

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Office of the Chancellor
Swanlund Administration Building
601 East John Street
Champaign, IL 61820



PLEDGE:

As institutions of higher education, we applaud the progress already made to promote clean energy and climate action as we seek a comprehensive, ambitious agreement at the upcoming United Nations Climate Negotiations in Paris. Although we are optimistic that world leaders will reach an agreement to secure a transition to a low-carbon future, we recognize the urgent need to act now to avoid irreversible costs to our global community's economic prosperity and public health. Today our school pledges to accelerate the transition to low-carbon energy while enhancing sustainable and resilient practices across our campuses.

We put forth our pledges as follows:

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is a signatory of Second Nature's Carbon Commitment, which commits the campus to becoming carbon neutral as soon as possible, and no later than 2050. In 2010, our campus developed the Illinois Climate Action Plan to guide our efforts to achieve carbon neutrality. Already we have reduced the energy consumption of existing buildings by 20%, reduced their greenhouse gas emissions by 15%, and implemented a "no net increase in space" policy. Going forward, and aligned with our Carbon Commitment, we will

- achieve carbon neutrality as soon as possible, but no later than 2050, by actively pursuing both energy efficiency projects as well as low-carbon energy generation and purchasing;
- continue to enhance interdisciplinary educational opportunities in sustainability, both inside and outside the classroom; and
- foster actionable research that provides real-world solutions to society's grand challenges in sustainability, energy, and the environment.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barbara J. Wilson".

Barbara J. Wilson
Interim Chancellor

November 12, 2015