

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
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February 8, 2008

Dear ACU Family,

Over the past years, I have become more aware and concerned about our Christian stewardship of the creation. Many governments, businesses, educational institutions, churches, and the evangelical world have been moving in this direction. In 2007, I signed the declaration "On the Care of Creation," joining many other leaders of faith-based organizations who have the desire to provide leadership as we strive to model effective stewardship of our Lord's creation. This declaration can be found at: www.creationcare.org/resources/declaration.php.

I have appointed an environmental task force to help the campus, as a whole, to move forward in our conservation efforts. The increasing awareness of environmental stewardship within the ACU community has already led to several initiatives which can be viewed at: www.acu.edu/green.

The important first step is to determine the impact of energy consumption at ACU on climate, natural resources, and budgets. To this end, Dr. James C. Cooke and a student research assistant, Evan Woods, will be conducting a campus-wide Energy & Emissions Inventory. The Clean Air/Cool Planet website (www.cleanair-coolplanet.org/for_campuses.php) is providing the inventory methodology. This tool has been effective in reducing environmental footprints of college campuses such as Tufts University, Harvard University, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The first phase of the project is to collect data on energy usage and use the Clean Air / Cool Planet Emissions Inventory Calculator to generate a baseline of our energy and emissions footprint. After the Energy and Emissions Inventory, the second phase will be to develop a Campus Climate Action Plan that will recommend ways to reduce our emissions. The third and final stage is to implement that plan.

The first phase will end with a report. The availability of data will partially determine the length of time necessary to complete this phase, but we hope to have the report this summer. To meet this goal, I encourage those contacted by this research team to cooperate fully in their efforts to gather the necessary information. If some data is not readily available, your efforts to generate the requested data will be greatly appreciated.

Like all activities at ACU, this is kingdom business, and I thank you for all you do to promote our mission and for your support of this project.

Sincerely,

Royce Money, Ph.D.
President