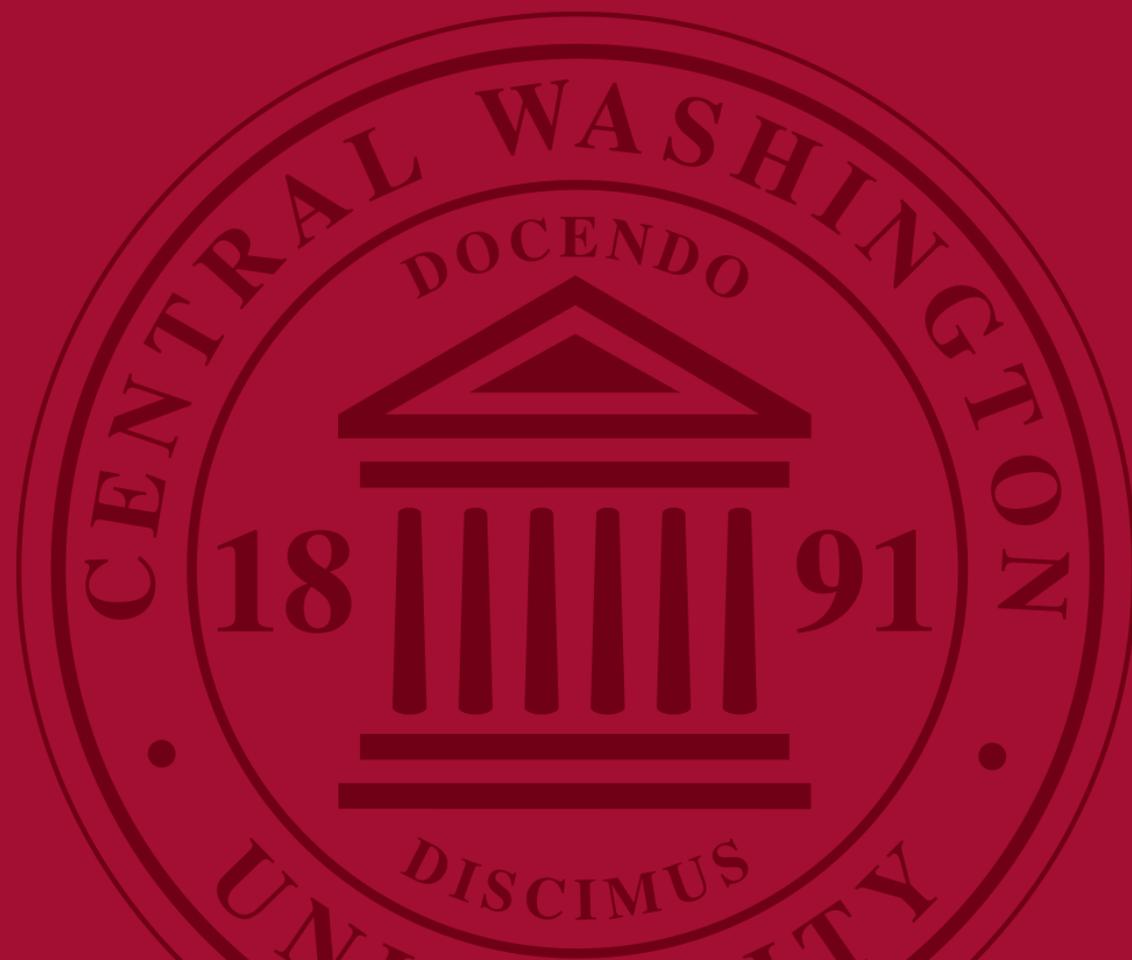


'STATE *of the*
UNIVERSITY



CWU'S CLIMATE ACTION PLAN UPDATE

Jeff Bousson, Sustainability Director

Dr. Susan Kaspari, Geological Sciences
Professor and Environmental Studies
Director

Jordan Spradlin, Sustainability
Coordinator



CORE VALUE 3: STEWARDSHIP

- Goal 1: Promoting sustainable practices and responsible stewardship of land and resources to support an ecologically healthy and socially responsible world, while respecting and honoring Indigenous peoples.
- Initiative 1.1 - **Develop and implement a comprehensive, university-wide Sustainability & Climate Change Action Plan**, which incorporates environmental, social, and economic considerations into university operations, infrastructure, and academic programs.
- Initiative 1.2 – **Integrate sustainability into university-wide curriculum** to provide students with the knowledge, skills, competencies, and values necessary to shape an equitable and sustainable future.

SESSION OVERVIEW

- Climate Action Plan Updates
- Breakout Session #1
- Sustainability in the Curriculum Update
- CWU Office of Sustainability Updates
- Breakout Session #2
- Next Steps & Opportunities



CAP GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- CAP finalized in June 2024
- 45% GHG reduction by 2030 compared to 2024 levels
- 70% GHG reduction by 2040
- Carbon-neutral by 2050
- Key Pillars
- 11 Focus Areas
- 15-year Decarbonization Plan



CAP UPDATES & DEVELOPMENTS

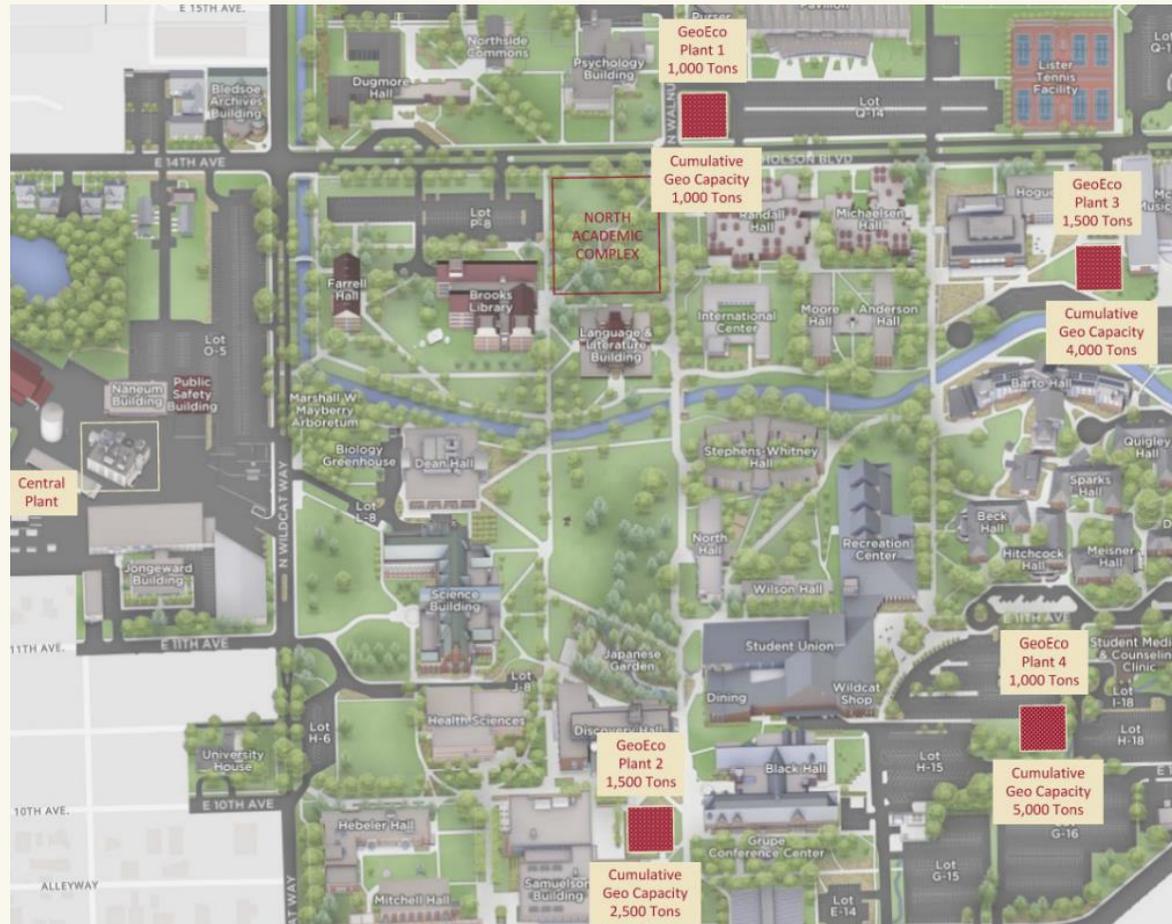
- **Measurable Progress:**

- Energy Efficiency
- Built Infrastructure – Heating/Cooling
- Renewable Electricity
- Waste Diversion
- Sustainability in the Curriculum
- Sustainable Investments

- **Progress to Be Made:**

- Transportation (campus fleet)
- Commuter Emissions
- Procurement
- Biodiversity & Water Conservation
- Climate Resilience

HEATING & COOLING



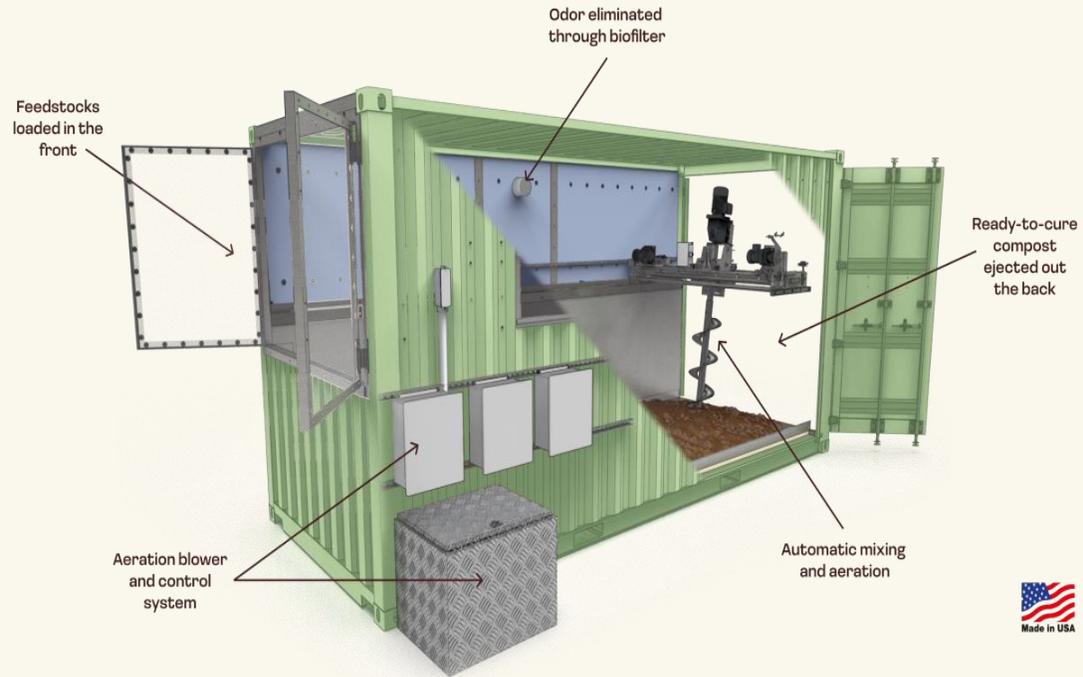
- 15-year outlook
- 4 GeoEco Plants
 - Geothermal – open loop ground source heat pumps
- Improve air quality
- Pathway to decarbonization
- Natural gas utility savings
- Increased electricity demand
- Educational opportunity

RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY



- Campus-wide Solar Development Plan
- Dugmore solar installation
- Submitting proposals to WA Dept. of Commerce
 - Samuelson and Black Hall
- Cost savings and electricity demand support

WASTE DIVERSION/REDUCTION



- Capital budget request unsuccessful
- Navigating financing solutions for large-scale composter
 - \$400,000
- Permitting at the Farm
- Building composting support
- Save \$25,000+ in WM costs
- Educational opportunity

CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

- Capital/Funding
 - State Grants/Climate Commitment Act
- Data collection – Scope 3 emissions/establishing a baseline
 - SIMAP
- Student Green Fund
- COE Community Wide Decarbonization Plan
- Further collaboration among CWU employees, students, and the greater community



BREAKOUT SESSION #1

- Which sector/focus area do you think we should prioritize and why?
 - Transportation (campus fleet and EV charging)
 - Commuter Emissions
 - Waste Diversion
 - Procurement and Purchasing
 - Biodiversity/Water Conservation
 - Climate Resiliency



EDUCATION AND CURRICULUM

- Objective: Integrate sustainability and climate change education across the University curriculum, co-curricular activities, and the campus culture to provide students with the knowledge, skills, competencies, and values necessary to shape an equitable and sustainable future.



EDUCATION AND CURRICULUM

- Created a faculty led effort to train faculty to integrate sustainability in the curriculum.



Maya Zeller
CAH



Tim Hargrave
COB

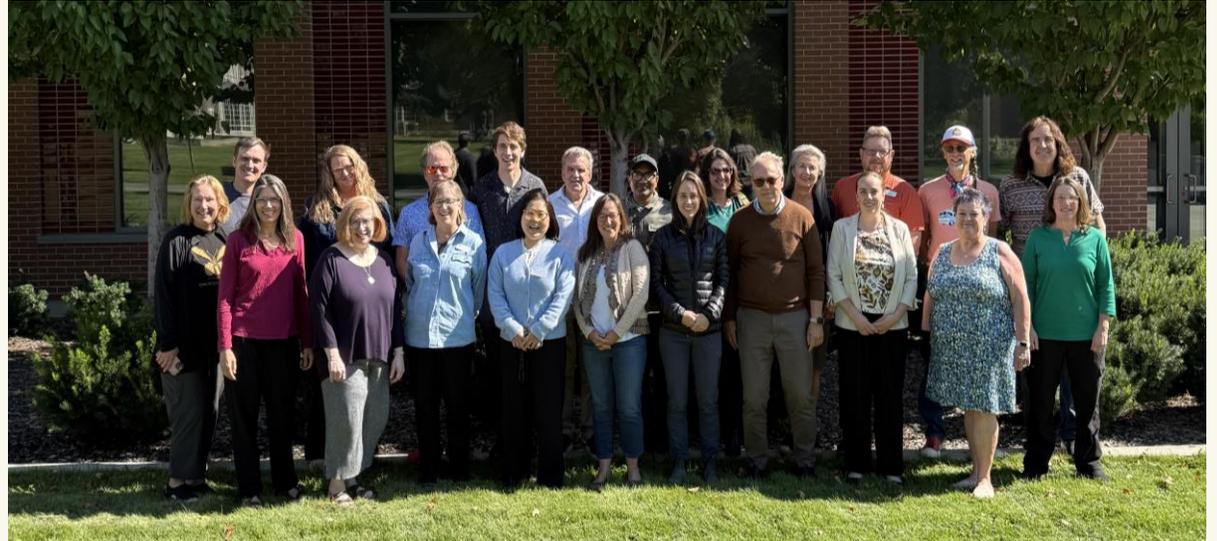


Liz Fountain
CEPS

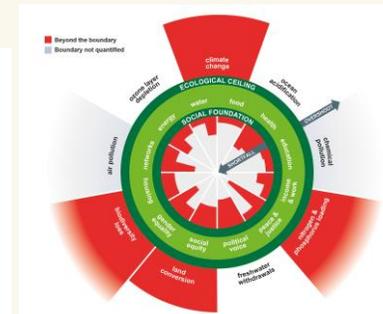


Susan Kaspari
COTS

- Engaged 66 faculty over the past 2 years
 - Spring Workshops
 - Piedmont Ponderosa 2.5 Day Workshop
- Sustainability concepts integrated into 75+ additional courses across all colleges



Sustainability Models:



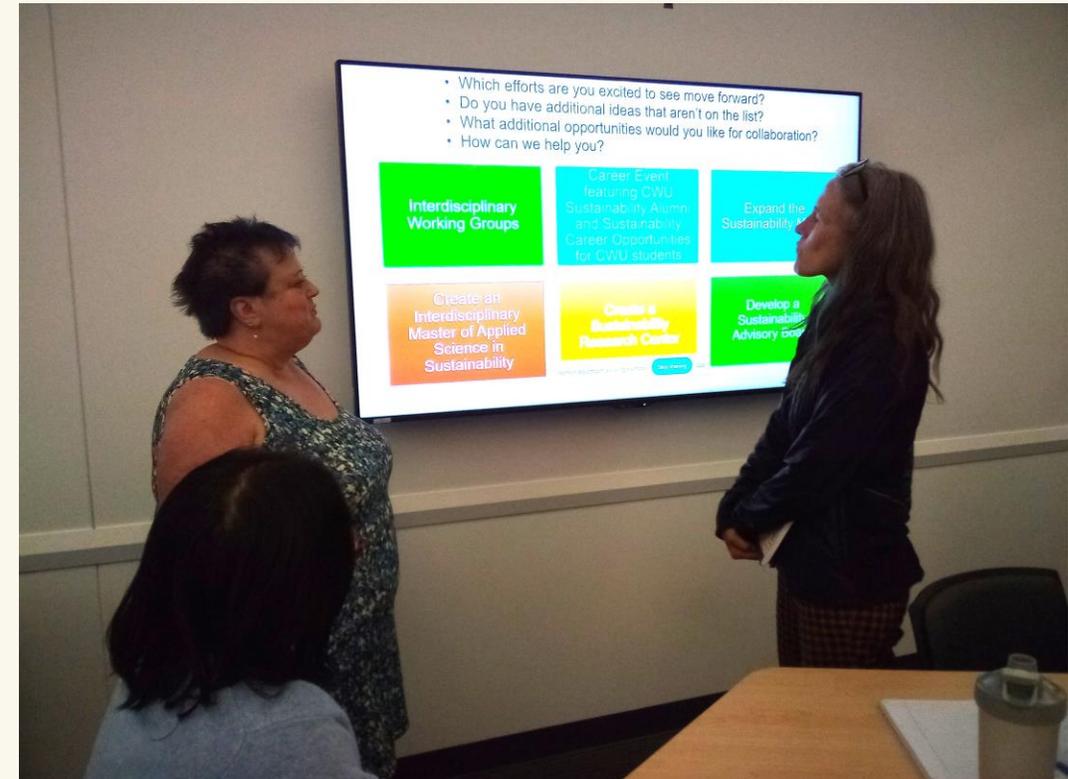
Turning conscience into action.

The Earth Charter is a comprehensive declaration of principles for living in harmony with the Earth and each other. It is a vision of a just, sustainable, and peaceful world for all. It is a call to action for all of us to work together to create a better world for all.

www.earthcharter.org

EDUCATION AND CURRICULUM

- Goals for 2025-2026
 - Host a Sustainability Career Event to connect students with professionals
 - Expand sustainability program options to better prepare students for the workforce
 - Explore pathways toward establishing a Sustainability Research Center and Sustainability Advisory Board



OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY UPDATES

- New Team – Sustainability Coordinator & Student Ambassadors
- Visit Us at Our New Office!
 - Bouillon 110



ENGAGEMENT

2024-2025 Academic Year

- 43.3% of student population reached
- Over 30 class presentations
- Lean into Ambassador's strengths
- Sustainability Events
 - Quarterly Forums
 - Fall Sustainability Forum October 22nd
 - Earth Week
 - SOURCE Sustainability Festival



STUDENT GREEN FUND

- **What is the Student Green Fund?**
 - Funded by a \$5 quarterly student fee
 - Provides funding for student-led projects that make CWU more sustainable
- **2024-2025 Year One**
 - \$63,000 awarded across 10 projects
- **Fall Deadline- November 21st**



STUDENT GREEN FUND

Reducing Driving and CWU's Carbon Footprint by Piloting a **CWU** Campus Bike Share Program

Central Washington University

Caydence Hesch, Environmental Studies, Logan Scully, Adventure Programs, Central Washington University

Introduction

Excessive and unnecessary driving is a sustainability problem as it releases harmful emissions that contribute to climate change. Choosing biking instead of driving for short trips can reduce personal travel emissions by up to 75%, having a large impact on an individual's carbon footprint and its environmental consequences. Many students lack accessibility to personal bicycles, due to their high price points and the barriers of storage, maintenance, and repairs. On the CWU-Ellensburg campus, the infrastructure exists to pilot a bike share program and demonstrate the demand for free shared bikes available to all students, staff, and faculty.

Project Design

- 8 single-speed bicycles and 2 8-speed bicycles (10 total) will be rented through Outdoor Pursuits and Rentals, the outdoor gear rental shop on campus.
- Rentals will be free for students, staff, and faculty members, and bikes will be available to rent for up to 7 days.
- Bikes will include a helmet, as well as accessories such as a bell, lock, and front and rear lights attached to the bike.
- Intended as a pilot program, to understand students' needs and wants out of a bike share and iron out potential issues on a small scale.

Collaboration with Outdoor Pursuits and Rentals

- The program has been designed in close collaboration with Logan Scully, the Senior Coordinator of Adventure Programs, as well as OPR student staff.
- OPR sees a large demand for bike rentals, for both commuting and recreation.
- The shop (Figure 1) has access to tools for bike maintenance and repair, as well as an existing gear rental program, Fusion, which students, staff and faculty are pre-registered in.
- OPR student staff will be trained on bike maintenance and repair to maintain the quality and longevity of the bicycles.



Figure 1. The Outdoor Pursuits and Rentals (OPR) shop, attached to the SURC on the CWU-Ellensburg campus

The Bikes & Accessories

- When selecting the bikes, the focus remained on affordable, high-quality, versatile, and low-maintenance models.
- The bikes chosen were the single-speed Priority Sauce (Figure 2) and the 8-speed Priority Hot Sauce (Figure 3), notable for their grease-free Gates Carbon Drive belts that reduce maintenance, and their ability to handle both sidewalk commutes and light trail riding.



Figure 2. The single-speed Priority Sauce bicycle.



Figure 3. The 8-speed Hot Sauce bicycle.

- The single-speed bike will be ideal for students to commute to classes and around town, while the 8-speed offers accessibility.
- Accessories were chosen as anti-theft measures and to enhance student safety:
 - Helmets (Figure 4) will be available in sizes S/M, M/L, and XL.
 - Locks will allow students to dock bikes at the many bike racks around campus.
 - Bells (Figure 5) will enhance safety when commuting.
 - Head and taillights will ensure visibility on evening rides.



Figure 4. Specialized Align MIPS certified bike helmet.



Figure 5. Priority AirTag Anti-Theft Security Bell.

Exit Survey

- An optional survey will be provided after rentals to gain insight into the users' experience and get feedback to improve on the program.
- Some questions will pertain to commuting habits, such as if students biked to class more often than driving when renting the bikes.
- Information can be used to inspire future sustainability projects and provide a framework for expanding the bike share program.

Next Steps

- Work with Contracting to approve risk and rental waivers.
- Work with Marketing to develop a logo/branding to be displayed on bikes.
- Purchase bikes from Priority and assemble upon shipping.
- Train OPR Staff on bike maintenance, including weekly and monthly check-ups, long-term care, and basic repairs.
- Set up rentals in the Fusion rental system at OPR.
- Work with Adventure Programs and Sustainability to market and promote the program
- Launch in Fall of 2025!

Summary

After implementation in Fall 2025, this bike share program will provide free bicycle rentals to students for use in commuting and recreation. Providing students access to a low-carbon form of transportation without the boundary of maintenance, repairs, or payment will result in lowering students' personal carbon emissions and thus furthering CWU's mission of sustainability. In the future, this pilot program can be expanded based on the information collected in the first year of implementation. The insight gained into how available, accessible bikes affect student's personal commuting choices will prove useful in justifying the expansion of this program in the future.

This Project Supports UN Sustainable Development Goals:



Acknowledgements

- I'd like to sincerely thank:
- The students of CWU for their quarterly contribution to the Student Green Fund.
 - The members of the Student Green Fund Committee for their belief in this project and for granting me funding to make it a reality.
 - Susan Kaspari for all her advice, help, and encouragement.
 - Jeff Bousson and Jordan Spradlin for their excitement and guidance.
 - Logan Scully for his bike expertise and time spent advising me on this project.
 - Priority Bicycles for their excellent customer service.

GREEN OFFICE CERTIFICATION

- The Green Office Certification Program assists offices in assessing current actions and provides tips as well as alternative choices that are more sustainable
- **15 offices Participated**
 - 1 Platinum
 - 9 Gold
 - 5 Silver



AASHE STARS

- 600 Higher Ed Institutions across the nation
- Bronze rating in 2019
- Silver rating in 2022
- Submitted STARS 3.0 in July
- Collaborated with 30 staff, faculty, and students
- Multiple focus areas:
 - Academics (Curriculum and Research)
 - Engagement (Campus and Local Community)
 - Operations (Buildings, Grounds, Energy, Climate, Food/Dining, Procurement, Waste, Transportation)
 - Planning & Administration (Investments, Access, Equity, Diversity, Well-being)



BREAKOUT SESSION #2

- What is one thing you could do to advance sustainability at CWU?
 - Help implement an initiative from the Climate Action Plan
 - Participate in Green Office Certification
 - Attend a sustainability event
 - Subscribe to monthly newsletter
 - For faculty integrate sustainability into your course
 - Your own idea



THANK YOU!

Contact us:

- Jeffrey.Bousson@cwu.edu
- Susan.Kaspari@cwu.edu
- Jordan.Spradlin@cwu.edu
- Meetings, trainings, presentations, inquiries, programming, etc.

