

# OFFICE OF CLIMATE ACTION

2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT



# SUMMARY

04.

MISSION + GOALS + VALUES

08.

TRACKING SUSTAINABILITY

10.

PARTNERSHIPS FOR  
CLIMATE ACTION

12.

CLIMATE ACTION GROUPS

22.

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

24.

2023-2024 PRIORITIES

26.

MEMBERSHIP

# ABOUT US

The Office of Climate Action was formed in September 2021 by President Jonathan Holloway to ensure achievement of the overarching goal of Rutgers' Climate Action Plan: mobilizing Rutgers' academic, operational, and economic capacities to advance just, equitable climate solutions and help achieve national net-zero greenhouse gas emissions no later than 2050.

To that end, the Office:

- Advocates for climate action and sustainability at the highest levels of University leadership
- Provides oversight and accountability for and, where necessary, facilitate Climate Action Plan implementation
- Communicates about and engage internal and external stakeholders in the University's climate action and sustainability efforts, and
- Oversees regular updating of the Climate Action Plan

The Office is focused on climate action – specifically, the university's actions to mitigate its own emissions and increase its own resilience and sustainability, as well as efforts to leverage those actions to advance (a) the university's academic mission and (b) climate action and climate-positive, just, equitable, sustainable economic development at a community, state, and national level.



CO-DIRECTOR

**ROBERT KOPP**

CO-DIRECTOR

**KEVIN LYONS**

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

**ANGELA OBERG**

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

**KATHLEEN PARRISH**

DIGITAL MEDIA COORDINATOR

**MATTHEW DREWS**

DATA MANAGEMENT & VISUALIZATION

**ANIS GHOSAIN**

# MISSION

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# TO TRANSFORM RUTGERS INTO A LIVING LAB FOR CLIMATE ACTION

Becoming a living lab for climate action requires that we reach our climate goals by embodying our core values. It is a foundation of actionable scholarship, guided by an ethic of service and justice, working to achieve our climate goals. It includes continuous evaluation informed by rigorous, transparent data collection. It is fueled by robust stakeholder engagement and empowerment.

## **CARBON NEUTRAL BY 2040**

Become carbon neutral by 2040 and carbon-negative—removing more greenhouse gases than we are putting into the atmosphere—no later than the university’s 275th anniversary in 2041.

## **CULTURE OF SUSTAINABILITY**

Build a culture of sustainability that integrates climate action into academic research, teaching, outreach, engagement, campus life, and university policy across Rutgers’ campuses.

## **JUST EQUITABLE ADAPTATION**

Work across campus and engage with our host communities to establish comprehensive plans for just and equitable climate adaptation.

# **CLIMATE GOALS**

THE OFFICE'S CORE VALUES GUIDE OUR WORK,  
RECOGNIZING THAT HOW WE REACH OUR CLIMATE  
GOALS IS AS IMPORTANT AS ACHIEVING THEM

## CORE VALUES

### CLIMATE JUSTICE

Address legacies of inequality, ensuring processes and outcomes prioritize historically disadvantaged groups and minimize barriers to self-determination for all community members.

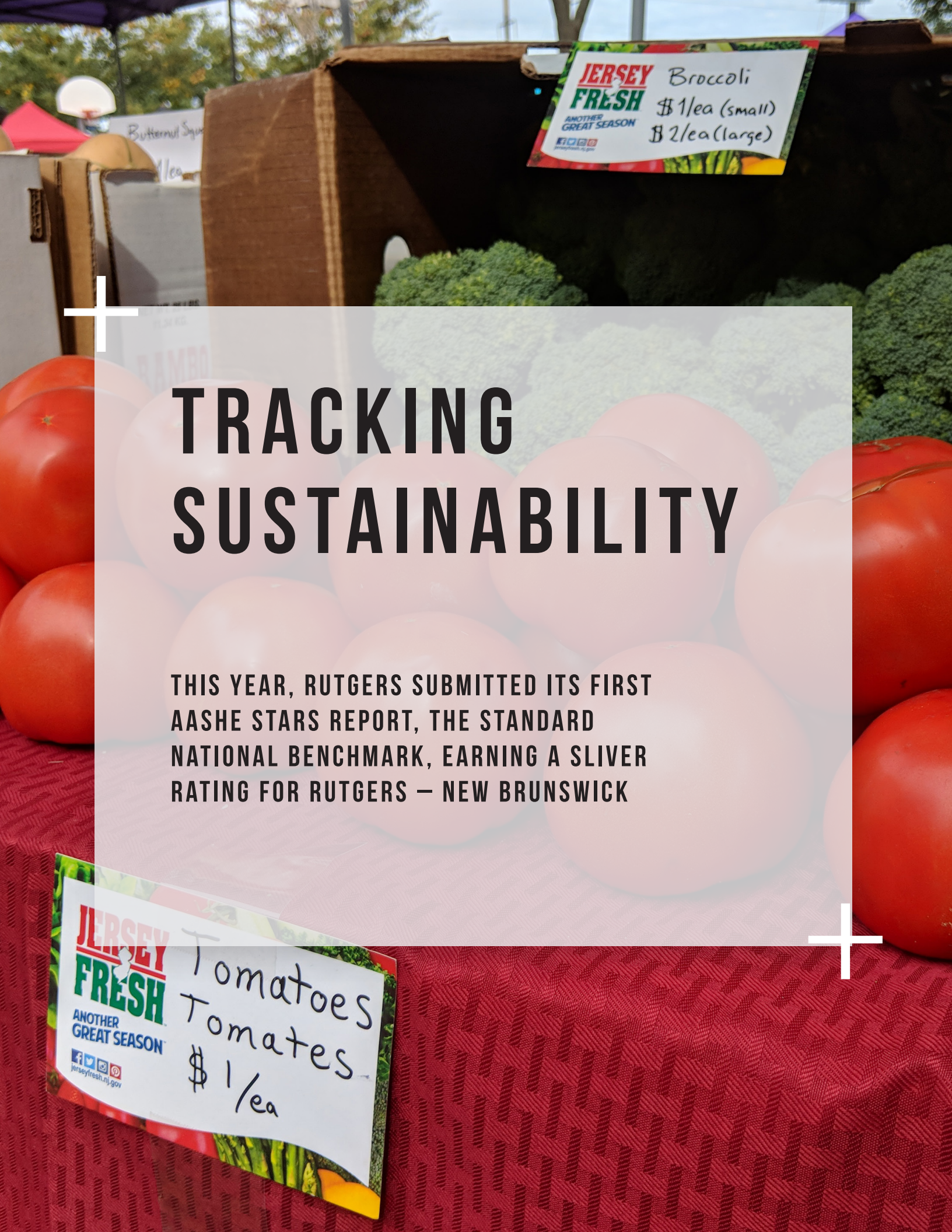
### CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY

Be of service in all communities to which Rutgers claims membership by building internal, local, national, and global partnerships based in mutual respect and trust.

### ACTIONABLE SCHOLARSHIP

Integrate our operational and academic strengths to ensure climate action is based on scientifically and technically credible analysis and to innovate, test, and communicate climate solutions.



A photograph of a market stall featuring Jersey Fresh produce. In the foreground, several large, ripe red tomatoes are displayed on a red patterned cloth. Behind them, green broccoli is visible. Two price tags are attached to the produce. The top tag, for broccoli, lists prices for small and large quantities. The bottom tag, for tomatoes, lists a price per unit. A semi-transparent white box with a large white plus sign on its left and right sides is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the title and a paragraph of text.

# TRACKING SUSTAINABILITY

THIS YEAR, RUTGERS SUBMITTED ITS FIRST  
AASHE STARS REPORT, THE STANDARD  
NATIONAL BENCHMARK, EARNING A SLIVER  
RATING FOR RUTGERS — NEW BRUNSWICK



In 2023, Rutgers University—New Brunswick earned a STARS Silver rating in recognition of its sustainability achievements from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE).

The university's certification submission outlines achievements in five areas: academics, engagement, operations, planning and administration and innovation and leadership. It provides information about Rutgers' progress toward the goal established in the 2021 Climate Action Plan of becoming carbon neutral by 2040 and helping the nation do likewise by 2050.

Highlights from the submission show that nearly 20 percent of

all Rutgers—New Brunswick researchers — 422 of 2,293 — and more than three-quarters of its academic departments study ways to reduce carbon emissions or some other facet of sustainability.

The Office of Climate Action (OCA) led the certification effort in collaboration with students, staff, and faculty throughout Rutgers. It's the first STARS rating achieved by a Rutgers campus.

Unlike other rating or ranking systems, this program is open to all institutions of higher education, and the criteria that determine a STARS rating are transparent and accessible to anyone. It allows for both internal comparisons as well

as comparisons with similar institutions because it is based on credits earned.

Because STARS is a sustainability-focused system that assesses environmental, social, and economic factors, it addresses Rutgers climate goals as well as OCA's core values of climate justice, civic responsibility, and actionable scholarship.

The STARS reporting process requires aggregation and analysis of thousands of data points and could not have been done with the combined efforts of dozens of students, staff, and faculty. The results provide the Rutgers—New Brunswick community with a clear road map for accelerating climate action and sustainability on campus.



A woman wearing a light blue baseball cap with a 'Rutgers Gardens' logo and a green t-shirt with 'Rutgers Gardens' printed on it is smiling. She is in a greenhouse, with wooden beams and green pipes visible in the background. In the foreground, there is a black plastic basket filled with fresh green leafy vegetables. The text 'PARTNERSHIPS FOR CLIMATE ACTION' is overlaid in large, bold, black letters. There are white plus signs in the corners of the image.

# PARTNERSHIPS FOR CLIMATE ACTION

OCA WORKS WITH INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL PARTNERS TO ACCELERATE CLIMATE ACTION ON CAMPUS AND ACROSS THE STATE AND NATION. THE PROJECTS DESCRIBED ARE EMBLEMATIC OF THE PARTNERSHIPS WE ARE BUILDING.

# CREATION OF A CLIMATE ACTION TRACK FOR EAGLETON SCIENCE FELLOWS

In partnership with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBP), the Office of Climate Action facilitated the establishment and funding of a Climate Action track in the Eagleton Science and Politics Fellowship Program. As part of the fellowship, scientists, engineers and health care professionals work as in-house science aides in state government

offices to help develop and implement science-based policies for New Jersey. Since the program was launched in 2019, 23 fellows have been placed with state government agencies, including the New Jersey Office of Innovation, the NJ Department of Education, the NJ Department of Health, the NJ Department of Transportation, the Senate Majority Office and

the Assembly Majority Office. Climate Action Fellows will be embedded within the NJBP's Division of Clean Energy helping to achieve Governor Murphy's ambitious goal of 100 percent clean energy by 2035. The 2023-2024 cohort of Eagleton Science Fellows includes 3 fellows who have joined the Climate Action Track. NJBP will fund this cohort of Climate Action fellows.

## LEVERAGING ANALYTICS TO DESIGN PATHWAYS TO ELIMINATE SCOPE 2 EMISSIONS

Professor Mark Rodgers, from the Rutgers Business School and a member of the Energy and Buildings Climate Action Group, led an effort to model various scenarios by which Rutgers could reach its goal of eliminating Scope 2 emissions – emissions associated with purchased electricity – by 2030. Working with two graduate students, Justin Morris and Michael Becher, Professor

Rodgers created two models, an investment planning model and economic dispatch model. Together, these models will help operational staff and university administrators determine the best pathway for eliminating Scope 2 emissions and help Rutgers achieve the goal of 24/7 clean energy consumption. Support for one of the graduate students was made in partnership with the Rutgers Climate

Institute. This student also participated in the University Climate Change Coalition (UC3) Fellows Program hosted by Second Nature. UC3 is a coalition of 23 of the world's leading research universities and university systems committed to accelerating climate action on campus, in communities, and at a global scale.

## WHITE HOUSE FORUM ON CAMPUS- AND COMMUNITY-SCALE CLIMATE CHANGE SOLUTIONS

OCA Co-Director Robert Kopp and VP for Federal Relations Francine Pfeiffer partnered with the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, the University of Washington, and nine other universities to organize the White House Forum

on Campus- and Community-Scale Climate Change Solutions and an associated workshop in DC in March. The forum and workshop brought together higher-education representatives from almost every state and all types of institutions to discuss

ways institutions can advance their own climate goals, partner with communities to advance decarbonization and resilience, build the climate workforce, and foster living labs for climate action.

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# CLIMATE ACTION GROUPS

**6 OPERATIONAL CAGs**

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**4 CHANCELLOR UNIT CAGs**

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**+100 MEMBERS ACROSS RUTGERS**

## **ALL TEN CLIMATE ACTION GROUPS ARE NOW OPERATIONAL AND ARE WORKING IN SERVICE OF RUTGERS' CLIMATE GOALS**

The climate action groups (CAGs) are a system of distributed leadership established to operationalize the climate action plan. This system, modeled in part from Penn State's Sustainability Council system, seeks to engage the maximum number of members of the Rutgers community in university climate action, help ensure local practices are shared broadly, and build institutional consensus to pursue climate action by integrating academics, operations, and community engagement.

Each CAG is comprised of faculty, staff, and students and has been charged with responsibility for achieving a portion of the climate

goals established in the climate action plan. The CAGs are working with the Office of Climate Action to map pathways forward and to track progress toward their goals.

A common challenge amongst the CAGs is the need for support with data management for better tracking of sustainability metrics. Additionally, the needs for dedicated personnel and funds for capital projects were expressed by the operational CAGs.

## ENERGY & BUILDINGS CLIMATE ACTION GROUP

CHAIR

**Mike Kornitas**, Director of Sustainability and  
Energy, Rutgers IP&O



### CHARGE

- Eliminate emissions from electricity purchased off the grid by 2030
- Reduce direct emissions associated with facilities and existing buildings 20% by 2030 and 100% by 2040

### RECENT ACTIVITIES

- Expanding on-campus solar by 14.4MW
- Retrofitting 108 existing buildings for increased energy efficiency
- Partnering with faculty on agrivoltaic research

### CURRENT PRIORITIES

- Mapping energy systems across the entire University
- Expanding building-level metering

## TRANSPORTATION CLIMATE ACTION GROUP

CO-CHAIRS

**Jon Carnegie**, Executive Director, Alan M.  
Voorhees Transportation Center

**Henry Velez**, Vice President, Business Services,  
Rutgers IP&O



### CHARGE

- Reduce direct emissions from the university fleet 20% by 2030 and 100% by 2040
- Reduce indirect emissions from commuting and travel 30% by 2030

### RECENT ACTIVITIES

- Four campus buses converted to hybrid vehicles, reducing their emissions by an expected 25%

### CURRENT PRIORITIES

- Electrification of the university fleet
- Installation of 250 level 2 EV chargers by 2030
- Conducting a campus travel behavior survey Fall 2023

## DINING SERVICES & FOOD VENDORS CLIMATE ACTION GROUP

CHAIR

**Thomas Lott**, Assistant Food Buyer, Dining  
Services, RU-NB



### CHARGE

- Reduce indirect emissions associated with dining services and food service vendors 30% by 2030
- Develop a methodology to track emissions from food systems

### RECENT ACTIVITIES

- Established a carbon labeling system
- Started DEP-funded composting pilot at Neilson Dining Hall

### CURRENT PRIORITIES

- Managing data in Food Pro to make it available for emissions accounting

## LAND USE & BUILDING DESIGN CLIMATE ACTION GROUP

### CO-CHAIRS

**Laura Berman**, Assistant Vice President and  
Assistant University Architect, Rutgers IP&O

**Frank Wong**, Assistant Vice President, Planning,  
Development, and Design, Rutgers IP&O



### CHARGE

- Integrate climate action goals into University planning and design processes
- Expand carbon sequestration on campus by at least 2000 tonnes by 2030

### RECENT ACTIVITIES

- Opened Rutgers first net-zero emissions building
- Awarded ~\$623K in grant funding from NJDEP Division of Watershed Protection and Restoration

### CURRENT PRIORITIES

- 3 capital projects, which include language from the climate action plan and the requirement to be LEED silver in their RFPs

## PROCUREMENT & WASTE MANAGEMENT CLIMATE ACTION GROUP

CO-CHAIRS

**Wes Coleman**, Associate Director, Supplier Diversity  
& Sustainability, Rutgers Procurement Services

**Thomas Cunningham**, Operations Area Manager,  
Environmental Services



### CHARGE

- Reduce indirect emissions associated with the supply chain, procurement, and waste 30% by 2030
- Develop a methodology for tracking scope 3 emissions

### RECENT ACTIVITIES

- Identified sustainable substitutions within ODP
- Increased solid waste processed for recycling by 14.3% since 2021

### CURRENT PRIORITIES

- Develop process for measuring emissions from purchasing and waste

## ADAPTATION CLIMATE ACTION GROUP

CO-CHAIRS

**Steven Keleman**, Director, Office of Emergency  
Management, Rutgers IP&O

**Jeffrey Issler**, Emergency Management Specialist,  
Rutgers IP&O



### CHARGE

- Work across campus and engage with our host communities to establish comprehensive plans for just and equitable climate adaptation

### RECENT ACTIVITIES

- Submitted FEMA Higher Education grant to develop plans for an on-campus Resilience Hub at Rutgers-Newark

### CURRENT PRIORITIES

- Partner with NJ State Emergency Management on new Reservist Program; Develop strategy for Rutgers community resilience planning

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## CHANCELLOR UNIT CLIMATE ACTION GROUPS

### CAMDEN CO-CHAIRS

**Richard Michelfelder**, Associate Professor of Professional Practice, Finance, School of Business, Rutgers-Camden

**Sean O'Malley**, Lead Cluster Champion in Sustainability; Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Physics, Rutgers-Camden

### NEW BRUNSWICK CO-CHAIRS

**Denise Hein**, Vice Provost for Research, New Brunswick Chancellor-Provost's Office; Center Director and Helen E. Chaney Endowed Chair in Alcohol Studies; Professor, Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology, RU-NB

**Oscar Schofield**, Distinguished Professor and Department Chair, Dept of Marine and Coastal Sciences, RU-NB

### NEWARK CO-CHAIRS

**Amber Randolph**, Senior Vice Chancellor, Newark Chancellor's Office

**Alexander Gates**, Distinguished Service Professor, SAS-N

### RBHS CO-CHAIRS

**Philip Demokritou**, Henry Rutgers Chair in Nanoscience and Environmental Bioengineering, School of Public Health, EOHSI, RBHS

**Soko Setoguchi**, Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology, Rutgers Robert Wood Medical School and Rutgers School of Public Health

## CHARGE

Building a culture of sustainability in each unit that 1) integrates climate action into academics, life, and policy across campus; 2) embodies the core values expressed in the climate action plan; and 3) is inclusive of all students, faculty, and staff

## INAUGURAL CLIMATE ACTION RETREAT

The inaugural Climate Action Retreat was held in July 2023 at the Rutgers Club on Livingston Campus. The day-long gathering brought together climate action stakeholders from across the university to connect and share.

The morning session was attended by co-chairs of the ten climate action groups as well as key university administrators. The purpose of this session was to set university-wide climate action priorities for the 2023-2024 academic year. The outcomes from this session directly shaped

the OCA priorities enumerated later in this report.

The larger afternoon session included membership of all the climate action groups. With the assistance of the Office for Research, the afternoon session sought to build bridges between researchers and operational staff with respect to improving the built environment at Rutgers toward clean energy research and operations goals through living labs activities. This session began with a sketch storm to identify existing living lab types

of activities and brainstorm opportunities for growth and development and concluded with an exercise meant to utilize knowledge of existing living labs activities across Rutgers to expand and transform their reach and benefit a broad array of current and potential stakeholders.

The findings from the afternoon session will lay the foundation for potential collaborations. OCA intends to host the Climate Action Retreat annually.





# STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

STUDENTS ARE KEY TO THE WORK OF THE OFFICE OF CLIMATE ACTION. THE SUCCESS OF ACTION ON CAMPUS AND IN OUR COMMUNITIES DEPENDS ON THEIR DEEP AND CONTINUED ENGAGEMENT.



# SAB

## STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD

The Student Advisory Board (SAB) serves as a liaison between OCA and the student body. The members are a coalition of leaders whose skills and talents make sustainable changes for the campus and community. It is comprised of graduate and undergraduate students from all four Chancellor units.



# INTERNS

## FOR-CREDIT INTERNSHIP COURSE

This year, OCA launched a 3-credit internship course in climate action, foregrounding the importance of student involvement in reaching our climate goals and to help students build skills. It is open to all undergraduate students and is housed in the Department of Human Ecology.



# STAFF

## PAID INTERNSHIPS

Several of the students who complete our for-credit internship course develop skills that are immediately useful to OCA projects. In those cases, we hire them as paid interns. These interns are vital to the work of our office and we could not reach our goals without their assistance.



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# CURRENT PRIORITIES

## MAKING SUSTAINABILITY DATA TRANSPARENT

Monitoring and reporting progress toward climate goals is one of the primary functions of the OCA. Internal and external stakeholders alike have long expressed a desire for increased data transparency. In response to both needs, OCA is establishing a suite of public-facing dashboards in Tableau. Knowledge gained during the AASHE STARS reporting process will be used to create durable systems of data governance for sustainability metrics that do not rely on information held by individuals.

## FUNDING CLIMATE ACTION ON CAMPUS

Federal legislation has generated multi-billion-dollar funding opportunities for climate action through vehicles such as the Infrastructure and Jobs Act (IIJA) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). The complexity of the opportunities coupled with the complexity of Rutgers makes it difficult to take action. OCA will oversee targeted coordination, preparation, and attention to take advantage of this funding.

# 2023— 2034

## **PARTNERING FOR CLIMATE ACTION**

Our ability to reach our climate goals will depend largely on our ability to successfully collaborate with both internal and external partners. OCA will continue to support the Rutgers community acting together for climate action through venues such as the Climate Action Groups, the Student Advisory Board, and more. We will also continue to seek out partnerships with external stakeholders, such as the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities, the University Climate Change Coalition, and the federal government to drive climate action beyond Rutgers' borders. Rutgers is also leading the revitaliation of the New Jersey Higher Education Partnership for Sustainability to enable New Jersey to act together on climate.

## **EXPANDING ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATION**

Rutgers has been a sustainability leader in higher education for decades. Building a coherent narrative around Rutgers' commitment to climate action that is legible to both internal and external stakeholders would be a powerful tool for recruitment and reputation building. OCA will continue to expand targeted communication with internal and external stakeholders, including launching a new student-run podcast. To increase engagement among the student community, OCA will pilot a Sustainability Ambassador program at Rutgers–New Brunswick during the 2023-2024 academic year.



# MEMBERSHIP

CLIMATE ACTION GROUPS  
STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD  
STUDENT RESEARCH INTERNS  
STUDENT STAFF INTERNS

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## CLIMATE ACTION GROUP MEMBERSHIP 2022-2023

### ENERGY & BUILDINGS CLIMATE ACTION GROUP

#### CHAIR

**Mike Kornitas**, Director of Sustainability and Energy, Rutgers IP&O

#### MEMBERS

**Laura Berman**, Assistant Vice President and Assistant University Architect, Rutgers IP&O

**Theodore Elonis**, Senior Director, Plants & Distribution, Rutgers IP&O

**John Fritzen**, Director, Facilities and Renovations, Rutgers IP&O

**Christopher Hack**, Director, Facilities Contract Services, Rutgers IP&O

**Mohsen Jafari**, Professor and Department Chair, Industrial and Systems Engineering, School of Engineering, RU-NB

**Jessica Parineet**, Graduate Student, Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, RU-NB

**Mark Rodgers**, Assistant Professor, Rutgers Business School

**Glenn Vliet**, Senior Director, Utilities Operations, Rutgers IP&O

### TRANSPORTATION CLIMATE ACTION GROUP

#### CO-CHAIRS

**Jon Carnegie**, Executive Director, Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center

**Henry Velez**, Vice President, Business Services, Rutgers IP&O

#### MEMBERS

**Popy Begum**, Graduate Student, School of Criminal Justice

**Dunbar Birnie**, Professor, School of Engineering, RU-NB

**Greg Gamble**, Director Economic Development, Camden Chancellor's Office

**Paul Hammond**, Assistant Vice Chancellor, VP Academic Affairs

**Peter Jin**, Associate Professor Civil and Environmental Engineering

**Leigh Ann Kimber**, Asst Director, IP&O Planning Dev & Design

**Bill McCarthy**, Dean, School of Criminal Justice

**Heather Mitchell**, Law School Technical Services Librarian

**Robert Noland**, Distinguished Professor CY, BSPPP-Dean's Office

**Shante Palmer**, Vice Chancellor Newark

**Faizali Rahim**, RUSA University Affairs Chair

**Kelcie Ralph**, Assoc Professor ACD YR, BSPPP-Dean's Office

**Michael Smart**, Assoc Professor ACD YR, BSPPP-Dean's Office

**Barry Sopher**, Director, Laboratory for Economic Behavior, Institutions and Design

**Jennifer Sousa**, Sr. Dept Administrator, IP&O Business Services

**Jennifer Stuart**, Director, IP&O Planning Dev & Design

**Clayton Walton**, Director Newark Office of Global Initiatives  
**Wenwen Zhang**, Asst Professor ACD YR, BSPPP-Dean's Office

## **DINING SERVICES & FOOD VENDORS CLIMATE ACTION GROUP**

### **CHAIR**

**Thomas Lott**, Assistant Food Buyer, Dining Services, RU-NB

### **MEMBERS**

**Jacquelyn Bailey**, Dining Coordinator, RU-C

**Sandra Draper**, Director of Catering, Gourmet Dining, RU-N

**Xiaotong Du**, Doctoral student, School of Communication and Information, RU-NB

**Kathryn DuPlessis**, Director of Dining, Gourmet Dining, RU-C

**Serpil Guran**, Director, Rutgers EcoComplex

**Ghufran Hussain**, NJPIRG member, Rutgers – Newark

**Bruce Johnson**, Business Manager, Dining Services, RU-NB

**Nick Mazza**, Rutgers—Camden Campus Nutritionist, Gourmet Dining Services

**Xenia Morin**, Associate Teaching Professor, School of Environmental and  
Biological Science, RU-NB

**Emily Razak**, Undergraduate Student, School of Environmental and Biological  
Science, RU-NB

**Lynn Riker**, Administrator, Dining, RU-N

**Jessica VanWie**, Graduate Student, School of Graduate Studies, RU-NB

**Marina Vineis**, Nutrition Specialist, Rutgers Dining Services, RU-NB

## **LAND USE & BUILDING DESIGN CLIMATE ACTION GROUP**

### **CO-CHAIRS**

**Laura Berman**, Assistant Vice President and Assistant University Architect,  
Rutgers IP&O

**Frank Wong**, Assistant Vice President, Planning, Development, and Design,  
Rutgers IP&O

### **MEMBERS**

**Brian Clemson**, University Landscape Architect, Rutgers IP&O

**Robert Gale**, Senior Design Engineer

**Jason Grabosky**, Professor in Urban Forestry, RU-NB

**Mike Kornitas**, Director of Sustainability and Energy, Rutgers IP&O

**Richard Lathrop**, Director, Grant F. Walton Center for Remote Sensing &  
Spatial Analysis; Director, Rutgers Ecological Preserve; Professor of  
Environmental Monitoring, RU-NB

**Seth Richter**, Project Manager, Rutgers IP&O

**Elana Saltzman**, Assistant Director of Design, Rutgers IP&O

**Shean Wang**, Assistant Director of Construction Technology, Rutgers IP&O

## PROCUREMENT & WASTE MANAGEMENT CLIMATE ACTION GROUP

### CO-CHAIRS

**Wes Coleman**, Associate Director, Supplier Diversity & Sustainability, Rutgers Procurement Services

**Thomas Cunningham**, Operations Area Manager, Environmental Services

### MEMBERS

**Carol Broccoli**, Assistant Director, Office of Continuing Professional Education, NJAES

**Paul Copeland**, Professor, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, RWJ Medical School, RBHS

**Serpil Guran**, Director, Rutgers EcoComplex

**Mike Kornitas**, Director of Sustainability and Energy, Rutgers IP&O

**Gary Kovach**, Executive Director, Finance, RBHS

**Jason Krishner**, Rutgers Business School

**Jack Schrum**, Facilities Supervisor, Dining Services, Rutgers-NB

**Katherine Strzalka**, Accounting Assistant, Rutgers University Finance and Administration

## ADAPTATION CLIMATE ACTION GROUP

### CO-CHAIRS

**Steven Keleman**, Director, Office of Emergency Management, Rutgers IP&O

**Jeffrey Issler**, Emergency Management Specialist, Rutgers IP&O

### MEMBERS

**Marjorie Kaplan**, Co-Director New Jersey Climate Change Resource Center

**Dave Robinson**, Professor, Geography, New Jersey State Climatologist

## CAMDEN CLIMATE ACTION GROUP

### CO-CHAIRS

**Richard Michelfelder**, Associate Professor of Professional Practice, Finance, School of Business, Rutgers-Camden

**Sean O'Malley**, Lead Cluster Champion in Sustainability; Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Physics, Rutgers-Camden

### MEMBERS

**Angélica Gonzalez**, Associate Professor of Biology, College of Arts and Sciences, RU-C

**Tamara Nelson**, Assistant Professor of Psychology, College of Arts and Sciences, RU-C

**Elizabeth Demaray**, Associate Professor of Art, Department of Visual, Media, and Performing Arts, RU-C

**Sangita Pudasainee-Kapri**, Assistant Professor of Nursing, School of Nursing, RU-C

**Joseph Tariman**, Associate Professor and Associate Dean for Clinical Innovation and EBP, School of Nursing, RU-C

**Mike Fitzgerald**, Camden Associate Director, IP&O

**Brian Everett**, Assistant Dean, Camden Honors College, RU-C

## NEW BRUNSWICK CLIMATE ACTION GROUP

### CO-CHAIRS

**Denise Hein**, Vice Provost for Research, New Brunswick Chancellor-Provost's Office; Center Director and Helen E. Chaney Endowed Chair in Alcohol Studies; Professor, Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology, RU-NB

**Oscar Schofield**, Distinguished Professor and Department Chair, Dept of Marine and Coastal Sciences, RU-NB

### MEMBERS

**Dunbar Birnie**, Professor, School of Engineering, RU-NB

**Jeff Broggi**, Associate Dean, Student Care and Support, RU-NB

**Zoe Byham**, Undergrad student, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB

**Rebecca Cypess**, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Mason Gross School of the Arts, RU-NB

**Heather Fenyk**, President & Exec Director, Lower Raritan Watershed Association

**Jennifer Hollingshead**, Vice Chancellor, Rutgers Communications and Marketing

**Marjorie Kaplan**, Associate Director, Rutgers Climate Institute

**Nancy Kirsch**, Professor, Rehabilitation And Movement Sciences, School of Health Professions

**Julie Lockwood**, Professor, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB

**Jorge Marcone**, Associate Dean for Humanities, School of Arts and Sciences, RU-NB

**Jessica Parineet**, Graduate student, Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy

**Javier Perez**, Graduate student, School of Engineering, , RU-NB

**Melissa Selesky**, Senior Director, Rutgers Strategic Events and Programs

**Rachael Shwom**, Professor, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB

**Kendall Soto**, Undergrad student, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB

**Michael Tolbert**, Senior Director, Residence Life, RU-NB

**Wade Trappe**, Associate Dean for Academic Programs, School of Engineering, RU-NB

**Rebecca Walkowitz**, Dean of Humanities, School of Arts and Sciences, RU–NB  
**James Wright**, Professor, School of Arts and Sciences, RU–NB

## NEWARK CLIMATE ACTION GROUP

### CO-CHAIRS

**Amber Randolph**, Senior Vice Chancellor, Newark Chancellor's Office

**Alexander Gates**, Distinguished Service Professor, SAS-N

### MEMBERS

**Francisco Artigas**, Director, Meadowlands Environmental Research Institute

**Angelita Bonilla**, Associate Dean, Student Affairs, Newark Chancellor's Office, RU-N

**Jimmy Camacho**, Assistant Dean of Graduate Programs and Graduate Enrollment Services, School of Criminal Justice, RU-N

**Phedra Deonarine**, Administrative Assistant, College of Nursing

**Kevin Dowlin**, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Teaching and Learning Spaces, RU-N

**Candace Dundas**, Director of Human Resources, RU-N

**Natasha Dyer**, Executive Director, Greater Newark Conservancy

**Hend El Buri**, Director, PantryRUN, RU-N

**Daniel La Fuente**, Director, ResLife, RU-N

**Kevin Lyons**, Associate Professor of Practice, Rutgers Business School, RU-N

**George Matteo**, Director of Facilities & Operations for Campus Housing and Dining Services

**Bill McCarthy**, Dean and Undergraduate Program Chair, School of Criminal Justice, RU-N

**Melissa Rivera**, Senior Associate Dean for Finance and Administration, Rutgers Business School, RU-N

**Ashaki Rouff**, Associate Professor, Earth & Environmental Science, School of Arts and Sciences, RU-N

**Alejandro Ruiz**, Executive Director, Rutgers Environmental Health and Safety

**Elisabeth Ševčenko**, Director, Humanities Action Lab, School of Arts and Sciences, RU-N

**Tony Sharo**, Newark Associate Director, IP&O

**Jack Tchen**, Director, Clement A. Price Institute on Ethnicity, Culture, and the Modern Experience, RU-N

**Clayton Walton**, Director, Office of Global Initiatives and Experiential Learning, RU-N

**Kimberlee Williams**, Director of Communications and Marketing, RU-N

**Suah Yekeh**, Graduate Student, Department of Earth & Environmental Science, RU-N; Member, Office of Climate Action Student Advisory Board

## RBHS CLIMATE ACTION GROUP

### CO-CHAIRS

**Philip Demokritou**, Henry Rutgers Chair in Nanoscience and Environmental

Bioengineering, School of Public Health, EOHSI, RBHS  
**Soko Setoguchi**, Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology, Rutgers Robert Wood Medical School and Rutgers School of Public Health

## MEMBERS

**Liza Barbarello Andrews**, Clinical Professor, Clinical Director of Simulation, Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy  
**Lila Bazina**, PhD Student, School of Public Health  
**Meg Castro**, Senior Public Relations Specialist, Rutgers Communications and Marketing  
**Catherine Chen**, Assistant Professor, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School  
**Helene DeRisi**, Administrative Coordinator, Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute  
**Carlos DeSousa**, Director, Environment of Care, University Behavioral Health Care  
**Mary Beth Giacona**, Clinical Assistant Professor, School of Dental Medicine  
**Jose Guillermo Cedeno Laurent**, Assistant Professor, School of Public Health and Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute  
**Georgios Kelesidis**, Assistant Professor, School of Public Health and Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute  
**Nancy Kirsch**, Interim Chair, Rehabilitation And Movement Sciences, School of Health Professions  
**Robert Laumbach**, Associate Professor, Center for Environmental Exposures and Disease  
**Jeremy Lessing**, MD/PhD Candidate, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and School of Biological and Environmental Sciences  
**Jillian Prior**, Director of Strategic Communications, Rutgers Communications and Marketing  
**Wendy Purcell**, Professor, School of Public Health  
**Gloria Rodriquez**, Associate Professor, New Jersey Medical School  
**Heili Truumees**, Medical Student, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School  
**Anisha Tyagi**, Medical Student, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

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## STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERSHIP 2022-2023

**Olivia Becker**, Undergraduate Student, School of Arts and Sciences, RU-NB

**Matthew Brodsky**, Undergraduate student, College of Arts and Sciences,  
RU-C

**Zoe Byham**, Undergraduate Student, School of Environmental and Biological  
Sciences, RU-NB

**Lea Cerini**, Undergraduate Student, School of Environmental and Biological  
Sciences, RU-NB

**Elaysel Germán**, PhD student, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, RU-C

**Larodge Johnson**, Undergraduate student, School of Business, RU-C

**Jeremy Lessing**, MD/PhD Student, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School,  
RBHS

**Jessica Parineet**, Graduate Student, Bloustein School of Planning and Public  
Policy, RU-NB

**Javier Perez**, Graduate Student, School of Engineering, RU-NB

**Faizali Rahim**, Undergraduate Student, School of Engineering, RU-NB

**Kendall Soto**, Undergraduate Student, School of Environmental and Biological  
Sciences, RU-NB

**Sukrut Sonty**, MD Student, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, RBHS

**Jordan Warner**, Undergraduate Student, School of Criminal Justice, RU-N

**Hayln Xheriaj**, Undergraduate Student, School of Arts and Sciences, RU-N

**Suah Yekeh**, PhD Student, School of Arts and Sciences, RU-N

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## CLIMATE ACTION COURSE INTERNS 2022-2023

**Kyra Bostic**, Climate Action Ambassador Program, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB

**Zoe Byham**, History of Sustainability at Rutgers, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB

**Justin Cairns**, AASHE STARS Reporting, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB

**Stella Campbell**, Sustainability Savings in Rutgers Facilities, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB

**Sarah Chang**, AASHE STARS Reporting, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB

**Alicia Ciprian**, Food Sustainability, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB

**Charita Darlapudi**, Food Sustainability, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB

**Jessica Deepan**, Ambassador Program, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB

**Emily DeHart**, Sustainability Metrics and Reporting, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB

**Sam Delagrang**, Sustainable Procurement, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB

**Nat Francesco**, Measuring a Culture of Sustainability, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB

**Anuva Joshi**, Plant Species Decision Tool, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB

**Emily Lescano**, AASHE STARS Benchmarking, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB

**Max Levenberg**, Campus Sustainability Resources Inventory, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB

**C.J. Macaayan**, Climate Action Ambassador Program, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB

**Destiny Rosales**, Drinking Water Sustainability, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB

**Andrew Saponara**, Food Waste at Rutgers, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB

**Valerie Sieber**, Sustainability in Rutgers Facilities, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB

**Joey Velke**, Sustainability Metrics and Reporting, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB

**Naina Waghray**, OCA Newsletter Editor, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB

**Jordan Warner**, AASHE STARS Benchmarking, School of Criminal Justice, RU-N

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## STAFF INTERNS

### 2022-2023

**Divya Ananth**, Communications, Rutgers Business School, RU-NB  
**Justin Cairns**, Sustainability Reporting, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB  
**Dora Calva**, Communications, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB  
**Stella Campbell**, Planning and administration, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB  
**Sarah Chang**, Sustainability reporting, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB  
**Emily DeHart**, Sustainability Reporting, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB  
**Samantha Donner**, Communication, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB  
**Joey Velke**, Sustainability reporting and administration, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, RU-NB  
**Naina Waghray**, Communications, School of Arts and Sciences, RU-NB

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