

Citizens' Assembly Recommendations:

In the spring of 2020, Barnard's Campus Sustainability and Climate action held a series of three Campus Conversations in collaboration with the Student Government's Committee on Sustainability, with over 100 participants. A Citizens' Assembly was convened to attend each conversation, discuss the issues at hand, and make specific recommendations to refine and advance the goals articulated Barnard's Climate Action Vision. These recommendations were subsequently reviewed and refined by the Sustainable Practices Committee, and are listed below.

Key areas of concern for the Campus Conversation participants and Citizens' Assembly members emerged:

- 91% of participants believed that climate and sustainability should be reflected in Barnard's Foundations curriculum.
- Serious concerns were expressed about food and food service waste, and transparency in this area.
- Creating, sharing, and promoting sustainable initiatives that support student access and affordability were deemed critical, and were recommended for multiple departments.
- The need to balance air travel emissions reduction plans with mission-based student and faculty needs, like geographic diversity and global scholarship

In addition to action in the three designated areas, the Assembly identified three steps that would support climate action at Barnard more broadly:

1. **Community Climate Pledge:** Each Barnard office or department will annually commit to specific climate action targets to reduce emissions and promote behaviors that are regenerative, sustainable, equitable, and increase climate literacy. Targets should be defined with reference to Barnard's larger climate action vision, the recommendations of the Citizen Assembly, and with the support of the Sustainable Practices Committee.
2. **Create a Climate Action award or honor at Graduation** to recognize student leadership in activism, community engagement, and intellectual pursuit related to climate change, sustainability, and the human-environment relationship.
3. **Make climate and sustainability programming mandatory at NSOP.**

Sustainability and Access:

1. Create resource packets, links, and information for students, faculty and staff in multiple departments
2. Create reusable kitchen kits for all suite style living
3. Create Sustainable Purchasing Policy that prioritizes reuse, green purchasing, and

women & BIPOC-owned businesses

4. Incentivize use and creation of open source textbooks and textbook sharing.
5. Provide clear information and targets on post-consumer food waste, service items, and food donations.

Climate in the Curriculum:

1. Include a question on annual faculty personnel form about climate and sustainability in research and teaching.
2. Include climate and sustainability in Barnard's required curriculum. Assembly members discussed a range of potential pathways, below, but were nearly unanimous that it should be included.
3. Provide pedagogical support for faculty to create new courses or adapt old ones, with the goal of 100% of departments having at least one sustainability/climate related course.

Emissions from Air Travel:

1. Create a student and a faculty/staff carpool buddy network
2. Include a voluntary option to offset air travel on faculty travel grant forms
3. Educate students studying abroad about local travel options
4. For BC financed travel, establish mandatory College-sponsored offset program that prioritizes local, women and BIPOC centered projects
5. Allow and streamline process for students to stay on campus during breaks
6. Incentivize departments to adopt internal air travel budgets

Further details on each of these recommendations, including next steps and responsible departments, can be found [here](#).