><b>LEED</b> Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design</p>	<p><b>LEED</b>, or Leadership in Energy &amp; Environmental Design, is transforming the way we think about how our buildings and communities are designed, constructed, maintained, and operated across the globe. Comprehensive and flexible, LEED is a green building tool that addresses the entire building lifecycle recognizing best-in-class building strategies.</p> <p>At its core, <b>LEED</b> is a program that provides third-party verification of green buildings. Building projects satisfy prerequisites and earn points to achieve different levels of certification. Prerequisites and credits differ for each rating system, and teams choose the best fit for the project. Learn more About LEED and about the LEED rating systems.</p> <p><a href="http://www.usgbc.org/leed">http://www.usgbc.org/leed</a></p>

**C. LEED CREDENTIALS AND CERTIFICATIONS (COMMON TERMS)****LEED Credentials**

LEED AP BD + C	LEED with specialty – Building Design & Construction
LEED AP	LEED Accredited Professional (certification prior to requirements for CEU maintenance – pre 2009)
LEED Green Associate	First tier certification – introduced in 2010

**LEED Levels of Certification**

Certification <u>level</u> is not used interchangeably with <b>LEED Certified</b>	LEED Certified
	LEED Silver
	LEED Gold
	LEED Platinum

**Certification Organizations**

<b>GBCI</b>	
The Green Building Certification Institute	<a href="http://www.gbci.org/homepage.aspx">http://www.gbci.org/homepage.aspx</a>
EPA Portfolio Manager	<a href="http://www.energystar.gov/">http://www.energystar.gov/</a>
WELL Building Standard	<a href="http://delos.com/about/well-building-standard/">http://delos.com/about/well-building-standard/</a>

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