

**Topical Lunch Summary:**  
***Setting Priorities for Climate Change Research, Teaching, and Outreach at Cornell***  
**Thursday, November 19 from 12:00 – 1:00 pm in 300 Rice Hall**  
**Report submitted: 2/24/16**

**Organizer:** David Wolfe, Faculty Fellow and Chair, Atkinson Center Climate Change Consortium

**Attendees:** there were at least 24 attendees accounted for, with representatives from the following departments: EAS, AEM, BEE, DSOC, GOV, CSS, HORT, DNR, COMM, EEB, MAE, ENTOM, Cornell Plantations, ACSF leadership (see attached table for details)

**Discussion Focus:** Faculty interest, new faculty hires, and research, teaching, and outreach activities at Cornell relevant to climate change have expanded greatly in the past 10 years. The goal of this lunch was to identify where we are now in terms of strengths and weaknesses, help set priorities for research and new initiatives to maximize our collective impact on climate change solutions and expand collaboration across the disciplines, identify areas where support from university administration is needed, and discuss funding opportunities. This will provide guidance to the Atkinson Center Climate Change Consortium, comprised of faculty from the climate sciences, engineering, ecology, agriculture, social sciences, and humanities. The Consortium was first formed in 2008 and has worked to (1) advise ACSF and the university at large on research priorities and campus strengths and needs, (2) advise, facilitate or implement new initiatives (e.g., faculty hires, new courses, the new climate change minor), and (3) develop mechanisms for exchange of information across campus (e.g., seminars and symposia) and beyond (e.g., the [www.climatechange.cornell.edu](http://www.climatechange.cornell.edu) website).

Agenda

1. Very brief self-introductions (name, affiliation, key word or phrase describing major interests relevant to climate change)
2. Introduction (Wolfe)
  - a. Brief review of ACSF Climate Change Consortium activities and goals
  - b. Brief overview of Cornell's climate change website (see other side) and invitation for suggestions and contributions to the website
3. Some topics of the group discussion (All)
  - a. Priorities for research and new initiatives to maximize our collective impact on climate change solutions
    - i. Climate change and food security- much going on but not coordinated
    - ii. Communication strategies and behavior change
    - iii. Energy solutions: algal biofuels, biochar, other; renewables
  - b. Mechanisms for expanding communication and collaboration across disciplines
  - c. Identify areas where support from university administration is needed, and approaches for obtaining that support

- i. Suggested ACSF Climate sub-group arrange meeting with new university President and top staff regarding on-going activities, priorities, etc.
- d. Cornell involvement with local community
  - i. Have highly motivated local community and some faculty engagement
- e. Cornell has capacity to work at local, state, national, international policy
  - i. Cornell needs more engagement with UN COP
- f. Climate change and cultural impacts; biodiversity and cultural diversity both threatened
- g. Need long-term support of climate website

### Initial follow-up

- Wolfe has been invited to join a new university-level “Climate Change Action Advisory Committee” with direct connection to university leadership and Joel Molina (University Communications). He has provided input to that committee regarding ACSF Climate Consortium activities of the past, and research and other priorities identified by the Consortium and discussions from this Topical Lunch. A joint meeting with the ACSF Climate Change Consortium has been suggested but not set up yet. One initial activity of this new committee is providing advice on a climate change (and sustainability) web presence on Cornell home page. This will hopefully be linked or related to the current <http://climatechange.cornell.edu> website
- Toby Ault (climate scientist, EAS), along with Wolfe and Allison Chatrchyan (CICCA) have initiated a series of campus workshops focused on “climate change and food security”, with over 40 faculty involved in weekly meetings to discuss priorities, funding opportunities, etc..

Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future TOPICAL LUNCH

Title: **Setting Priorities for Climate Change Research, Teaching, and Outreach at Cornell**

Date: November 19 – 12:00 – 1:00pm

Organizers:

| Last Name | First Name | NetID or email | Dept (if known) | College (if known) |
|-----------|------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Wolfe     | David      | dww5           | HORT            |                    |
|           |            |                |                 |                    |
|           |            |                |                 |                    |
|           |            |                |                 |                    |
|           |            |                |                 |                    |

Participant RSVP (attending): 24 updated 11/19/15

| Last Name | First Name  | NetID or email   | Dept (if known) | College (if known) |
|-----------|-------------|--|-----------------|--------------------|
| Ault      | Toby        | <a href="mailto:toby.ault@cornell.edu">toby.ault@cornell.edu</a>         | EAS             |                    |
| Bobeia    | Ariel       | ao332  | AEM             |                    |
| Chambliss | Lauren      | elc55  | ACSF            |                    |
| DeGaetano | Art         | atd2   | EAS             |                    |
| Dieterich | David       | dd355  | ACSF            |                    |
| Dunn      | Christopher | cpd55  |                 |                    |
| Filiberto | David       | dmf22  |                 |                    |
| Greene    | Chuck       | chg2   | EAS             |                    |
| Hess      | Peter       | <a href="mailto:peter.hess@cornell.edu">peter.hess@cornell.edu</a>       | BEE             |                    |
| Hoffmann  | Mike        | mph3   | ENTOM           |                    |
| Kassam    | Karim-Aly   | ksk28  | NTRES           |                    |
| Kay       | David       | dlk2   | DEVSOC          |                    |
| Kerslick  | Graham      | gsk2   | ACSF            |                    |
| Levine    | Adam        | asl22  | GOVT            |                    |
| Matt      | Ryan        | <a href="mailto:mryan@cornell.edu">mryan@cornell.edu</a>                 | CSS             |                    |
| McMichael | Phil        | pdm1   | DEVSOC          |                    |
| Riha      | Susan       | <a href="mailto:susan.riha@cornell.edu">susan.riha@cornell.edu</a>       | EAS             |                    |
| Solomon   | Dawit       | ds278  | CSS             |                    |
| Travis    | Alex        | ajt32  | ACSF            |                    |
| Weinstein | David       | daw5   | NTRES           |                    |
| Wolf      | Steven      | saw44  | NTRES           |                    |
| Woodbury  | Peter       | <a href="mailto:peterwoodbury@cornell.edu">peterwoodbury@cornell.edu</a> | CSS             |                    |
| Zhang     | Max         | kz33   | MAE             |                    |