

UC Bonnie Reiss Carbon Neutrality Initiative (CNI) Student Fellows Program

Guidelines and Responsibilities

2021-22

The purpose of the UC Bonnie Reiss Carbon Neutrality Initiative (CNI) Student Fellows Program is to engage and energize student interest in supporting UC's Carbon Neutrality Initiative goals of becoming carbon neutral by 2025 (in UC buildings and vehicle fleets) and helping to create a more equitable, resilient, sustainable, and healthy world. The fellowship program includes two student roles: 1) CNI Climate Action Fellows, who work on projects that reduce emissions and advance the goals of the Carbon Neutrality Initiative; and 2) CNI Student Engagement Fellows, who lead local engagement and communications efforts for the CNI.

All Fellows are expected to attend the following meetings and trainings:

- Virtual orientation session in September 2021
- Field trip in the Spring of 2022 (date and location TBD)
- Closing symposium and poster presentation to be held in conjunction with the CA Higher Education Sustainability Conference (CHESC) in July 2022
- Periodic conference calls to discuss their projects and share best practices with their peers

Planning and collaboration are key to a successful fellowship. All Fellows are expected to work with their supervisors to develop a project overview that includes their project goals, deliverables and timelines, and the metrics that will be used to measure success. Fellows are expected to meet regularly with their supervisors to discuss projects, progress, and issues that arise. Fellows will submit progress reports and a final report to UCOP that include the metrics used to evaluate project success. Fellows will also present a poster outlining their project at the California Higher Education Sustainability Conference. Reporting deadlines include:

- Project overview by **August 2, 2021**
- Mid-year progress reports by **January 28, 2022**
- Complete a project poster by **June 1, 2022**
- Year-end project report due **July 1, 2022**

CNI CLIMATE ACTION FELLOWS.

Fellowship projects for CNI Climate Action Fellows should address issues related to meeting the carbon neutrality goal for the UC location and/or system. Examples include specific research into strategies for reducing scope 1 or 2 emissions, energy efficiency projects, and research on offsets or financing options for the campus. Projects that assess and reduce emissions from commuting are also appropriate, although other scope 3 emissions such as waste, purchasing, and business travel should not be the focus at this time. Questions about the specifics of your projects should be directed to Ryan Bell, Associate Director of Sustainability at ryan.bell@ucop.edu or (510) 587-6242.

CNI STUDENT ENGAGEMENT FELLOWS.

Students selected to serve as the campus CNI Student Engagement Fellow are expected to work with

their local sustainability office and staff to communicate about campus and UC-wide carbon neutrality goals and programs, assess existing programs and efforts, and engage undergraduate and graduate students in those efforts. Engagement and communication efforts should enable and empower students to provide feedback about campus and UC-wide carbon neutrality programs.

During the 2021-22 Fellowship Program, the Student Engagement Fellows will help support efforts to incorporate equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) into the CNI and Sustainable Practices Policy. This could include hosting student forum(s), providing input into ways to integrate EDI considerations into the Sustainable Practices Policy, supporting the EDI programs of their location's sustainability office, and reporting student issues, concerns, and proposals. There could also be opportunities to participate in discussions of creating more climate-resilient campuses.

To facilitate knowledge transfer, we suggest that the incoming Engagement Fellow meet with the past Engagement Fellow to provide an overview of their projects. Each current Engagement Fellow will be asked to provide written guidance for the incoming Engagement Fellow.

In addition to these expectations, and those set out by campus supervisors, CNI Student Engagement Fellows have the following responsibilities:

Student Engagement

- Promote awareness of the Carbon Neutrality Initiative and campus student fellow projects (e.g., tabling about the CNI, engaging student leaders and student organizations in discussions about the CNI and DEI, write stories on student projects, etc.)
- Network and/or assist with publicizing campus events related to CNI activities
- Infuse, where appropriate, CNI branding into campus events, including on-campus activities in conjunction with Earth Day in April 2022
- Support efforts to roll out programs from Global Climate Leadership Council (GCLC)/CNI working groups

Meetings/Events

- Host a student climate forum on campus that emphasizes equity, diversity and inclusion
- Join periodic systemwide CNI Student Engagement conference calls
- Attend at least one GCLC meeting during the academic year
- Meet with CNI leaders on campus to learn about ongoing CNI efforts
- Attend the fall leadership training

Reporting

In addition to the reporting requirements listed above, Student Engagement Fellows will submit a year-end report on how the \$1,000 student engagement budget was spent by **June 10, 2022**. A form will be provided. Engagement Fellows will share with the student representatives to the Global Climate Leadership Council student feedback on the CNI, campus needs and opportunities, and guidance on advancing campus-based student engagement in the CNI.