

President's Commission on Carbon Neutrality

Co-Chairs Summary of Commission Meeting March 11, 2019

3:30pm – Meeting began

Co-chairs opened the meeting by summarizing the agenda. This was followed an update from the commission's administrative director on plans for the Town Hall immediately following the meeting.

Representatives from U-M's Office of General Counsel and FOIA Office then briefed the Commission on how the FOIA process works at U-M.

This was followed by a discussion of the Commission's operating principles and guidelines

The co-chairs described engagement efforts to date with students and turned it over to the student commission members to outline the progress being made in developing the student advisory panel. The primary goal is to ensure the panel has diverse representation across university programs, campuses, and topical areas of interest related to climate change and carbon reduction.

Next, there was a discussion of the potential composition and purpose of the University Advisory Panel. The goal is to make this group large enough that it is representative of all three campuses and all types of major U-M units, while also keeping it small enough to be highly functional.

Professor Greg Keoleian then gave an informative presentation on GHG emission scopes and their components. Those slides are posted on the Commission's public website.

The presentation was followed by a preliminary discussion of UM GHG emissions by scope, with a particular focus on Scope 3 emissions, which come from a variety of sources including commuting, business travel, solid waste disposal, etc. Commission members discussed the importance and challenges of creating accurate metrics for tracking Scope 3 emissions, and benchmarking how other universities, industries, and communities are addressing Scope 3 emissions. This discussion also included recognition that potential approaches need to be mindful of socio-economic impacts.

5pm – Meeting adjourned