

Campus Climate Action Plan

Group Study
Spring term 2021

Meeting overview

- Context for project
- Project goals & vision
- Deliverables
- Student roles & responsibilities
- Questions
- Next steps

Context: Climate Action Planning at MSU

- Campus Climate Action Plan = institutional commitment to addressing climate change—vary widely in scope and approach
- Last MSU Climate Action Plan 2011
- New plan fall 2021
 - Led by ASMSU Office of Sustainability with support from Campus Sustainability Advisory Council
 - Range of options for participation, including as student advocates and volunteers

Where this project fits

What it is:

- A semester-long group study about climate action plan processes and outcomes conducted by students and coordinated and supervised by two faculty/CSAC members
- Group study presents a report to CSAC that evaluates climate action plans from other campuses:
 - What processes did they use to develop the plan and why? With which results?
 - What is in the plan (and why)?
 - What has happened since the plan was written (and why/why not)?
 - What should MSU stakeholders and leaders know as they work to support a robust and productive CAP process?

Project goals & vision

When this project is complete:

- Student working group, CSAC and other campus stakeholders are inspired and informed by the experiences of peer institutions
- A cohort of “local experts” exists to support and lead student engagement in CAP and its adoption and implementation
- Student working group, CSAC and other campus stakeholders understand and acknowledge:
 - Range of plan formats, development processes, and implementation strategies
 - Tradeoffs, lessons learned and other insights regarding how plans evolve from process to implementation

Overview of process

- Ideal group size = <8
- Each student completes independent study contract and paper work in appropriate department with advisor's approval
- Weekly progress reports/meetings 1 hour at mutually convenient time
- Communication via slack; file sharing
- Parallel versus shared roles TBD
- Student final deliverable stated in independent study contract and determined in Week 0
- Assessment via: peer and instructor evaluation

Overview of process

- Presentations of final reports: April 15 and April 23
- Start date Jan 25, Week 0 – logistics and roles
- 7 intense work weeks Feb 1-Apr 2 in 3 phases
 - Planning and background: 2.5 weeks
 - Interviews: 1.5 weeks
 - Data analysis & writing: 3 weeks
- Week 8, Apr 5 Rehearse and finalize
- Weeks 9-10: Presentations
- Week 11: Final report and personal deliverables (thru Apr 30)

Roles & responsibilities

- Coordinators:
 - Supervise and monitor progress, certify independent study progress
 - Conduct weekly meeting
 - Provide protocol and resources
 - Provide critical feedback on written products, presentations and other deliverables
- Students:
 - Know and support overall project goals
 - Conduct all research following prescribed protocol
 - Attend all scheduled meetings
 - Maintain data and shared files
 - Write, proofread, revise all products
 - Observe and meet deadlines
 - Meet and collaborate as needed without instructor supervision

Next Steps

- Evaluate your own availability and capacity
 - Option 1: Opt to participate in CAP as a student observer/advocate
 - Option 2: Conduct Study Group as Independent Study
 - Option 3: Conduct Study Group as Independent Study *plus* added focus/deliverable for capstone or thesis
- **Option 1:**
 - Sign up sheet here, wait for invitation from Sustainability Office
- **Options 2 and 3:**
 - Confirm interest by email include your class standing (Jr, Sr, etc.), GPA, and relevant courses (see below)—final interest due by COB Jan 20th.
 - If interest exceeds 8, priority to upper-division students and those with course background in Climate Leadership, Geography of Energy Resources, or Energy & Sustainability
 - Follow subsequent instructions. Note add deadline – Jan 25.