

CAP Public Forum Responses

Tuesday, October 28, 2014

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33

Total Responses

Complete Responses: 33

Surveys were distributed at the Climate Action Planning Presentations Uptown and Downtown on October 28th, 2014.

Responses were entered into an online survey tool and are presented here.

Notes on questions & comments made by audience at the sessions are attached at the end of this document.

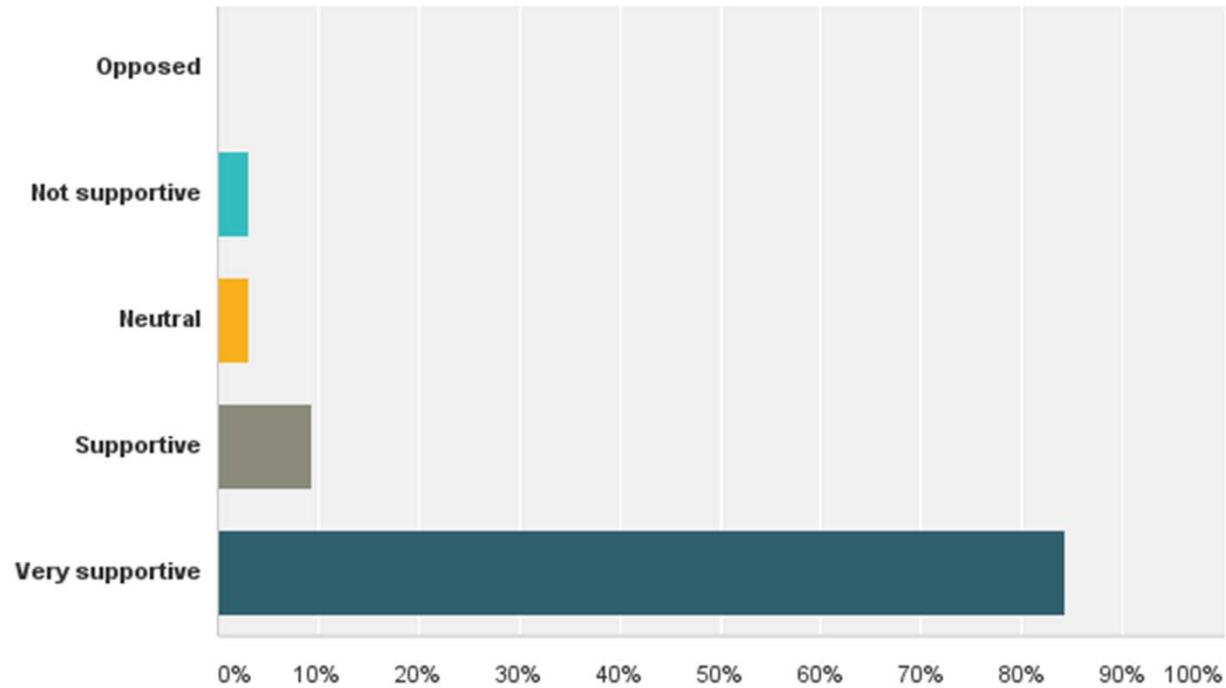
Q2: Are you a

Answered: 27 Skipped: 6

Answer Choices	Responses
Faculty member	11.11% 3
Staff member	22.22% 6
Student – undergrad living on-campus	25.93% 7
Student – grad student living on-campus	3.70% 1
Student – undergrad living off-campus	25.93% 7
Student – grad student living off-campus	11.11% 3
Total	27

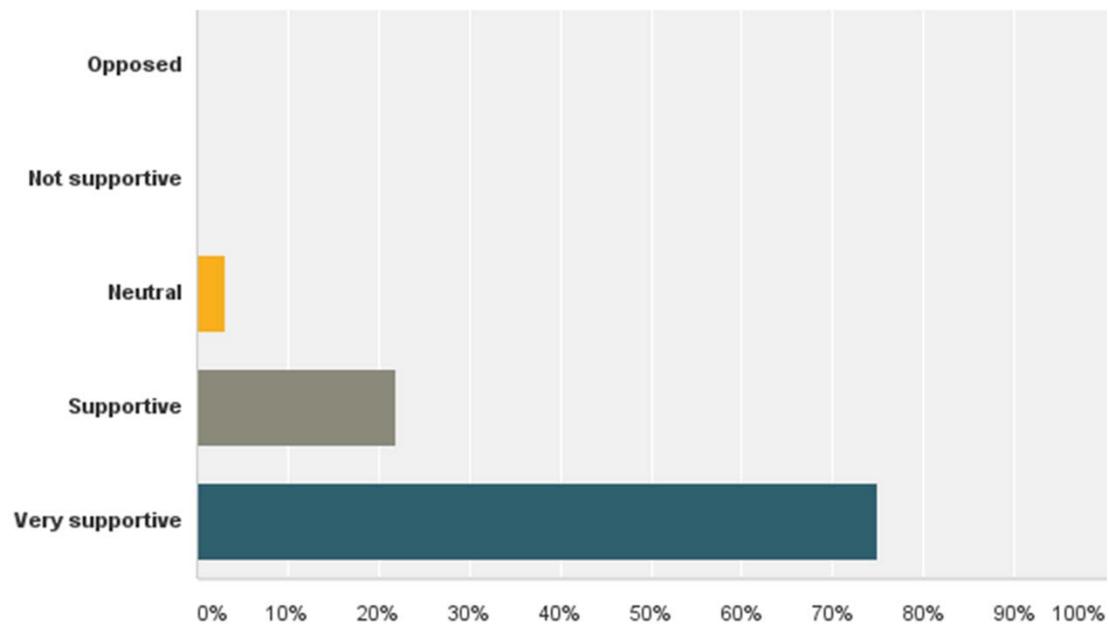
Q3: Do you support a University goal of climate neutrality by 2050?

Answered: 32 Skipped: 1



Q4: After today's presentation, are you motivated to learn more about climate change and reducing greenhouse gas emissions?

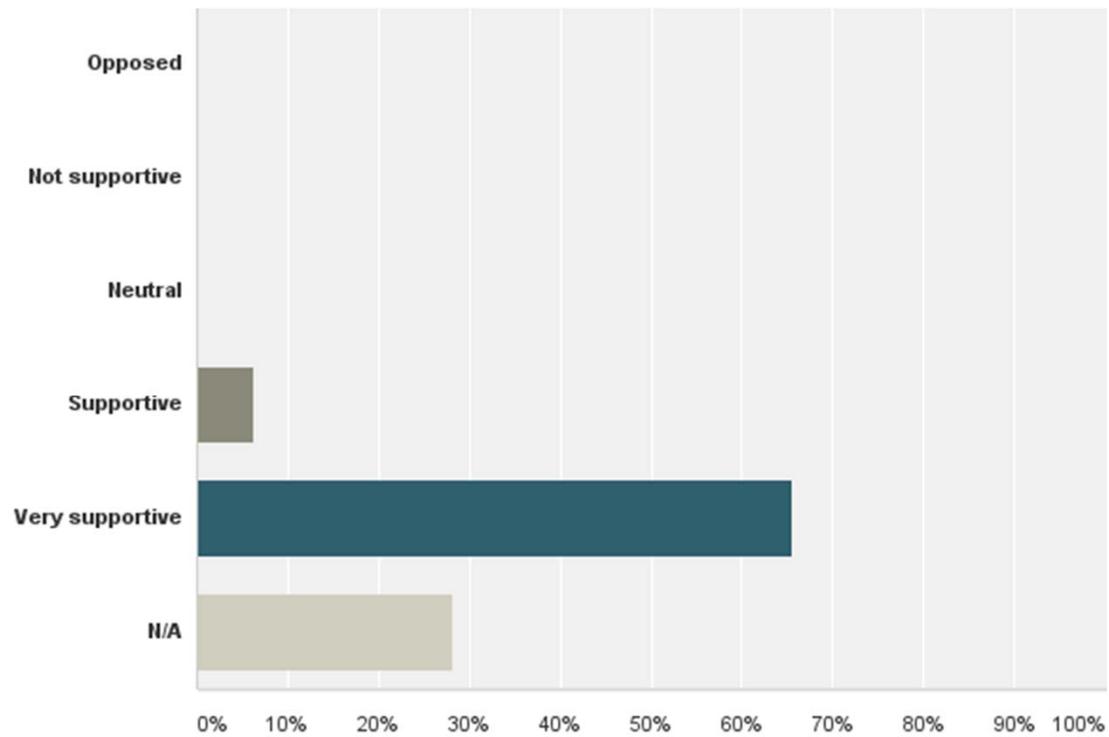
Answered: 32 Skipped: 1



Q5: If you are a student, does today's presentation motivate you to contribute to Tulane University's goal of reducing its greenhouse gas emissions? If so, please check each of the following that are areas of interest for you.

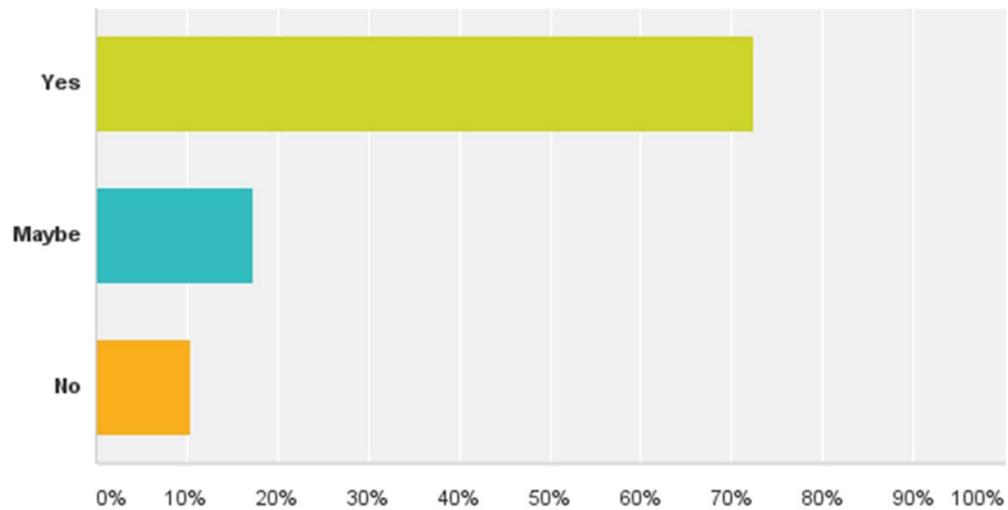
Take classes that focus on climate change and greenhouse gas emissions

Answered: 32 Skipped: 1



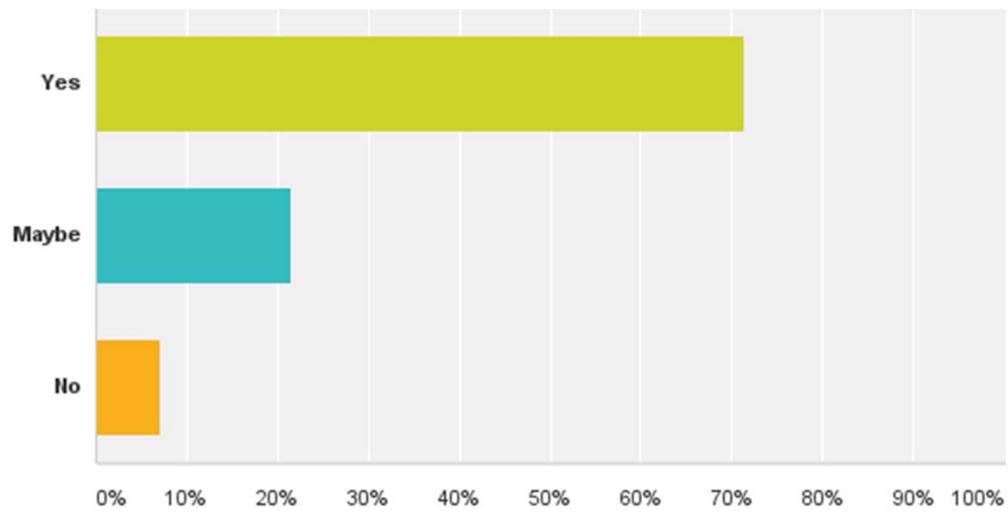
Q6: An energy reduction challenge for your dorm, academic building or administration/office building.

Answered: 29 Skipped: 4



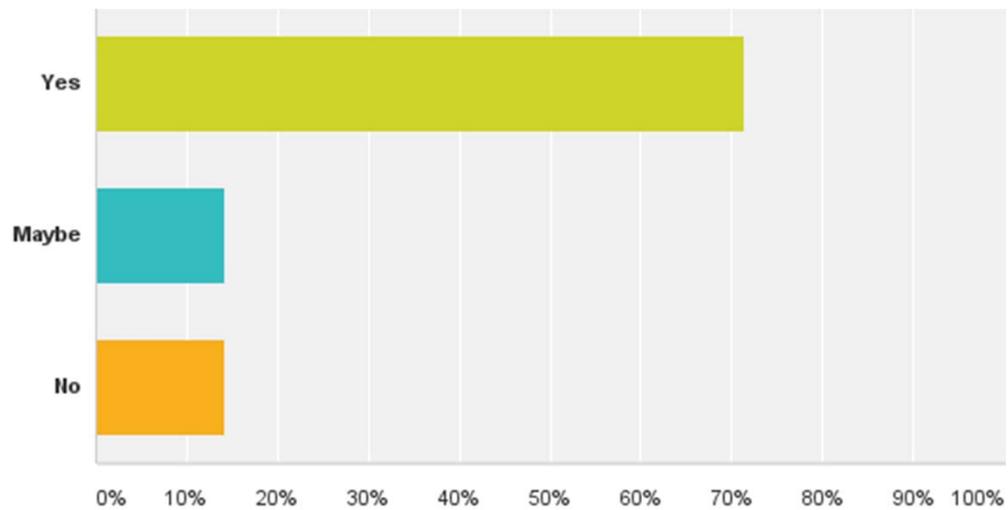
Q7: To read regular e-mails that provide information about Tulane's progress with energy conservation.

Answered: 28 Skipped: 5



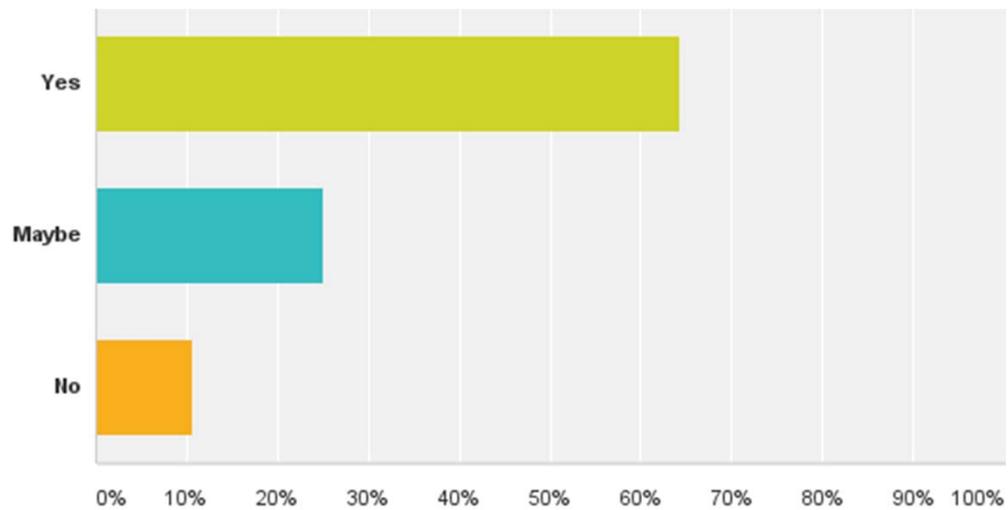
Q8: To read and act on the contents of regular e-mails that provide suggestions on ways that you can change your behavior to reduce campus building energy demand.

Answered: 28 Skipped: 5



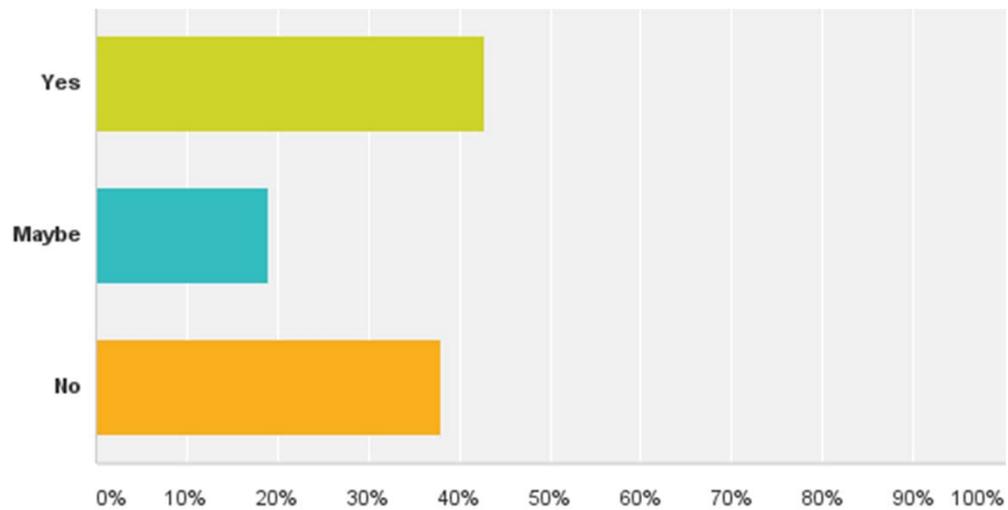
Q9: To volunteer to be the point person to educate and guide occupants of a campus building – the residence hall where you live, your primary academic building, or your administration/office building -- to change their behavior to reduce building energy demand.

Answered: 28 Skipped: 5



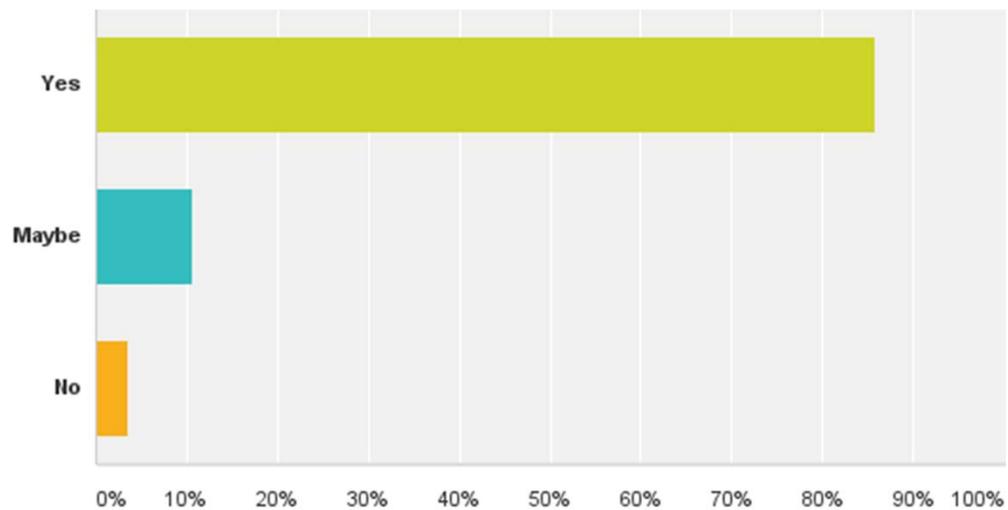
Q10: (For Students) To pay student fee to create revolving energy conservation investment fund.

Answered: 21 Skipped: 12



Q11: Today, many low-fossil fuel and fossil-fuel free energy systems such as solar panels are not cost competitive with many other means of reducing campus reliance on fossil-fuels, yet they have long been of interest to University faculty, staff and students. Do you think that the University should install these systems even if they are more expensive than other reduction measures?

Answered: 28 Skipped: 5



Write-in Responses

4. If you are willing to pay student fee to create revolving energy conservation fund, approximate dollar value/semester:
Endowment. This isn't necessary. This has better return than traditional investments. Divest from oil & gas, invest in Tulane.
Tulane University is very wealthy-- it is not necessary for students to pay more
Take the money from endowment.
I think you could only convince students to do this if the investment in "bad" companies (fracking, oil and gas, etc.) was stopped.
Take from endowment.
DON'T make students pay for it. DON'T push costs onto consumers!
Should be funded from savings.
\$500-\$1000, but would prefer a different source of funding.
\$20
\$50-\$100 but no more because Tulane is expensive , but a little from a lot of people is still a lot.
\$500-\$1000
\$30
\$25
Can the \$ saved in energy costs go toward this fund?

5 a. If you are a student who owns a car that is kept on or near campus, what can Tulane University do to motivate you to reduce that number of trips?
Raise price of parking, limit parking.
Do not own car, but more shuttles.
More shuttles, bike paths on campus.
Provide more of an opportunity to bulk classes for off-campus upperclassmen so they only have to make on trip to campus each day.
Provide more off campus transportation to events, festivals, stores around the city.
I walk, but bike lanes and bus routes. Focus on getting more students closer to campus.
More bike racks
If I could use something other than my car I would, but I also work full time so i can't
Offer free or reduced public transport subsidy
Charge more for having a car, subsidize bikes, MORE BIKE LANES.
Better parking
More on campus resources. Better grocery options besides Mac Mart.
Already use car as a "luxury"

5 b. If you are a faculty or staff member who drives a car to commute to campus, what can Tulane University do to motivate you to switch to using public transportation, the campus shuttle system, carpool, bicycle or walk as a primary means of commuting?
I only drive 2 miles each way to and from work and I have to go downtown frequently
I already use an alternative means without an extra incentive; a \$ bonus or free (close) parking on rainy days may be good motivators.
The shuttles should pick up at frequent bus stops- sometimes I'll need to go downtown but the bus stop is closer than the shuttle but walking from the bus is a deterrent.
Reliability of public transportation needs to be improved.
Create a group that can help with fixing bikes, much like the student run "bike help desk."
Move my office back uptown/downtown... especially departments with significant travel requirements between and within campuses.
Provide shuttle at early morning to Elmwood.
Showers in office? Some reward for commitment- an extra day off work? Maybe staggered office hours.
More bike racks
More bike parking, financial incentive, better on campus infrastructure (bike lanes).
Nothing
I think even just being more informed-i.e. attending sessions like today- makes me more inspired to use my bike

<p>6. Today, many low-fossil fuel and fossil-fuel free energy systems such as solar panels are not cost competitive with many other means of reducing campus reliance on fossil-fuels, yet they have long been of interest to University faculty, staff and students. Do you think that the University should install these systems even if they are more expensive than other reduction measures? Please explain.</p>
<p>Yes, fossil fuels are a direct driver of climate change which leads to sea level rise, stronger storm surge, hurricanes and displaced Louisianans.</p>
<p>Yes because they are educationally beneficial and not that much more expensive relatively.</p>
<p>Yes, I think we should but also we may want to wait for further research on more efficient systems.</p>
<p>Lead by example, help bring costs down in the long run.</p>
<p>Students/faculty/staff/consultants can use them as learning tools for future technologies.</p>
<p>Yes, long term energy usage and investment must continue.</p>
<p>Consider the comments of the architect today--install a small system now, expand it as the cost goes down.</p>
<p>Yes, but in test cases that can be observed and feedback into R&D.</p>
<p>Yes, educational value, experience when they become available.</p>
<p>No- focus on efficiency!</p>
<p>Shouldn't make students pay for it.</p>
<p>Be a leader for students and the community.</p>
<p>Start now small. Scale up in 2020.</p>
<p>Long term investments should still pencil. Also, explore <u>PURCHASE POWER AGREEMENTS</u>.</p>
<p>It's an important visible measure for Tulane and an educational opportunity.</p>
<p>Yes. Their prices will become more affordable in the future and eventually pay off.</p>
<p>If it encourages Tulane community's enthusiasm and vigor towards the endeavors, yes, unless it is unreasonably expensive.</p>
<p>Will pay off in the long run. My tuition is high enough to implement solar panels.</p>
<p>They are becoming cheaper investments every day and provide great visibility for sustainable practices.</p>
<p>Visibility</p>

<p>7. Please share your comments and other suggestions here</p>
<p>Great study, important work</p>
<p>I think it is essential to consider our endowment in this deliberation. This was a great presentation and within your scope it was well crafted. But we face a dynamic problem with climate change and slow moving actions will not alter the fact that global change is eminent.</p>
<p>I thought further teaching integration was a great idea (in B school!)</p>

<p>The green revolving fund should be funded by our endowment rather than student fees. Student fees will turn students against this plan, and student support was seen as a concern during the presentation. I would be interested in adding fossil fuel divestment as a further way to decrease our university's carbon footprint</p>
<p>Tulane is very wealthy- it is not necessary for students to pay more</p>
<p>I'd like to see more details about the ECM bundles in an appendix to the plan.</p>
<p>Tulane should look into having more coursework, minors, majors, degrees and certificate programs on climate change and sustainability-- I think that's when there will be a bigger push to engage the entire TU community. Definitely like the idea of universities that represent best practices.</p>
<p>I'm interested in the organizational aspect of the plan- maybe as part of the courses I teach in the Tulane Environmental Studies Program.</p>
<p>Don't push the costs of your commitment onto students. Students will support it and will be inspired after experiencing it, but will resent the initiative if all the costs come from increasing student fees.</p> <p>Blue Carbon Offset Credits? If we don't protect the coast, how can we be sure there will be a campus after 2050?</p>
<p>A good start.</p>
<p>Energy efficiency + cogen + renewables = good. Also think about the link to RESILIENCY.</p>
<p>I thought the presentation was great and informative. I am a graduating senior in chemical engineering and environmental studies and my goal is to get involved in sustainability and climate change. I would love to learn more about jobs in the Office of Sustainability or the firms.</p>
<p>Appreciate the analysis. The priorities I see most important to successful plan are (1) supportive nimble implementation, (2) good measure and visible actions to engage students, (3) reinvestment of savings to accelerate plan. One other note is that the solar assumptions I believe are incorrect. Having worked on solar models (working for Sun Edison next year) I believe solar is currently a positive NPV investment for Tulane if considering 25+year life. Payback for Tulane even with low electric cost will be slower (10-15 years) but should still be positive. Happy to discuss more for assumptions on model!</p>
<p>TAKE FOOD INTO ACCOUNT. We eat a lot of unsustainable foods here, limiting these in our dining halls would make a HUGE difference</p>
<p>Competition among universities, not just within Tulane's campus. Can use this for literal contests, as well as pressures on administration.</p>
<p>Thank you! So great that Tulane is exploring this.</p>

Discussion and Feedback (*from Uptown audience 10/28/14*)

- Tulane abatement – what role for renewables?
- Does this study address divestment?
- Duke University plan appears more ambitious. Why?
- Building metering status at Tulane?
- Waste – look at compost
- How did we model energy conservation measures?
- Travel between campuses – two main and smaller campuses. Did this information inform our work?
- Thermal comfort
- Implementation – how structure?
- Supply chain should be a distinct part of the plan
- Green revolving fund – can't endowment support this?
- Building on campus with 6 mechanical systems. There are many established technologies that outperform more modern ones.

Discussion and Feedback (*continued from previous slide*)

- Which universities represent best practices? What can Tulane learn from how they are structured? Can we recommend a 12-point plan to address this challenge?
- Have we considered green roofs?
- We should address food on campus. Animal farming is GHG intensive.
- Reaching neutrality through third part activity.
- Offsets are only being counted if the activity is positive.
- Savings from energy supply investments should be noted. Reinvestment of those savings should be shown.

Discussion and Feedback (*from Downtown audience 10/28/14*)

- Waste – 2% of campus GHG. Does the university count human waste? What is the university strategy for reducing emissions related to solid waste?
- Carbon credits – will Tulane have a relationship with offset providers? Preference would be for local offsets as the priority. Blue carbon. (Tierra Resources—local company in this areas)
- How soon renewables? They are important for their visibility, among other reasons.
- What visibility will the campaign have? Communication is key.
- Is there a strategy for collaborating, sharing Tulane's interests and intent with others in the region (City of New Orleans, other institutions)?
- EHS and climate change connections.