



April 1, 2019

Dear President Eighmy,

As faculty and staff concerned about the warming of the earth that is changing our climate, we urge our nation's universities to make a rapid and steady shift away fossil fuels to clean, renewable energy. To avoid the worst effects of climate change, we need nothing less than a commitment to meeting all our energy needs with abundant, pollution-free renewable energy by no later than 2050.

Renewable energy has incredible potential. We could power the nation 10 times over with available wind resources, and existing solar potential is 100 times our current energy needs. At the same time, we waste tremendous amounts of energy.

Major corporations including Google, General Motors and Walmart have committed to powering their operations entirely with renewable energy. Dozens of cities have also made commitments; Salt Lake City and Park City, Utah; Aspen, Colorado; and Georgetown, Texas all agree that the future is 100 percent renewable power.

As significant users of energy, colleges and universities can also make a big difference: The higher education sector spends \$14 billion a year on energy costs alone. At the same time, as influential institutions, universities' actions can set a bold example for hundreds of communities across America.

Many universities have already set 100 percent renewable energy goals, including Cornell University, Boston University, and all 10 schools in the University of California System.

In order to build on the progress that has been made and ensure that we transition to a clean and renewable future, we call on the higher education sector to:

- Make a clear commitment to achieve 100 percent renewable energy for all operations -- including heating, cooling, and transportation -- no later than 2050.
- Set a benchmark of achieving 100 percent renewable electricity no later than 2035.

We thank our nation's universities for their leadership to date and stand ready to help achieve 100 percent renewable energy and put America on a path to a truly clean energy future.

Sincerely,

Brian Hermann  
Associate Professor  
Department of Biology  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Hongjie Xie  
Professor  
Department of Geological Sciences  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Nicole Frame  
Adjunct Professor  
Department of Sociology  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Nazan Ssygin  
Lecturer  
Department of Biology  
University of Texas at San Antonio

James Rogers  
Lecturer I  
Department of Biology  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Matt Spottswood  
Lecturer II  
Department of Biology  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Ritu Mathur  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Political Science & Geography  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Patricio Santamaria  
Lecturer  
Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering  
University of Texas at San Antonio

John Joseph  
Lecturer  
Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Ashley Denney  
Lecturer  
Department of Communications  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Lindsay Ratcliffe  
Lecturer  
Writing Program  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Stephen Ackley  
Res Assoc Professor  
Department of Geological Sciences  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Juyan Zhang  
Associate Professor  
Department of Communication  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Chris Dunn  
Lab Services Supervisor II  
Department of Physics & Astronomy  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Aaron Cassill  
Professor  
Department of Biology  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Betty Travis  
Professor Emeritus  
Department of Mathematics  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Martha Lundell  
Professor  
Department of Biology  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Robert Rivas  
Laboratory Services Supervisor II  
Department of Biology  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Weiming Cao  
Associate Professor  
Department of Mathematics  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Dmitry Gokhman  
Associate Professor  
Department of Mathematics  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Igor Halfin  
Lecturer II  
Department of Mathematics  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Edwin Barea  
Professor  
Department of Biology  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Carlos Acevedo  
Lecturer  
Department of Mathematics  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Shannon Janssen  
Management Analyst  
Department of Biology  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Felix Almanza  
Assistant Director Fiscal Admin  
Department of Biology  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Judith Espinoza  
Staff  
Department of Biology  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Mary Helen Mays  
Staff  
Depts. of COS and VPR  
University of Texas at San Antonio

George Negrete  
Professor  
Department of Chemistry  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Michael Doyle  
Professor  
Department of Chemistry  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Ahmad Majad  
Graduate Research Assistant  
Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Esra'a Alrashaydh  
Graduate Research Assistant  
Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Santiago Longoria  
Lecturer  
Writing Program  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Phil West  
Lecturer  
Writing Program  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Karen Jensen  
Lecturer II  
Writing Program  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Suzanne Tanaka  
Admin Manager  
Dept. of Information Systems & Cyber Security  
University of Texas at San Antonio

James Benson  
Technology Research Assistant  
Dept. of Information Systems & Cyber Security  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Melody Hensley  
Senior Admin Associate  
Dept. of Information Systems & Cyber Security  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Rita Mitra  
Associate Professor in Production  
Dept. of Information Systems & Cyber Security  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Savannah Bernal  
Student Assistant I  
Dept. of Information Systems & Cyber Security  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Sumoia Mohammed  
Administrative Assistant  
Dept. of Information Systems & Cyber Security  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Susan Allen  
Administrative Assistant II  
Department of Computer Science  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Dakai Zhu  
Professor  
Department of Computer Science  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Han Wang  
Post Doc  
Department of Computer Science  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Melissa May  
Director of Communications  
Department of Business Affairs  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Myrna Paulino  
Senior Administrative Assistant  
Department of Business Affairs  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Tatiana Layman  
Student Clerk II  
Department of Business Affairs  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Jason Vasquez  
Management Analyst  
Office of the Vice President for Research  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Eliot Howard  
Associate Director  
Student Leadership Center  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Heather Foster  
Executive Assistant  
Department of Business Affairs  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Julian Chavez  
Research Science Associate I  
Department of Environmental Science & Ecology  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Matthias Hofferberth  
Associate Professor  
Department of Political Science & Geography  
University of Texas at San Antonio

Christopher Ellison  
Dean's Distinguished Professor of Social Science  
Department of Sociology  
University of Texas at San Antonio