



JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY
Office of the President

November 12, 2015

Ms. Angela Barranco
Office of Public Engagement
White House Council on Environmental Quality
Executive Office of the President

PLEDGE:

As institutions of higher education, we applaud the monumental 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:

JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY

In our effort to promote a low-carbon transition and climate action, John Carroll University, as a Fair Trade institution and signatory of both the Catholic Climate Covenant and the Statement of Global Leaders in Catholic Higher Education in Support of *Laudato Si'*, pledges to:

- Address the social and environmental challenges facing our local and global communities through the Ignatian model of experience, reflection and action, curricular and co-curricular programming and by deepening the University's commitment to sustainability.
- Conserve natural resources and reduce consumption, waste, energy usage and our overall carbon footprint.
- Identify, promote and implement sustainable practices in all aspects of our operations.

Building on our significant progress in reducing our utility consumption and campus carbon footprint, we will extend our commitment to educating not only our students but the public on the benefits of renewables and low-carbon energy through several programs and initiatives:

- Strive for LEED certification for all future campus renovations.
- Increase the number of recycling and water bottle refill stations in academic and administrative buildings on campus.
- Increase the use of native plants in campus gardens to reduce water and fertilizer use.

Sincerely,

Rev. Robert L. Niehoff, S.J.
President