Pres. Michael Schill University of Oregon 1226 University of Oregon Eugene, OR 97403-1226

Dear President Schill,

We write to add additional commitments to Climate Action Plan (CAP) 2.0. To be a national leader, the University of Oregon must set firm climate action goals that meet the University's mission to "steward resources sustainably and responsibly" and that follow the best available climate science and research. In part, that means following the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) latest findings, which assert that in order to keep warming to a 1.5°C increase and confront the pending climate emergency, meaningful action to reduce emissions must be taken by 2030.

We submit the following additions to CAP 2.0. These additions definitively assert concrete goals in order to reduce emissions and increase education about climate change and the University's responsibility to act. In Climate Action Plan 2.0, the University of Oregon must commit to:

- Reduce the University's emissions following the IPCC's recommendations for avoiding catastrophic climate change. This amounts to a 45% reduction in emissions from 2010 levels by 2030 and complete carbon neutrality by 2050.
- Leverage the University's commitment to climate action to strengthen its educational and research missions by supporting and developing educational opportunities around climate change, including using the campus and its operations as a living laboratory of mitigation and adaptation efforts.
- Establish an advisory board comprised of students, staff and faculty to work in conjunction with the Office of Sustainability to ensure that subsequent Climate Action Plans are appropriately vetted and follow the best available research on climate change impacts and responses.

Climate action is a shared value at the University of Oregon, and CAP 2.0 should reflect the support of students, faculty and staff for strong commitments. Moreover, climate action is a moral responsibility of leading institutions like the University of Oregon. Moving forward, the University of Oregon must assemble a series of options for achieving emissions reductions in line with the best available scientific, humanistic and social scientific research. Once these options are established, only then should the University of Oregon consider cost-effectiveness.

Instituting these recommendations aligns the University of Oregon's official stances on the environment and sustainability to match what is needed to mitigate the effects of climate change and to ensure the University of Oregon remains a national leader in sustainability for years to come.

We look forward to a conversation or written response about including these commitments into Climate Action Plan 2.0. Please contact Brendan Adamczyk, the student leader organizing this request, at <u>brendana@uoregon.edu</u>.