



**Swarthmore College: White House Act on Climate Pledge**

*As institutions of higher education, we applaud the 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:*

Swarthmore College pledges to incorporate its Environmental Sustainability Framework into capital projects and facilities operations, and to further educate the Swarthmore community on the need for immediate climate action to guarantee 'just sustainability' now and for future generations. Our key goals include:

- *Education & Engagement:* Further developing sustainability programming in courses, departments/offices and residential life.
- *Carbon Emissions Reduction:* Achieving a net-zero carbon campus by 2035 by eliminating or offsetting Scopes 1-3 emissions.
- *Buildings:* Increasing the use of ground coupled systems and renewable energy in building construction, obtaining a portion of building materials from sustainable sources, and installing electricity, gas, and water meters in buildings to track utility use when financially feasible.
- *Water:* Offsetting a portion of irrigation with captured stormwater and reducing potable water use.

Signed,

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President Signature

VALERIE SMITH

\_\_\_\_\_  
President Name

SWARTHMORE COLLEGE

\_\_\_\_\_  
College Name

NOV 16, 2015

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Date