January 9, 2018

UIC was among the first signees of the American College & University Presidents’ Climate Commitment in 2007 putting us firmly at the forefront of the movement among the nation’s universities to actively reduce our energy footprint.

Taking the lead again, UIC was among the first of a group of universities to sign Second Nature’s newly integrated Climate Commitment expanded action plan. This new level of commitment extends beyond our existing efforts to support carbon reduction, including a commitment to take steps toward making the Chicago region more resilient to environmental challenges.

The UIC Climate Action Implementation Plan (CAIP) lays out the next steps for the university to build a stronger sustainable work and living ethic while reducing campus emissions of greenhouse gases. Our goal is to become a Climate Neutral, Zero Waste, Net Zero Water, and Biodiverse university. We are committed to sustainable practices that make our operations more efficient and conserve resources, serving as a model for our students and the community. We have already accomplished several important objectives including the installation of 50 Big Belly solar powered recycling/waste stations, the formation of a Solar Working Group, and the Arthington Mall green infrastructure project currently under design.

Every individual and unit has a role if these goals are to be achieved, through unit operations, research, and teaching. The Office of Sustainability is tasked with providing tools and expertise to help you in these efforts. The Chancellor’s Committee on Sustainability and Energy is tasked with tracking our progress.

UIC is committed to a sustainable future, and with everyone’s efforts we will continue to lead the way.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Amiridis
Chancellor