

GLOBAL ALLIANCE OF UNIVERSITIES ON CLIMATE (GAUC)



<http://www.gauc.net/>

Tel. +86 10 6278 6897

Add. Room 214, Main Building, Tsinghua University

E-mail. gauc.tsinghua.edu.cn

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01 About Us



Climate Change poses an existential emerging threat to humanity's survival. The clear scientific evidence urges coordinated solutions beyond national borders. In response to the urgent challenges presented by global climate change, the world's leading universities are called on to play a critical role.

Global Alliance of Universities on Climate (GAUC), the first cross-national initiative of this kind, established in 2019 missioned to provide leadership of global higher education efforts addressing climate change.

GAUC is initiated by Tsinghua University, and co-founded by a core group of seven universities. Swiftly after GAUC's launch, seven more universities joined the alliance. The members of GAUC including:

Australian National University	University of California Berkeley	University of Cambridge
Imperial College London	Tsinghua University	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
The University of Tokyo	London School of Economics and Political Science	
Federal University of Rio de Janeiro	Indian Institute of Science	Sciences Po
Stellenbosch University	Columbia University	University of Oxford
		Yale University



Massachusetts Institute of Technology



Yale University



University of Oxford



University of California Berkeley



Federal University of Rio de Janeiro



Stellenbosch University



Imperial College London



University of Cambridge



London School of Economics and Political Science



Columbia University



Tsinghua University



The University of Tokyo



Indian Institute of Science



Sciences Po



Australian National University

History



01/ Eight Universities Joint Statement at World Economic Forum 2019 GAUC Initiated

On January 23rd, 2019, 8 global universities have expressed their shared commitment to combat climate change. A joint statement, made in Davos at the World Economic Forum, represents a commitment to establish the Global Alliance of Universities on Climate (GAUC). Among its key objectives, GAUC will facilitate greater levels of collaboration on climate issues, greater engagement with climate stakeholders, and the promotion of environmental practices by universities, in line with United Nations conventions on climate change and Sustainable Development Goals.



05/ 1st Executive & Academic Committees Meeting GAUC Formally Established

On May 28th and 29th, 2019, a meeting of the executive committee and academic committee of the Global Alliance of Universities on Climate (GAUC) was held in Beijing. University leaders and academic pioneers in the field of climate change from twelve universities in six continents gathered in Tsinghua University to attend the meeting. During the meeting, the GAUC Charter was discussed and approved, and GAUC was formally established.



Milestones

2019.11

First GAUC Graduate Forum

2019.01

GAUC Initiative
Joint statement by 8
founder universities,
WEF 2019

2019.12

**Frist Academic
Conference**

2020.03

The University of Oxford
and Columbia University
joined GAUC

2020.01

First GAUC Board Meeting
WEF 2020

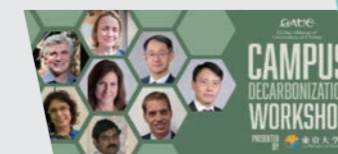
2020.09

the 1st "Pathways to Net Zero
Emissions" Academic Confer-
ence



2021.03

the 1st Campus Decarbonization
Workshop



2021.09

2021.09-11, Global Youth Summit on
Net-zero Future
& the 3rd GAUC Graduate Forum



2021.02

Yale University joined
GAUC

2020.01 Davos Public Event
WEF 2020

the 1st "Pathway to Net-Zero"
Climate Talk

2020.10

the 2nd GAUC Graduate Forum

2020.11

the 2nd "Pathways to Net Zero
Emissions" Academic Conference

2021.06

2021 Board Meeting

2021.11

COP26 GAUC Day

2021.12



GAUC Formally Established
12 members First Executive &
Academic Meeting

2019.05



COP25 GAUC Youth Delegate
UN Climate Change Confer-
ence, Madrid

2019.12

2020.01

Message to GAUC from António
Guterres, Secretary-General of
the United Nations

2020.07

Organization and Governance

Organization and Governance

As the highest decision-making authority of GAUC, the Board is composed of one executive leader of each member university and responsible for the vision of the Alliance. The Executive Committee is the principal consultation and decision-making body of the Alliance, and it is responsible for the Alliance strategy. The Academic Committee of the Alliance shall design and promote the academic work of the Alliance in accordance with the strategy. The Secretariat is principally responsible for operations of the Alliance. The first Secretariat of the Alliance is based at Tsinghua University for a term of four years. Organizing committee works closely with the Secretariat to coordinate GAUC's events at the member universities.



1 / Global Alliance of Universities on Climate Board



Qiu Yong
President of Tsinghua University



Minouche Shafik
Director of London School of Economics and Political Science



Louise Richardson
Vice-Chancellor of the Oxford University



Wim De Villiers
Rector of Stellenbosch University



Alice P. Gast
President of Imperial College London



Msthas Vicherat
President of Sciences Po



Brian P. Schmidt
President of Australian National University



Carol Christ
Chancellor of University of California, Berkeley



Denise Pires de Carvalho
President of Federal University of Rio de Janeiro



Govindan Rangarajan
Director of Indian Institute of Science



Lee C. Bollinger
President of Columbia University



Peter Salovey
President of Yale University



Rafael Reif
President of Massachusetts Institute of Technology



Stephen Toope
Vice-Chancellor of University of Cambridge



Teruo Fujii
President of the University of Tokyo

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2 / Global Alliance of Universities on Climate Executive Committee



Yang Bin
Vice President and
Provost, Tsinghua University



Minouche Shafik
Director, London School
of Economics and
Political Science



David Ackerly
Dean of the College of Natural
Resources (CNR), University of
California, Berkeley



Hester C. Kloppe
Deputy Vice Chancellor: Strategy
and Internationalisation,
Professor, Global Health,
FMHS, Stellenbosch University



Maria Zuber
Vice President for Research
E. A. Griswold Professor of
Geophysics, Massachusetts
Institute of Technology



Mark Howden
Director of the Institute for Climate,
Energy & Disaster Solutions,
Australian National University



Suzana Kahn Ribeiro
Deputy Director of
COPPE/UFRJ, Federal
University of Rio de Janeiro



Vanessa Scherrea
Vice President for
International Affairs,
Sciences Po



Naoto Sekmura
Vice President, Professor of
Department of Nuclear Engineering
and Management,
the University of Tokyo



Pericles Lewis
Vice President for Global
Strategy, Vice Provost for
Academic Initiatives,
Yale University



Cameron Hepburn
Director, Smith School of
Enterprise and
Environment,
the Oxford University



S.K. Satheesh
Professor of Centre for Atmospheric
and Oceanic Sciences, Director of
Divecha Centre for Climate Change,
Indian Institute of Science



Daniel Zarrilli
Special Advisor, Climate
and Sustainability,
Columbia University



Martin Siegert
Professor of Geosciences and
co-Director of the Grantham
Institute, Imperial
College London



Emily Shuckburgh
Director of Cambridge
Zero, University of
Cambridge

3 / Global Alliance of Universities on Climate Academic Committee



Nicholas Stern
Chair, Grantham Research Institute
on Climate Change and the
Environment, London School of
Economics and Political Science



He Jiankun
Chairman of the Academic
Committee, ICCSD,
Tsinghua University



Suzana Kahn Ribeiro
Deputy Director of
COPPE/UFRJ, Federal
University of Rio de Janeiro

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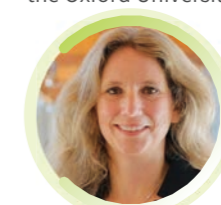
Cameron Hepburn
Director, Smith School of
Enterprise and the
Environment,
the Oxford University



Daniel Esty
Director of the Yale Center
for Environmental Law and
Policy, Yale University



Guy Midgley
Professor, Department
Botany & Zoology,
Stellenbosch University



Emily Shuckburgh
Director of Cambridge
Zero, University of
Cambridge



Alex Hlliday
Founding Dean, Columbia
Climate School,
Columbia University



Martin Siegert
Professor of Geosciences and
co-Director of the Grantham
Institute, Imperial
College London



Ashwin K Seshadri
Assistant Professor Divecha
Centre for Climate Change (DCCC),
Indian Institute of Science



John Fernandez
Professor; Director of the
Urban Metabolism Group,
Massachusetts
Institute of Technology



Ashok Gadgil
Chaired Professor of Civil and
Environmental Engineering,
Faculty Senior Scientist at Lawrence
Berkeley National Laboratory,
University of California, Berkeley



Kensuke Fukushi
Vice Director, Institute for
Future Initiatives,
the University of Tokyo



Mark Howden
Director of the Institute for Climate,
Energy & Disaster Solutions,
Australian National University

GLOBAL ALLIANCE OF UNIVERSITIES ON CLIMATE

4 / Global Alliance of Universities on Climate Secretariat (Tsinghua University)



Li Zheng
Secretary-General



Wang Bin Bin
Executive Secretary-General



Meng Bo
Deputy Secretary-General



Zhang Jian
Deputy Secretary-General



Fu Ya Nan
Liaison Officer



Tong Jie Qiong
Programme Officer



Lin Lu
Communication Officer

5 / Global Alliance of Universities on Climate Organizing Committee



Alyssa Gilbert
Director of Policy and Translation,
Grantham Institute, Imperial College London



Chunping Xie
Policy Fellow of Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, London School of Economics and Political Science



Meghan Kircher
Fellow at Yale Center for Environmental Law and Policy



Rejane Rocha
Researcher of COPPE/UFRJ, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro



Stephen Davison
Deputy Director of Cambridge Zero, University of Cambridge



James Fegan
Project Specialist, International Projects Promotion Group, Research Promotion Department, the University of Tokyo



Jessica Prata
Assistant Vice President, Environmental Stewardship, Columbia University



Kate Vivian
Deputy Vice President for International Affairs, Sciences Po



Fan Dai
Director of California-China Climate Institute, University of California, Berkeley



Hester C. Klopper
Deputy Vice Chancellor: Strategy and Internationalisation, Professor, Global Health, FMHS



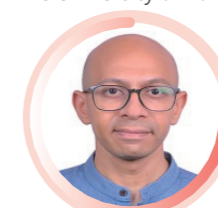
Hiroyuki Furuya
Assistant Manager, International Strategy Group, Management Planning Department, The University of Tokyo



John Fernandez
Professor; Director of the Urban Metabolism Group, Massachusetts Institute of Technology



Mark Howden
Director of the Institute for Climate, Energy & Disaster Solutions, Australian National University



Ashwin K Seshadri
Assistant Professor Divecha Centre for Climate Change (DCCC), Indian Institute of Science



Alix Schroder
Assistant Director, Academic Initiatives, Columbia Climate School, Columbia University

Milestones of GAUC's Governance

2020

Board Meeting

Setting GAUC development strategy and goal



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2021

Board Meeting

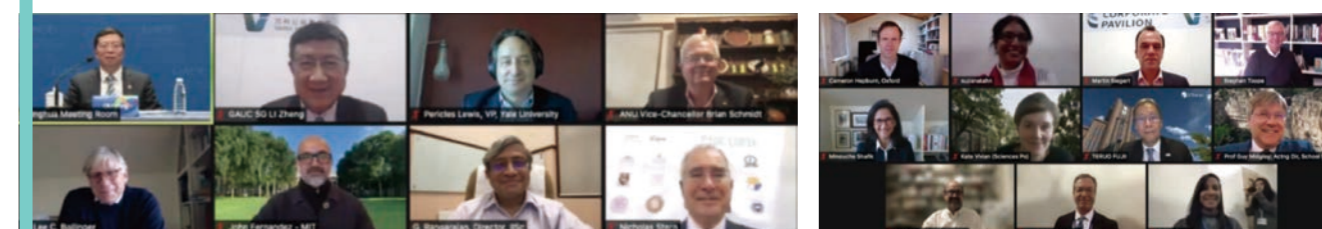
Setting rules of recruiting new members



2019

Executive and Academic Committee Meeting

Formulation of the GAUC Charter



Influence

GAUC pursues its mission by promoting exchange and cooperation among member universities and providing leadership on joint research, talent cultivation, campus action, public engagement and social implementation.

Through 3 years unremitting efforts, GAUC demonstrated the collective strength of higher education institutions, garnering widespread attention and appreciation around the world.

Global Impacts (2019-2021)

15 members 6 continents 9 countries 30+ nations participation

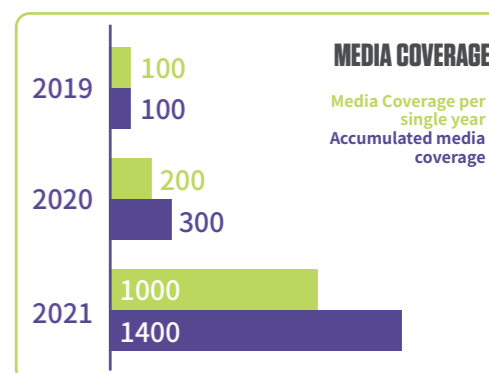
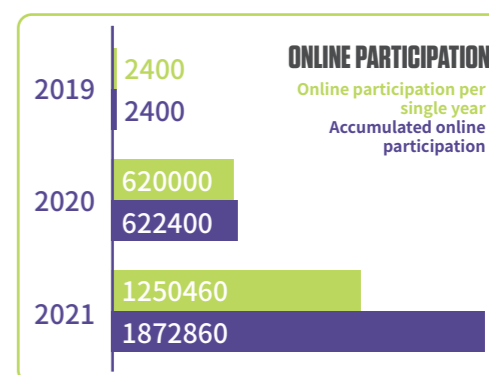
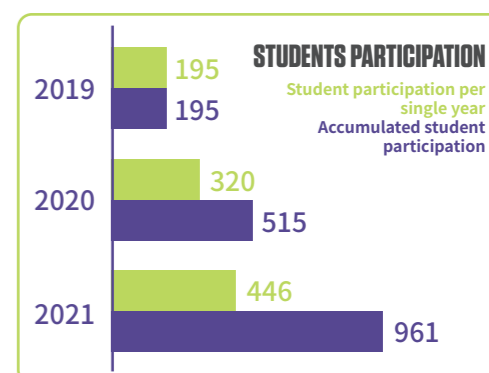
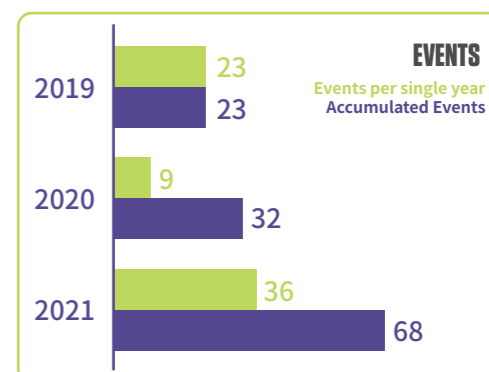
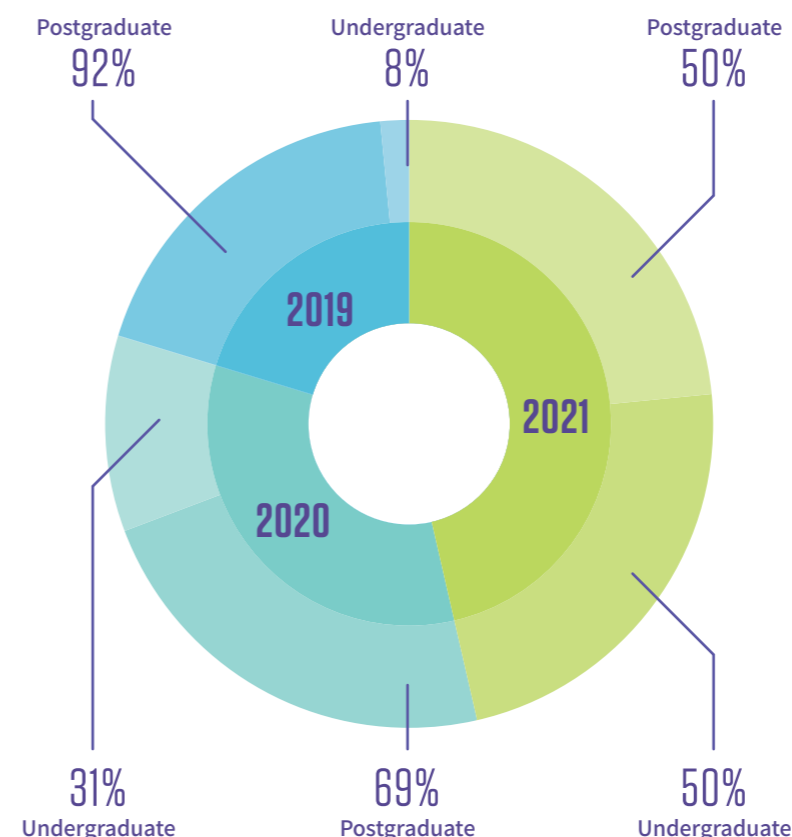
2000+ news coverage 70+ countries' news covered

3,000,000+ social media clicks

2,400 M+ news potential reach



DISTRIBUTION OF STUDENTS



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Done right, we can steer the recovery toward a more inclusive, resilient and sustainable path and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. More than ever, we need unity and solidarity for action. (UNSG's first speech to university students since the outbreak of COVID-19, event co-organized by Global Alliance of Universities on Climate).

Antonio Guterres
Secretary General of United Nations



The Global Alliance of Universities on Climate is a powerful example of what we need to see more widely: a growing network of national, regional, sectoral and international institutions working together to enhance climate technology.

Patricia Espinosa
Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change



This year's Global Youth Summit on Net-zero Future provided a critical platform for a diverse group of young voices to come together—and they developed a plan that has the potential to make a big impact in the fight against climate change.

Michael R. Bloomberg
UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Climate Ambition and Solutions, Founder of Bloomberg L.P. and Bloomberg Philanthropies



The University Determined Contribution (UDC) created by GAUC is a very innovative concept.

Alok Sharma
COP26 President



It is up to you, the young people, to realize the aspirations and goals of a net-zero future that we are negotiating and pursuing today.

Xie Zhenhua
Special Envoy on Climate Change Affairs, China



It's with just great pleasure as the presidency of COP, we've been able to bring the voice of youth and GAUC together into a purpose, especially as you are coming through with universities and thinking about the world and the future.

Nick Bridge
Special Representative for Climate Change, Foreign Secretary of UK



Friends, you are the beginning of the Anthropocene era. You are the ancestors of everyone who will live in that period. Today you are writing the future history of human presence on this planet.

Christiana Figueres
Former Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

The mission of the Global Alliance of Universities on Climate (GAUC) is

to advance climate change solutions through research, education, and public outreach, and to partner with industry, non-profit and government organizations to promote rapid implementation from local to global scales.

GAUC will pursue this mission by promoting exchange and cooperation among member universities and providing leadership of global higher education efforts addressing climate change.

Mission

Our Work

Our Work

GAUC's work will focus on joint research, talent cultivation, student exchanges, green and carbon-neutral campus implementation, public engagement and other major aspects, including the strengthening of bilateral or multilateral cooperative research on key scientific, technological and economic policy issues related to climate change, economy and policy, the promotion of technological innovation and policy development, and the establishment of joint learning projects to promote exchanges and cooperation among young students around the world, and enhance public awareness and mobilize more climate change action through greater cooperation with related stakeholders.



Talent Cultivation



Joint Research



Campus Action



Public Engagement



Social Implementation

02

Joint Research

Promoting scientific, technological and policy development

GAUC shall encourage and strengthen bilateral or multilateral cooperative research among members on key scientific, technological and economic policy issues related to climate change so as to promote scientific awareness, technological innovation and policy development accordingly. GAUC shall encourage research on climate change solutions that address global sustainable development goals and reduce impacts on the world's most vulnerable populations.

- Demonstrate leadership by members of the GAUC
- Encourage and support efforts to achieve net zero emissions or climate/carbon neutrality
- Highlight importance and value of international collaboration, particularly between higher education institutions, in tackling climate change, and
- Inform with the latest research and analysis the deliberations of policymakers

2019

Technologies for Carbon Neutrality Academic Forum, 2019

1st Technologies for Carbon Neutrality Academic Forum, 2019

December 2019, experts from the alliance member universities gathered in Madrid. The first joint research programme launched with the topic of Technologies for Carbon Neutrality. Professors from 12 member universities discussed the joint cooperation plan and expressed their strong determination and confidence in coping with climate change within their campuses and countries.



He Jiankun
Tsinghua University



Nicholas Stern
London School of Economics and Political Science



Suzana Kahn Ribeiro
Federal University of Rio de Janeiro



Rejane Silva Rocha
Federal University of Rio de Janeiro



Thirugnanam Susila Gopi Rethinaraj
Indian Institute of Science



David Reiner
University of Cambridge



Kensuke Fukushi
The University of Tokyo



Daniel Kammen
University of California, Berkeley



Howard Bamsey
Australian National University



John Fernandez
Massachusetts Institute of Technology



Frank Jotzo
Australian National University



Guy F. Midgley
Stellenbosch University



Alyssa Gilbert
Imperial College London

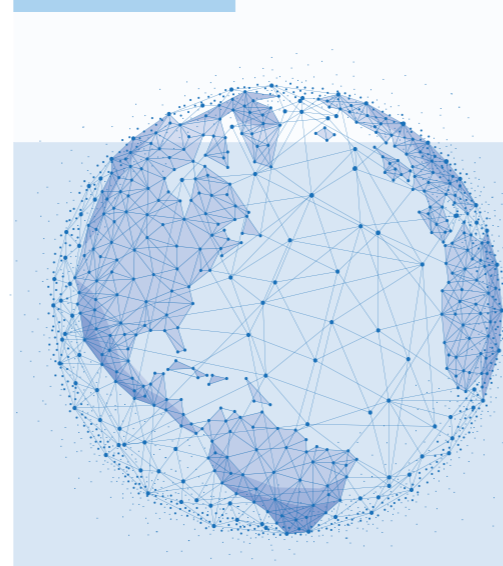


Kate Vivian
Sciences Po



2nd Pathway to Net Zero Emissions Academic Conference 2020

On September 16 and 17, 2020, GAUC held the second academic conference online titled "Pathway to Net Zero Emissions." Alok Sharma, the President of COP26, and Xie Zhenhua, China's Special Representative on Climate Change delivered keynote speeches. Professor Lord Stern hosted the public session. Almost 20 researchers from 10 member universities participated in the discussion. The conference attracted over 200 audiences around the world. A statement from GAUC was issued following the virtual conference by leading climate researchers who called for an acceleration in action to reduce annual global emissions of greenhouse gases to net zero. The conference was overseen by the London School of Economics and Political Science, Imperial College London, University of Cambridge and Tsinghua University.



•Technology •Policy •Economics

Pathways to Net Zero Emissions A Global Alliance of Universities on Climate Conference

16 and 17 September, 2020



President of the Institute of Climate Change and Sustainable Development at Tsinghua University

Xie Zhenhua

The main task of global climate governance is to safeguard and implement the goals, modes of action and institutional arrangements of the Paris Agreement. At present, there is still a big gap between the independent contributions and actions taken by all parties and the above targets. We should take strong measures as soon as possible to pursue green, low-carbon, circular and high-quality development in light of our own development stage, national conditions and capabilities, and strive to achieve global carbon emission peak by 2030 and carbon neutral by 2050.



UK Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and COP26 President

Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP

All of us have a role to play, and with universities, businesses, and governments around the world working together, we can and must meet the challenges



Chair of the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment at the London School of Economics and Political Science

Lord Nicholas Stern

The pandemic has had a huge negative impact on the economy, but we must adhere to sustainable development as the foundation for economic recovery. Universities can play an important role in this. We don't need to negotiate, so we can be more active and effective in our actions.

During the two-day conference, 16 experts and scholars from member universities of the Alliance shared their latest research findings on technology, policy and economics.



Joanna Chamberlain
University of Cambridge



Mathilde Fajardy
Cambridge University



Mark Workman
Imperial College London



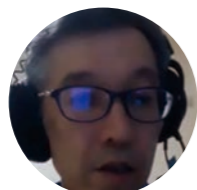
John E. Fernández
Massachusetts Institute Of Technology



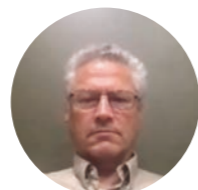
Richard Green
Imperial College London



Xunmin Ou
Tsinghua University



Matsuhashi Ryuji
University of Tokyo



Bruce Nordman
University of California,
Berkeley



Zheng Li
Tsinghua University



Frank Venmans
London School of
Economics and Political
Science



Matthew Ives
University of Oxford



Emily Shuckburgh
Cambridge University



Justin Borevitz
Australian National
University



Simon Dikau
London School of
Economics and Political
Science



Piera Patrizio
Imperial College London



Sam Stranks
University of Cambridge



Sam Krevor
Imperial College London



Paul Malliet
Sciences Po



Vasileios Charitopoulos
University of California,
Berkeley

Pathway to
Net Zero Emissions
Academic Conference
2020

A Statement on Net Zero Emissions and Carbon Neutrality

Global Alliance
of Universities on Climate

Conference on
'Pathways to Net Zero Emissions'

A statement on net zero emissions and carbon neutrality

Global Alliance of Universities on Climate
Conference on 'Pathways to Net Zero Emissions'
16-17 September 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the vulnerability and exposure of human populations to global threats, such as infectious diseases, biodiversity loss and climate change.

Climate change is already affecting lives and livelihoods across the world and the impacts are growing. The rise in global temperature is undeniable and there are a range of associated effects, including a reduction in sea- and land-based ice in the polar regions, rising global sea levels, and changes in the frequency and intensity of some types of extreme events in many parts of the world.

Many authoritative national, regional and international assessments, including by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, have concluded that this change in the climate is being driven by human activities, primarily the burning of fossil fuels, which are raising atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases.

Global temperature and associated impacts will continue to increase until atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases stop growing. This will require emissions of greenhouse gases from human activities to be reduced to a level when they are no greater than removals of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere through human activities such as afforestation. Man-made climate change cannot be halted until greenhouse gas emissions from human activities are reduced to this 'net zero' level, also known as carbon neutrality.

Almost all countries are now committed to the achievement of global net zero emissions through the implementation of the Paris Agreement. Article 2 of the Agreement commits Parties collectively to "[h]olding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change".

Article 4 of the Agreement states: "In order to achieve the long-term temperature goal set out in Article 2, Parties aim to reach global peaking of greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible, recognizing that peaking will take longer for developing country Parties, and to undertake rapid reductions and adaptation thereafter in accordance with best available science, so as to achieve a balance between anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases in the second half of this century, on the

basis of equity, and in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty".

Stopping climate change requires global coordinated action. Many countries have now recognised the urgency required to realise the goals of the Paris Agreement and have set targets for reducing their national emissions to net zero. However, few have yet created detailed plans for achieving net zero emissions or carbon neutrality. As the Paris Agreement explicitly recognises, capacity-building support is urgently needed for developing countries to contribute to the realisation of the long-term global goal of net zero emissions, or carbon neutrality.

The Global Alliance of Universities on Climate (GAUC) is committed to supporting countries to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement, including net zero emissions, or carbon neutrality, in order to realise the long-term temperature goal set out in Article 2.

We pledge to carry out research, analysis and engagement activities across disciplinary and geographical boundaries to develop the technologies, policies and strategies to accelerate the achievement of net zero global emissions of greenhouse gases and climate resilience. We will work with policy-makers in order to implement rapidly these technologies, policies and strategies in a way that is consistent with other local, national, regional and global objectives, such as the Sustainable Development Goals. We recognise that countries are at very different stages of development and the transition to net zero emissions can and must be carried out in a way that improves living standards and reduces poverty around the world.

We will support a range of initiatives that contribute to the global goal of net zero emissions or carbon neutrality. For instance, we support Nature-Based Solutions for Climate, a plan to unlock the full potential of nature for climate action, which was launched at the United Nations Climate Action Summit in September 2019 by a coalition co-led by China and New Zealand. Nature-based solutions are an essential component of the overall global effort to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement. They are a vital complement to decarbonisation of the global economy, reducing climate change risks and establishing climate-resilient societies.

We also recognise the need for researchers to lead by example and to help their host institutions and organisations to reach net zero emissions in their operations.

Pathways to Net Zero Emissions and Carbon/ Climate Neutrality Academic Forum, 2021

3rd Pathways to Net Zero Emissions and Carbon/ Climate Neutrality Academic Forum, 2021

From June 29th to 30th, the Global Alliance of Universities on Climate (GAUC) held its 3rd Academic Conference online. Themed Pathways to Net Zero Emissions and Carbon/Climate Neutrality, the conference was attended by global influential policymakers, including Xie Zhenhua, Special Envoy for Climate Change of China, John Kerry, Special Presidential Envoy for Climate of the United States, Emmanuel Guerin, Executive Director for the International Group at the European Climate Foundation (ECF), and Patricia Espinosa, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Over 20 leading climate experts from 15 member universities attended the two-day live discussion sessions and presented their latest research findings on this issue, and discuss the implications of their results for policymakers.



Patricia Espinosa
Executive Secretary,
United Nations Framework
Convention on Climate Change



The topic proposed for this panel, pathways to net-zero emissions and carbon or climate neutrality, could be described without exaggeration as the challenge of our time. Our collective ability to identify and follow those pathways, to put into practice extensively, effective, and equitable actions to achieve carbon or climate neutrality will have a decisive effect on the future of societies around the world. I am confident that Glasgow will be remembered as a milestone in humanity's effort to secure a safer, greener, and more sustainable future for all.

Xie Zhenhua
Special Envoy for
Climate Change, China



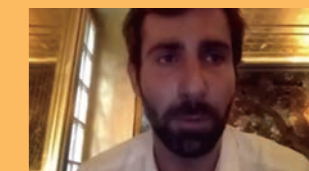
For a country, addressing climate change involves governments at all levels and all walks of life. Promoting green and low-carbon economic and social transformation is a major systematic project that requires top-down design and policy support, and bottom-up implementation, innovation and practical actions. Although China has a long way to go in climate governance, we are well prepared for long-term low-carbon development.

John Kerry
Special Presidential Envoy
for Climate, United States



The science has made it very clear that climate change is an existential challenge that must be achieved through cooperation. We are behind the curve of the Paris Agreement. The US is not doing enough, and all countries are not doing enough. We need to speed up!

Emmanuel Guerin
Chief Executive, European
Climate Foundation



All EU members have approved the Green New Deal, and it is now up to us to translate this New Deal into concrete targets for eliminating greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, integrating emissions reductions into the core areas of economic growth and other policies.

Alok Sharma
President of COP26

Nicholas Stern
London School of Economics
and Political Science

Anasuya Gangopadhyay
Indian Institute
of Science

Frank Jotzo
Australian National
University

Rupert Myers
Imperial College London

Brand Wessels
Stellenbosch University

Xiu Yang
Tsinghua University

Romildo Toledo Filho
Federal University of
Rio de Janeiro

Fan Dai
University of
California Berkeley

Daniel Esty
Yale University

Jeffrey Sachs
Columbia University

Chunping Xie
London School of
Economics and
Political Science

Judy Jingwei Xie
Imperial College London

Myles Alle
University of Oxford

Ryoichi Komiyama
University of Tokyo

Bronwyn Claire
University of Cambridge

Guy Midgley
Stellenbosch University

Ashwin Seshadri
Indian Institute of Science

Steven Barrett
Massachusetts Institute
of Technology

Laura Diaz Anadon
University of Cambridge

James Dixon
University of Oxford

Daniel Kammen
University of
California Berkeley

Bernard Reber
Sciences Po

Bob Ward
London School of
Economics and
Political Science

Emily Shuckburgh
University of Cambridge

The background is a photograph of a large, modern stadium with a distinctive curved, ribbed roof. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent red filter. A large, white, stylized number '3' is positioned on the left side. A white vertical line runs through the center, and a white diagonal line extends from the bottom left towards the top right, intersecting the vertical line.

3

Campus Action

Accelerating the carbon-neutral transformation of universities

GAUC shall implement green and carbon-neutral campus action, share experiences and best practices, and promote the carbon-neutral transformation of the university in its management, operations and finances.

2021

On March 11, 2021 the 1st online Campus Decarbonization Workshop was held successfully. This session is organized by the University of Tokyo and serves as prelude to the activities of the campus action working group of GAUC. Representatives from eight universities made keynotes in the workshop and shared their main initiatives on campus decarbonization, including many highlights and valuable experience.

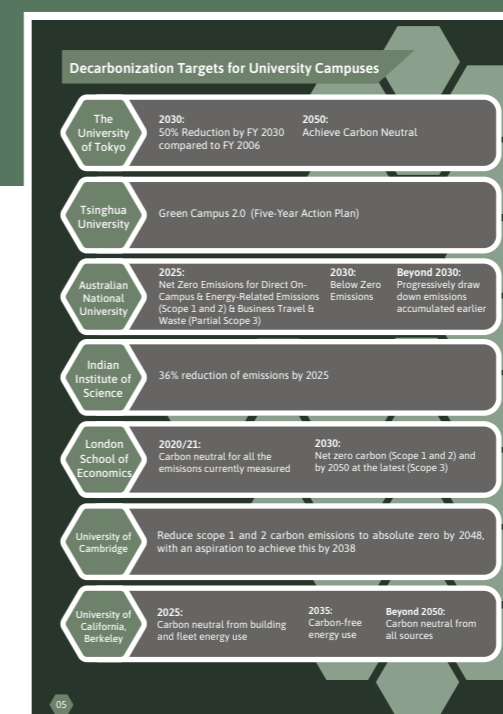
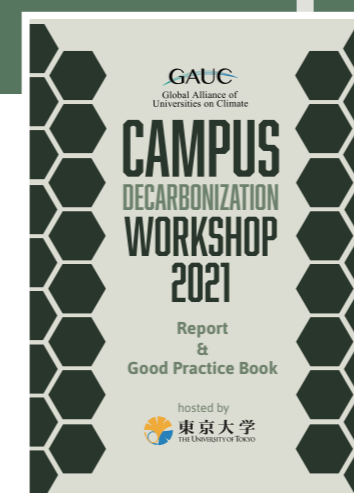


The discussion highlighted the similarities and differences among each GAUC member institutions in terms of social, cultural, geographical and environmental context, and the experience in regard to campus decarbonization. It also highlighted that this diversity of GAUC member institutions can provide great opportunities for each institution to advance their own decarbonization strategies by learning from each other's experiences and generate new knowledge and activities that can impact the society. Universities must actively use their campuses as a microcosmos of society, and make advanced proposals to society for decarbonization in cooperation with global partners.

--Mamoru Mitsuishi, Vice President of The University of Tokyo, Chair of the Campus Action Working Group of GAUC

During the discussion session 15 panelists from 10 member universities carried out more extensive and in-depth discussions, including the domestic renewable energy market situation, the university research and education related to the enhancement of sustainable development, the campus participation in local communities' decarbonization and the assessment of the campus decarbonization efforts.

MITSUISHI Mamoru The University of Tokyo	HUO Huibin Tsinghua University	Mark Howden Australian National University	S.K. Satheesh Indian Institute of Science
Charles Joly London School of Economics and Political Science	Joanna Chamberlain University of Cambridge	Suzana Kahn Federal University of Rio de Janeiro	Kira Stoll University of California, Berkeley



Report of Campus Decarbonization
Workshop 2021



Download Report

04 Talent Cultivation

Training climate leaders of tomorrow

GAUC shall encourage and strengthen the cooperation between the member universities of the Alliance to cultivate various talents in the field of climate change, and organize and carry out joint learning projects, student exchanges, course sharing, joint programs, innovation and entrepreneurship, and other related endeavors.

In December 2019, GAUC formed the GAUC-COP25 Youth Delegation to COP25, dedicated to promoting the exchange and cooperation of young students globally, and raising public awareness through collaboration with diverse stakeholders to mobilize more climate action. 15 students from 6 GAUC member universities joined the delegation. They presented the Youth Declaration to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Antonio Guterres, and their performance during COP25 was widely followed and highly appreciated.

GAUC-COP25 Youth Delegation, 2019

At COP, members of the youth delegation didn't only participate and observe in official agendas such as UNFCCC official side events, press conferences, and side events, but also act as speakers/presenters at GAUC press conferences to share youth stories, presented youth declarations, and voice out in representation of the youth from twelve universities and worldwide.

In addition, youth delegates organized various activities such as youth discussions, intergenerational dialogues, advisory meetings, and sustainable fashion shows. Discussion on the progress of the negotiations and highlights were shared with consultation from the expert teams, to ensure the accuracy of their conclusions.



#TiempoDeActuar

#TimeForAction



CHINA PAVILION

AT THE CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE

联合国气候变化大会“中国角”系列活动



GAUC-COP25 Youth Delegation, 2019



University of Tokyo

Koto Kagami

The knowledge, experience and outcome we have gained from participating in this years COP25 will be one that we will all treasure.

Tsinghua University

Joel Naoki Ernesto Christoph

Spoke on behalf of Xu Qinyi from the University of Cambridge. "I have talked to NGOs and entrepreneurs these days, and I am surprised to find out many of the new approaches and methods they have adopted to combat climate change"

University of Tokyo

Emma Sarah Marcos

COP is a world of its own, existing in a liminal space between the current reality and the possible future. During this week, as GAUC youth delegates, we have experienced how layered the world of COP is.

Tsinghua University

Zhang Shangchen

By officially announcing the youth's declaration on climate change at COP, we speak up as the young generation. By holding the inter-generational dialogue, we gain a better understanding over the expectations from the elder.

Stellensbosch University

Jessie Yuill

GAUC is a new collaboration of leading Unis with diverse characteristics that have been vital in forming this team. We each have different backgrounds and different views but are united behind the climate cause and climate action.

Indian Institute of Science

Anand Narayana Sarma

Over the past one week at COP25, I have gained a lot of out-of-the-book knowledge and experiences. It was fascinating to be part of a group of passionate, energetic, like-minded young delegates.

University of Tokyo

Gen Hayakawa

From this cop, I thought the technology was well-developed and the important thing is how to collaborate with private sectors and introduce new technologies to the actual policies.



GAUC COP25 Youth Delegation Fashion Show Clothes Reengineering



CLOTH REENGINEERING



Summary-GAUC COP25 Youth Delegation

45000+
Social media visits

2400+
Video Hits

55+
Media Reports

15
Students

15
Events

8
World Leading Universities

6
Countries

5
Media Interviews

5
Days

Graduate Forum of the Global Alliance of Universities on Climate

1st Graduate Forum of the Global Alliance of Universities on Climate, 2019

The first Graduate Forum of the Global Alliance of Universities on Climate was successfully held in November, 2019. This forum aims to encourage more academic research and promote further dialogue on topics concerning the survival and development of all mankind.

2019
GRADUATE FORUM OF THE
GLOBAL ALLIANCE OF
UNIVERSITIES ON CLIMATE



Over **150** student representatives from **55** universities, across **6** continents gathered at Tsinghua University. Two parallel sessions have been held during the forum, titled The Zero Emission Technical Revolution and Building Green Future: Economic- Social-Ecological System. Out of over 100 thought-provoking submissions, 9 of the best papers were selected and more than 30 papers were orally presented during the sessions.



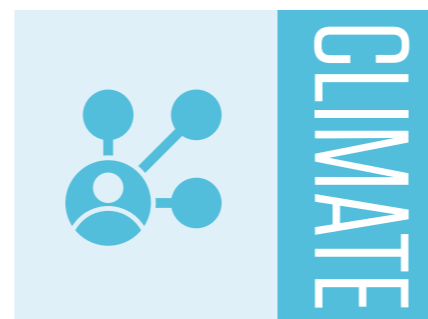
2019
CLIMATE

世界大学气候变化联盟
研究生论坛

Graduates Forum of
the Global Alliance of Universities on Climate

GRADUATE FORUM OF THE
GLOBAL ALLIANCE OF
UNIVERSITIES ON CLIMATE

2019



When Art Meets Climate - Environmental Cultural Week in Tsinghua University

During the Forum, "Low-carbon Campus Culture Week" was also held on the campus of Tsinghua University. "Sustainable Art Exhibition", "Low-carbon Action Pitch in", "Low-carbon Credit mini program" and other activities not only advocated low-carbon and green campus lifestyle, but also provided cross-cultural exchange and experience opportunities for Forum representatives.



THE INTEGRATION OF ART AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



2019
CLIMATE



Chinese President Xi Jinping sent letter in reply to student representatives of the Global Alliance of Universities on Climate

Student Representatives of the Global Alliance of Universities on Climate,

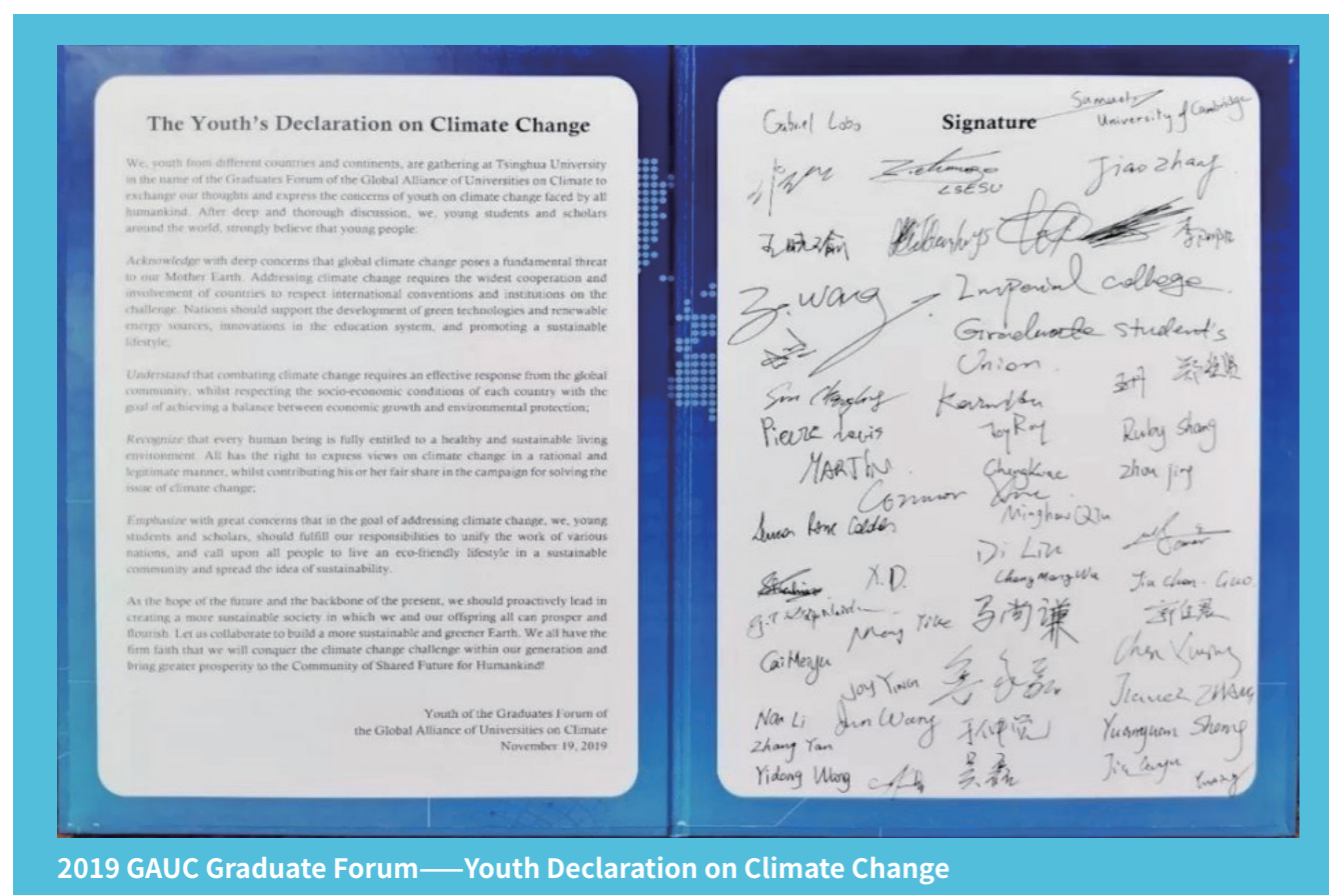
I am glad to receive your letter. I greatly appreciate the fact that although you are from different countries, you share a common concern on climate change, an issue that bears on the future of mankind.

Over four decades ago, I lived and worked for many years in a small village on the Loess Plateau in western China. Back then, the ecology and environment there was seriously damaged due to over-development and the local people were trapped in poverty as a result. This experience taught me that man and nature are a community of life and that the damage done to nature will ultimately hurt mankind. I have since put forward the concept that lucid waters and lush mountains are invaluable assets in themselves. My goal is for China to build an ecological civilization as part of our international responsibility to tackle climate change, and at the same time to work with the rest of the world to protect the Earth, the common home of us all.

I look forward to your active efforts in this field as doctoral students from world-renowned universities. I also welcome your continued interest in China's development and more good suggestions from you.

Xi Jinping
President

The People's Republic of China
6 January 2020



2019 GAUC Graduate Forum—Youth Declaration on Climate Change

2nd Graduate Forum of the Global Alliance of Universities on Climate, 2020



The second GAUC Graduate Forum was successfully held on Nov 14 to Nov 17 at Tsinghua University in Beijing, themed "Climate Change and Global Post-pandemic Green Recovery." The Graduate Forum attracted more than **220** faculties and students from nearly **40** institutions from **6** continents, **13** countries to attend.

From the more than 100 submissions, ten best papers and ten best oral presentations were selected. Before the forum, Tsinghua students launched the "Up Marathon" campus environmental protection relay, saving a total of more than 366 tons of carbon, equivalent to planting more than 730 acres of forest, to balance the carbon footprint of the conference.



Patricia Espinosa, Executive Secretary of UNFCCC delivered the special remark. She said: "the Global Alliance of Universities on Climate is a powerful example of what we need to see more widely: a growing network of national, regional, sectoral and international institutions working together to enhance climate technology." She also shares expected accomplishments for next year's COP 26 in Glasgow, urging multi-lateral multi-stakeholder efforts in tackling climate change.



2020

Moments of the Forum

GRADUATE FORUM OF THE
GLOBAL ALLIANCE OF
UNIVERSITIES ON CLIMATE



Youth Action Framework of the Global Alliance of Universities on Climate

Far before the first industrial revolution, humankind began extracting natural resources to meet developmental needs. This has been the main mode by which people have engaged with the Earth. And since that industrial revolution, these extraction and emission processes has caused irreversible harm to the Earth. Climate change is the decisive issue of our time. Global carbon emissions are increasing, temperatures are rising, and destructive events such as record-breaking fires, tropical cyclones, floods and droughts have had a significant impact on socio-economic development and the environment. The current emission reduction commitments have not yet met the goals set in the Paris Agreement, and we urgently need to strengthen multilateral cooperation and manage climate issues.

Young generations play an important role in actions against climate change, and they can and should be part of the solution to the world's problems. We realize that solving climate change issues requires broadly collaborating with countries around the world, gathering the strength of global youth, and making contributions to reduce carbon emissions and achieve the goal of carbon neutrality Today, 131 young people from 12 countries and regions have established the following framework for action. We are committed that:

We shall consciously establish low-carbon awareness

express the willingness to lead a low-carbon life as a citizen, and call for joint efforts to address the global issue of climate change.

We shall promote the idea of energy saving

use our professional strength to prove the scientific basis for pollution prevention and ecological construction, and innovatively explore efficient and feasible scientific measures.

We shall actively participate in global climate governance

trengthen transnational communication capabilities, and leverage youth power to push the spectrum of organizations to take on the responsibility of global climate governance.

We shall standardize daily consumption behavior through moderate and reasonable green consumption

carry out low-carbon lifestyles, and take on the roles of practicing environmentalist.

We shall consciously choose environmentally-friendly products

reduce the use of disposable products such as single-use plastics, and use recyclable products instead of disposable products for clothing, food, housing and transportation.

We shall proactively take public transit

recycle our waste, and conduct waste classification. We shall avoid blindly pursuing luxuries and work together to protect nature.

We shall boldly report illegal environmental violations to relevant departments

such that there will be no hiding place for illegal environmental actions under the supervision of young people.

We shall vigorously call for collaboration from a wide range of groups

expand the scope of youth action, actively promote the concept of sustainable development through various forms, and use every effort to achieve the goal of carbon neutrality.

“

The forum adheres to "zero waste". All conference materials are made of renewable materials and can be recycled after use. The students used renewable materials to design and make artworks for the exhibition, and held the theme exhibition at Tsinghua campus. They developed interactive mobile games such as "My Carbon Footprint" and "36 Ways to Save Energy and reduce Emissions" to advocate a green and low-carbon lifestyle.



The three-day Forum consisted of four Sub-Forums focused on "Public Awareness and Behavior in the Context of Climate Change", "Addressing Climate Change: Nature-Based Solutions", "Climate Governance Solutions to Achieve Higher Quality Recovery" and "Technological Innovation and Economic Transformation for Carbon Neutrality". The Forum also included activities such as Youth Roundtable, Poster Exchange, Exhibition of Youth Action on Climate Change, etc., providing a rich and multi-platform opportunity for fruitful exchanges.

The theme of the closing ceremony was "Natural-based solutions on tackling climate change - C+NbS". From the more than 100 submissions, 10 best papers and 10 best oral presentations were selected.

WANG Xiqin

Then-Executive Vice President of Tsinghua University



Then-Executive Vice President of Tsinghua University

Tsinghua University attaches great importance to the issue of climate change. Through practical cooperation and close strategic communication, we are actively seeking solutions, and Nature-Based Solutions (NbS) is one of them.

Mark Smerznak

Vice President of R&D, P&G Beijing Innovation Center



Vice President of R&D, P&G Beijing Innovation Center

P&G has committed to achieving carbon neutrality by 2030 by reducing the amount of crude oil plastic used in packaging by 50 percent and achieving the other 50 percent with nature-based solutions.

LI Lin

Global Policy and Advocacy, WWF International



Global Policy and Advocacy, WWF International

The decisive power of the NbS concept comes from the fact that the whole society implements it in every action.

Yierfan Maierdan

Shanghai Jiao Tong University



Recycling of waste river sludge into unfired green bricks



3rd GAUC Graduate Forum & Global Youth Summit on Net-Zero Future, 2021

To address the global challenge of climate change, more and more entities represented by countries, regions, cities, private sectors and universities are taking active actions, with youth as the staunch force for achieving a zero-carbon future. In light of this circumstance, GAUC has upgraded the GAUC Graduate Forum into Global Youth Summit on Net-zero Future (Climate x Summit). The Summit was scheduled from late October to early November 2021, in a hybrid form that integrates both online and offline events. It included 30 events, with over 1 million people participating.

Themed "Climate x", the Summit emphasized the close interconnection between climate change and other UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the transforming impact climate change holds over other areas. Integrated with other trending global topics, it focused on the interconnection between climate and four areas mainly: Nature & Biodiversity, Food & Health, Energy, and Transportation. Three tracks (academic, voice, action) activities and multi-topic events were introduced to mobilize the broadest youth's actions towards the net-zero future.



Summit Highlight

01

Seizing the
Historical Moment

02

Follow the Process
Agenda

03

Frontier
Theme

04

Format
Innovation

05

Collective
Leadership

06

Youth
Participation

07

Voluntary
Initiation

08

Global
Recognition

To inspire the climate actions from the broadest stakeholders, the 3rd GAUC Graduate Forum & Global Youth Summit on Net-zero Future has three sections:

Three Tracks

Mobilize the broadest youth's actions towards the net-zero future.

GAUC university determined contributions (UDC)

Empower global youth and multi-stakeholders with diversified insights and creative solutions towards the net-zero future.

GAUC partner contributions

In order to facilitate the exchange and communication among different stakeholders thus to facilitate the advancement of global climate governance, GAUC's selective partners are also invited to hold themed events during the Summit.



The Team

Host



Tsinghua University



Australian National University



Sciences Po



University of Cambridge



Imperial College London



The University of Tokyo



Indian Institute of Science



University of California Berkeley



Federal University of Rio de Janeiro



London School of Economics and Political Science



Massachusetts Institute of Technology



Stellenbosch University



Columbia University



University of Oxford



Yale University

Leading Organizers



Co-Organizers



Strategic Partner



Convening Partner



Academic Support



Venue Support



Event Partner



Mooc Support



Media Support



Considering the characteristics of youth at different ages, the Summit opened the Voice Track to call for short videos from global youth aged 16 to 30, the Academic Track to call for academic papers from global postgraduates, and the Action Track to call for commercial solutions from undergraduates and postgraduates from GAUC member universities. The Three Tracks, which formed the core section of the Summit, attracted over 350 submissions from global youth and over 1.25 million global participations.



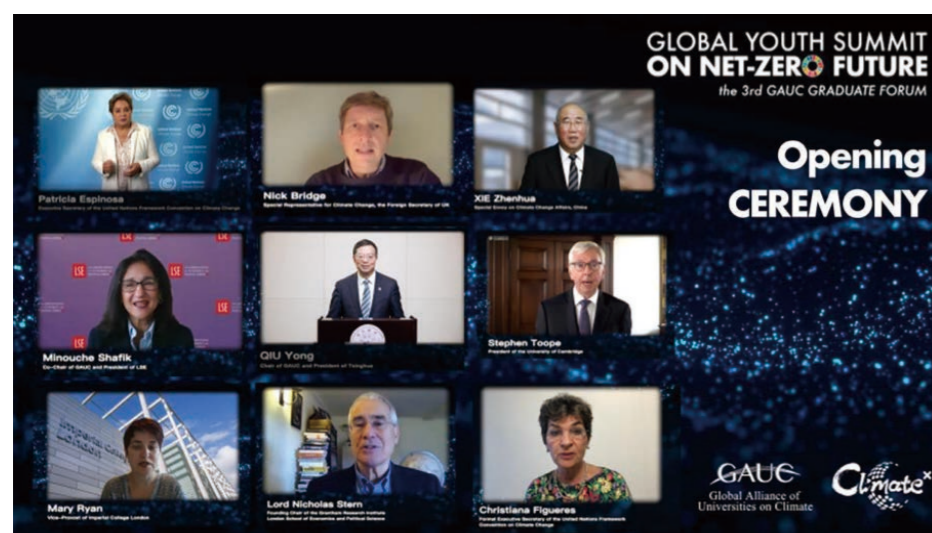
Voice Track
Global youth aged 16-30



Academic Track
Global Postgraduates



Action Track
GAUC member Universities' Students



GLOBAL
YOUTH
SUMMIT
ON NET-
ZERO
FUTURE

On 25th Oct., 2021 the Global Youth Summit on Net-Zero Future had it brand opening

Global policymakers and leaders from GAUC's member universities celebrated the Summit

Patricia Espinosa, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Nick Bridge, Special Representative for Climate Change, Foreign Secretary of UK

Xie Zhenhua, Special Envoy on Climate Change Affairs, China

Qiu Yong, Chair of GAUC and President of Tsinghua University

Minouche Shafik, Co-Chair of GAUC and President of LSE

Stephen Toope, President of the University of Cambridge

Mary Ryan, Vice- Provost of Imperial College

Lord Nicholas Stern, Founding Chair of the Grantham Research Institute at London School of Economics and Political Science

Christiana Figueres, Former Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Academic Track

A competition to hone academic skills



Voice Track

A short film to magnify the youth's voice



Action Track

A hackathon for actual solutions



Imperial College
London



University of
Cambridge

Award Ceremony Global Youth Summit on Net-Zero Future

Representatives of member universities and global stakeholders virtually accessed to the main venue of COP26 in Glasgow and the sub-venue in Tsinghua university.

Awards were presented for outstanding students at the Summit. Together, we have witnessed the new thinking, discovery and action of young people around the world in addressing climate change.



Youth representatives from MIT, Imperial College London and Tsinghua University read out the Climate x Global Youth Declaration co-written by Summit youth participants. The declaration has been sent widely to government delegations over the world.

Climate X Global Youth Declaration

Climate change is a realistic, urgent, and impending crisis that dangerously threatens the environment, peace, and the wellbeing of all. At this pivotal point in history, it is our mission to fully activate the greatest potential to unlock the net-zero future. However, climate-related challenges also exist in all pillars of sustainable development, including nature deterioration, biodiversity loss, energy crisis, and environmental injustice. Therefore, Climate X emphasizes the close interconnection between climate change and other UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and requires synergistic solutions to addressing these challenges.

Against this backdrop, youth cooperation to promote synergy in various fields is of vital importance. Youth generation is a major force in addressing climate crisis, and a force representing the future. Youths from all walks of life are encouraged to take synergistic actions to address climate change and other sustainable development challenges wherever they are in the world. At this critical juncture where the history is about to be made, we embrace a shared vision of a net-zero future. To this end, as the young generation, we can contribute our part by the following:

1. Be better implementors. Be more ambitious and pragmatic. Align our actions with the global net-zero target, and realize that climate crisis can be addressed in a synergistic manner to harvest multifaceted benefits and contribute to the harmonious co-existence of man and nature. Cultivate green and low-carbon awareness, lead a sustainable and healthy life, and be responsible consumers. Save energy, reduce food waste, and choose green traveling. Refrain from purchasing endangered wildlife and related products, and pursue the use of highly sustainable and durable products.
2. Be better researchers. Be more creative and insightful. Proactively shoulder the momentous mission to build the net-zero future and promote sustainable development with an international perspective. Continuously sharpen our academic intuition and analytical skills. Center the climate crisis in our research, and focus on exploring the synergies and trade-offs among climate change and other SDGs. Realize that the net-zero commitments require concrete policy packages, and it's our duty to provide academic insights for the government policymaking from the perspective of youth.
3. Be better advocates. Be more open and inclusive. Realize that everyone should contribute their own part in the unprecedented transition to the net-zero future, and we can voice up and promote the public awareness. Be aware that carbon emissions are embodied in our daily consumption, and everyone is capable of reducing their carbon footprints. Use social platforms to spread the key messages to the world, share the knowledge of climate change to people around us, and encourage them to join us.
4. Be better cooperators. Be more vigorous and influential. Bear in mind the spirit of multilateralism, pursue the climate equity and justice, and unite to move towards the net-zero future. Take the lead in developing youth-centered cooperation platforms or projects for achieving the global net-zero target. Contribute innovative solutions to global climate governance and international cooperation in pursuit of the prosperity for all.

History entrusts us with missions and responsibilities. We, the young generations, are all facing the same crisis. We, the future leaders, must all be part of the action. Wherever we are, whatever our professions are, we share a common mission to work towards a net-zero future. Climate X reminds us that we can and must achieve Sustainable Development Goals in a synergistic manner. Let us rise to the challenges and opportunities of our times. Let us show our enthusiasm and power. Let us contribute our wisdom and solutions. Let us jointly build the net-zero future and a community of life on Earth!



University Determined Contributions – UDC Events



Indian Institute of Science



Stellenbosch University



University of Cambridge



London School of Economics and Political Science



Federal University of Rio de Janeiro

GAUC Partner Contribution Events



Elsevier



GLOBAL SHAPERS COMMUNITY

Global Impact

6

Continents

18

Time Zones

800⁺

Social Posts

1.7^M

Potential Reach

30

Events

350⁺

Submissions by Youth

1400⁺

Media Coverages in
Diversified Languages

125^M

Global
Participation

Message to Youth, 2021

To embody the concept of passing down the torch for building a net-zero future from one generation to the next, a special documentary named Message to Youth, in which presidents of GAUC-member universities shared their experiences in addressing climate change, how they found their passion for the environment, and spoke about what they expected from the next generation, premiered on 5th Nov, at the Blue Zone of COP26 in Glasgow.



With youth as the stanch force for achieving a zero-carbon future, the alliance has launched Climate x Global Youth Summit on Net-zero Future, upgraded from the GAUC Graduate Forum, to emphasize the transforming impact and the close interconnection between climate change and other global issues. By bringing together our 15 alliance universities and partners from nine countries across six continents, we will be able to bring more youths into a platform for learning, exchanging, and making their voices heard from a fresh viewpoint on how to achieve a carbon-neutral future.

Qiu Yong
Chair of GAUC and
President of Tsinghua University



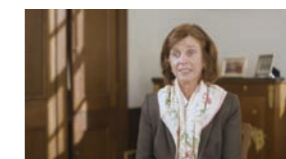
This is exactly what a university in its ideal form is meant to do: to combine the ideals of youth, the knowledge of universities, to combine the ideals of youth, the knowledge of universities. I'm deeply admiring and grateful to young people for fulfilling that in the context of our universities.

Lee Bollinger
President of
Columbia University



The younger generation will be at the forefront of dealing with the effects of climate change, which will only get worse in the coming decades. They need to be empowered to have a voice in decision making about their futures and take part in an informed citizenry, and also as experts who can guide our societies to a more sustainable future.

Govindan Rangarajan
Director of Indian
Institute of Science



It's the young people who are inspiring us to act and saving the planet. It's their world, so I think we can learn from young people, from their passion, from their commitment and from their desire to act globally. It will only be addressed effectively if we all work together to address it. And young people are showing us that.

Louise Richardson
Vice-Chancellor of
The Oxford University



It is the collective action of all. But it does not mean we individually shouldn't do anything just because it takes all to act for success. So I encourage you all to do your part, and be prepared to be part of the conversation going forward.

Brian Schmidt
President of Australian
National University



Each of our institutions is at the center of extensive partnership networks, and it's through these networks that our expertise and knowledge is felt. By drawing these relationships close, working in partnership with friends and colleagues from across the world, we can help address global challenges like climate change.

Stephen Toope
Vice-Chancellor of
University of Cambridge



This summit is an opportunity to draw attention to the interconnection between climate change and the other UN Sustainable Development Goals and the transforming impact that climate change can have, particularly in areas like food and health, transportation, energy, nature and biodiversity.

Minouche Shafik
Co-chair of GAUC and Director
of London School of Economics
and Political Science



We pledge that by 2020 we would emit 43% less than we did in 2005. We pledge that by 2020 we would emit 43% less than we did in 2005. We now seek an even faster pace of change.

Peter Salovey
President of
Yale University



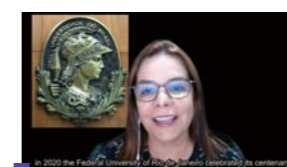
Students around the world have the determination, flexibility, creativity, and ingenuity to help make the impossible possible. Forums like the Global Youth Summit for a net-zero future help bring attention to your ideas and amplify your voices. I have found that listening to the voices of young people is almost like seeing into the future.

Rafael Reif
President of Massachusetts
Institute of Technology



The university is a place for creating value through academic activity. Together with our communities and stakeholders, universities must serve the global public by addressing the challenges faced by human society. We would like to make our campus an ideal place where our students can discuss and learn with a diverse group of people, and identify and share challenges and solutions.

Teruo Fujii
President of
the University of Tokyo



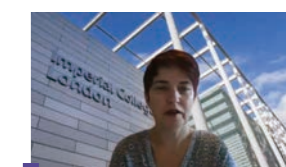
We have to celebrate the alliance between our universities. It strengthens us and further reinforces the advances in knowledge towards facing climate change. New ways of thinking will be needed to understand today's world with global and common problems. Thus, academia is a key partner of global decision-makers responsible for defining climate policies.

Denise Pires de Carvalho
President of Federal
University of Rio de Janeiro



Climate Change is, of course, one of today's defining global issues. Our aim is to ensure that our students are taking part in the conversation, offering a multidisciplinary learning environment in which students can think critically and globally about human interactions in society.

Mathias Vicherat
President of Sciences Po



We need to deliver education, research, and innovation, translating discoveries into practice. At Imperial, we want our students to leave with the freedom to imagine a better future and obligation to question the status quo, and the skills to deliver lasting change. You, today, are leading the way, and this summit is part of that change.

Mary Ryan
Vice- Provost of
Imperial College

05

Public Engagement

GAUC shall provide leadership to the global higher education community, promoting active participation in efforts to address climate change through research, education, and public service, working together with industry, civil society and related organizations. GAUC shall enhance public awareness and strive to build consensus for the transformation to a global and local carbon-neutral society.

2019



2020



2021

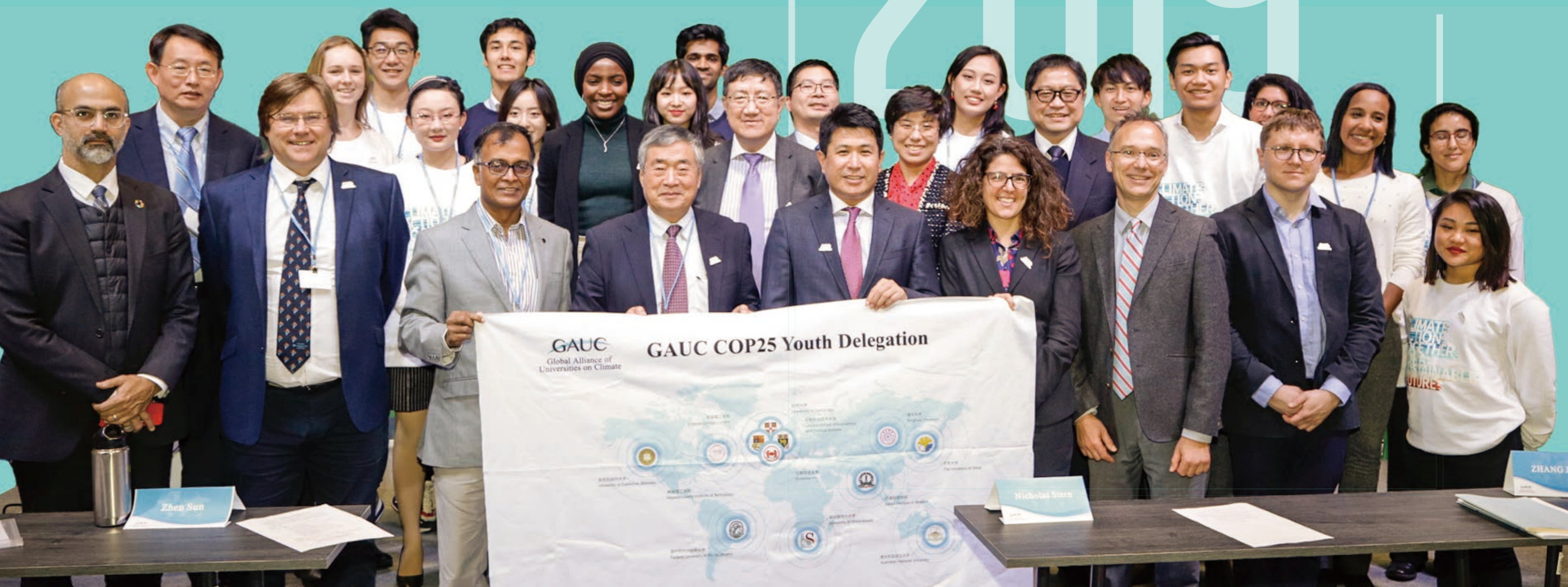




COP25 Open Forum: University Mission and Action to Combat Climate Change, 2019

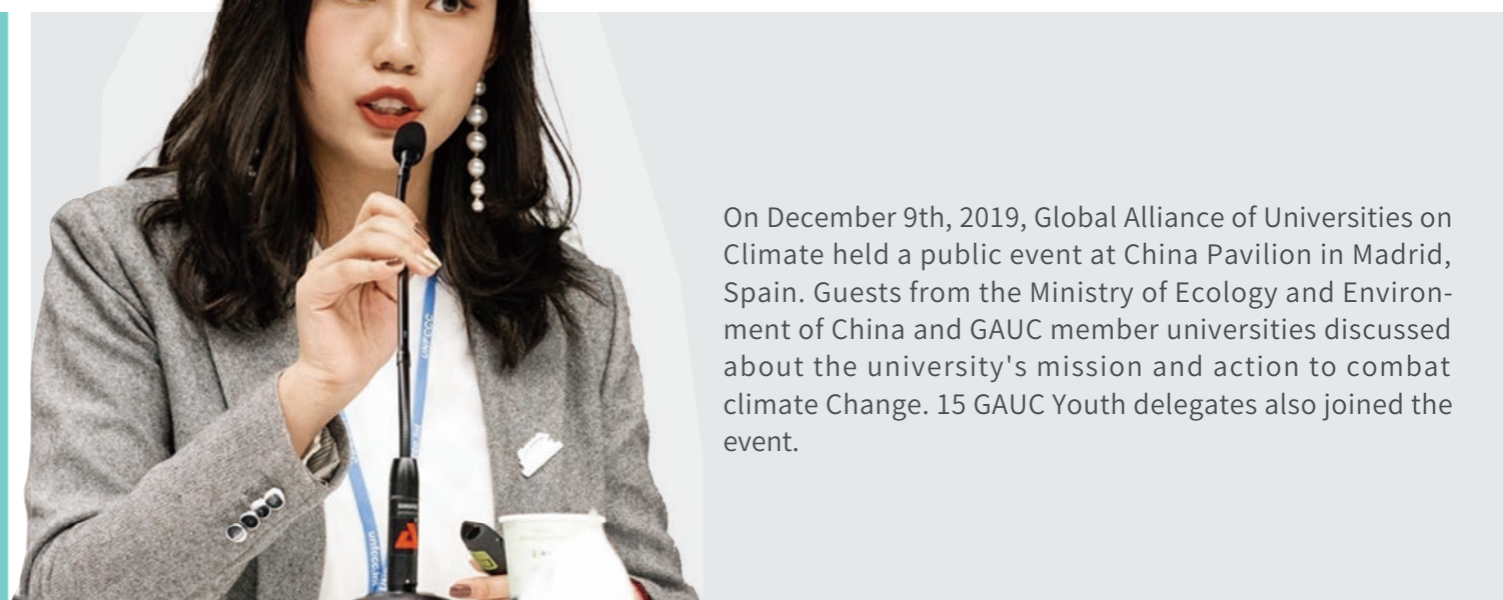
2019

COP25 Open Forum
University Mission
and Action to
Combat Climate Change
2019





COP25 Open Forum
University Mission
and
Action to
Combat Climate Change
2019



On December 9th, 2019, Global Alliance of Universities on Climate held a public event at China Pavilion in Madrid, Spain. Guests from the Ministry of Ecology and Environment of China and GAUC member universities discussed about the university's mission and action to combat climate Change. 15 GAUC Youth delegates also joined the event.



World Economic Forum Public Event: Role of Universities in Tackling Climate Change, 2020

On January 22, 2020, a public event was held at the Ice Village in Davos on the topic of "Role of Universities in Tackling Climate Change", hosted by GAUC. It aims to mobilize policy maker, education, and business to respond to the risks of climate change and match their strengths with global engagement on climate change issues to help create a cohesive and sustainable world. It attracted nearly 50 senior representatives from universities, international organizations and the private sectors.

Chair of GAUC and
President of Tsinghua University
QIU Yong

Co-Chair of GAUC and Director
of London School of Economics
and Political Science
Minouche Shafik



Brian P. Schmidt, president of ANU and Nobel Laureate in Physics, said in his keynote address, "As president, I am proud that my university is a member of the Global Alliance of Universities on Climate. I applaud Tsinghua university's initiative to establish the Alliance, which is working to overcome barriers and take concrete action to address the global challenge of climate change."

Wim de Villiers, President of Stellenbosch University, South Africa, moderated the discussion. Experts from The Australian National University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, leaders of GITI Group, senior representatives of the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network and representatives of the Alliance Youth Delegation participated in the discussion session.



2021

New York Climate Week 2021: The Role of Universities in Solving Our Climate Crisis



New York Climate Week 2021: The Role of Universities in Solving Our Climate Crisis

As the leading warm-up event of the Global Youth Summit on Net-Zero Future, Columbia University, Yale University, and Tsinghua University co-host an event on behalf of the Global Alliance of Universities on Climate (GAUC), during the Climate Week NYC 2021 on September 24th. Leaders in education, research, and knowledge creation, universities are in a unique position to leverage their expertise and make significant advancements in the fight against the climate crisis. The event discussed the critical role of universities in addressing the climate crisis from both the faculty and student perspectives. What are universities currently doing well and what more can they do to prepare the next generation of climate leaders and deliver evidence-based climate solutions? This event brings together students and faculty from Columbia University, Yale University and Tsinghua University to discuss this important question and implications for the future.



2021 CBD COP15 Theme Forum: Towards a Carbon Neutral Future-Synergy between Climate Change and Biodiversity, 2021



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On 14th October, 2021, being the official organizer of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP15) parallel forum, the Institute of Climate Change and Sustainable Development, Tsinghua (ICCS), where the GAUC Secretariat is based, organized a special panel discussion during the CBD COP15 on behalf of the Alliance, focusing on "Towards a Carbon Neutral Future: Synergy between Climate Change and Biodiversity". Experts from GAUC member universities were invited to address the panel online or via video, including David Ackerly, Dean of UC Berkeley's Rausser College of Natural Resources, Nathalie Seddon, Founding Director of the Nature-based Solutions Initiative of the University of Oxford, and Guy Midgley, Professor of Botany and Zoology of Stellenbosch University.



COP26 Open Forum: University Mission and Action to Combat Climate Change, 2021

2021

During the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26), representatives of the Global Alliance of Universities on Climate (GAUC) gathered in Glasgow and successfully organized 8 activities in the Conference's negotiation area (Blue Zone), providing a colorful GAUC DAY for both the delegates and the online audience. At the same time, as an important part of the "Global Youth Summit on Net-zero Future", the summit draws a satisfactory conclusion.

Experts and scholars from Yale university, University of Oxford, Cambridge University, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Imperial College London, London school of Economic and Tsinghua University focused on youth themes on this day, discussing topics like the lives of young people in underdeveloped areas and their experiences in adapting to climate change, the principle of intergenerational fairness of the global zero-carbon strategy, the just transition, and public climate perception, etc. The award ceremony of the "Global Youth Summit on Net-zero Future" and the release of the "ActNow Film" were also held on the day, demonstrating to negotiators the enthusiasm of young people for the cause of climate change and their positive efforts.



COP26 GAUC DAY
China Corporate Pavilion,
Blue Zone, 2021

GAUC
DAY



We are at a critical juncture in the Paris Agreement's implementation. More innovative solutions are required to achieve carbon neutrality by mid-century, and this will take more than one generation. Through the joint action of 15 universities, the Global Alliance of Universities on Climate (GAUC) will mobilize universities and partners worldwide to explore innovative policy and technology solutions and foster future climate leaders. Let us work together to embrace humanity's green industrial revolution and build a green, sustainable, inclusive, just, and prosperous future.

