



Mark S. Schlissel
President
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March 21, 2019

Dear Members of the Climate Action Movement:

This letter is in response to your request for a special town hall meeting conveyed during the protest in my office on Friday, March 15. Please feel free to share this response with any other groups that were represented there. As I understand it, the purpose of your request for a town hall is to provide an opportunity for the community to directly question me on issues such as the timeline and accountability for my commitment to put the campus on a pathway to carbon neutrality; the scope and make-up of my commission on carbon neutrality; the expansion of our combined heat and power (CHP) co-generation plant as part of meeting our 2025 greenhouse gas goal; and the proposal that U-M divest its endowment from companies that produce fossil fuels.

We have been actively engaging with the U-M community, including members of the Climate Action Movement (CAM), on these issues. I met with several CAM members and discussed these topics during my open student office hours on February 28. The commission co-chairs met with CAM members on February 27. One of CAM's student leaders is a member of my commission, and additional CAM members are part of the commission's student advisory panel. CAM members and others have also spoken on these topics at our Board of Regents meetings. The commission has already held one town hall and another is scheduled for April 3, 2019. I have addressed these topics in writing and spoken about them publicly in many forums.

To achieve our shared goal of carbon neutrality as soon as possible, it is essential that the community engage in identifying and understanding the challenges and contributing to the solutions necessary to convert from fossil fuels to non-carbon sources of energy. I will continue to look for opportunities to engage with your membership and the broader community on these issues—everyone has a role to play. We are currently working to identify a date in April when the commission will host an additional public session where I will be present to discuss our aspirations and challenges we have to overcome regarding carbon neutrality and to hear from the community, including your members. We will let you know as soon as the date is set and I hope you will attend.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark Schlissel', written over a light blue circular stamp.

Mark S. Schlissel
President