

Environmental Sustainability Committee (ESC)

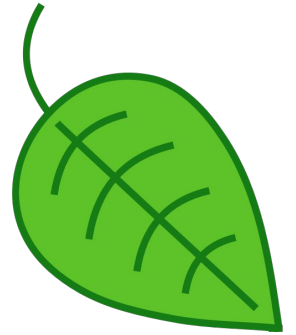
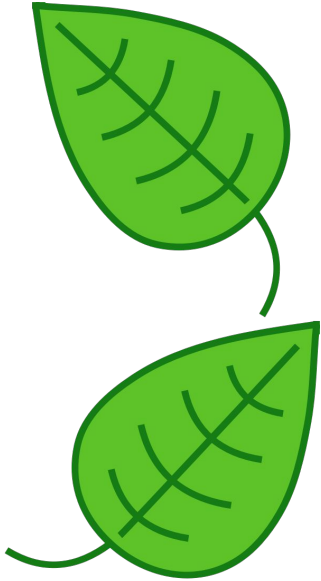
PCAB, April 2026

Dean Leavitt, Biology

Michelle Rodriguez, Political Science

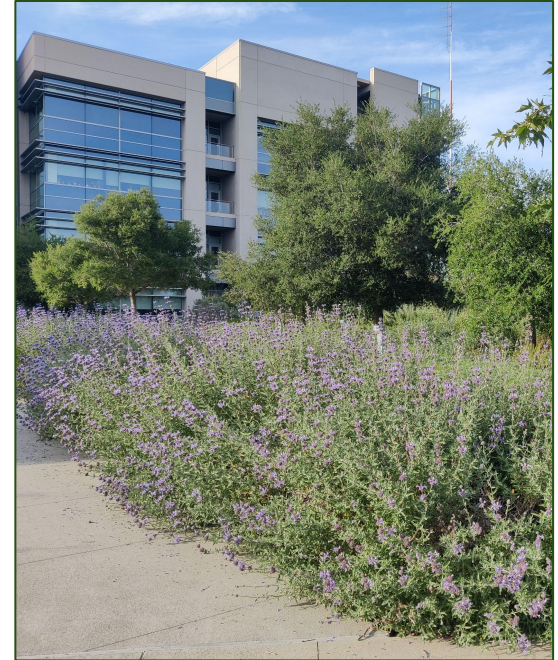
Kyle Winnick, student intern

Duy Nguyen, student intern









Committee Goals

1. Identify, develop, and implement **initiatives that improve environmental sustainability on campus**, including Mesa's Climate Action Plan.
2. Raise awareness of **environmental justice**, of the equity implications of climate change, and of other environmental issues on campus and in the community.
3. Sponsor campus **events and activities** that support environmental sustainability.
4. Promote interdisciplinary cooperation and inclusion of environmental sustainability topics into the **curriculum**.
5. Help students identify "**Green**" career paths.



Highlights from this year - LEAF curriculum program

-  LEAF approved curriculum: environmental justice, environmental sustainability, climate change
-  New courses this year - Social Psychology, Globalization and Social Change, Fashion Photo Styling
-  Developed Canvas shell repository for faculty
-  Campus workshops - Catalyst
-  Statewide presentations - C3 Converge and ASCCC
-  Steps to institutionalization - icons in schedule and META

Welcome to the SDCCD LEAF Site

Highlights from this year: District-wide Collaboration

Monthly District Sustainability Committee meeting

Involvement in district policies, such as:

- Purchasing & waste management contracts

- Building standards

- District native plant resolution implementation

Developed District Environmental Sustainability Survey

Worked with district faculty on the SDCCD LEAF program



Highlights from this year - MIP intern work on STARS report for CAP

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE
Climate Action Plan
Equity • Environment • Economy

- CAP goal - Gold STARS rating from AASHE - now a CCC BOG goal
- District pays membership fees
- Hired MIP interns to:
 - Help gather data
 - Develop projects
 - Learn transferable skills for businesses complying with CA requirement to report emissions



The Association for the Advancement
of Sustainability in Higher Education



The Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System

(STARS) is a transparent, self-reporting framework for colleges and universities to measure their sustainability performance.

Kyle

STARS report

EN 6: Community Partnerships

- Community partnerships with several orgs to increase garden yields directly addressing food insecurity rate among Mesa students.
- Additional collaborations to empower students, restore local habitats, and develop trails to bridge gap between environmental knowledge and community stewardship.
- Special priority to underserved populations, including BIPOC, first-generation through paid internships,

OP 8: Food Recovery

- Culinary minimizes waste through budget controls, managing scraps via composting and distributing remaining items.
- Dining program digital tracking system monitors for operational improvement, prioritizing composting while adhering to safety regulations that may prevent food donation.
- The Stand minimizes waste through partnerships with SD Food Bank & Feeding San Diego, rare organic surpluses are composted.

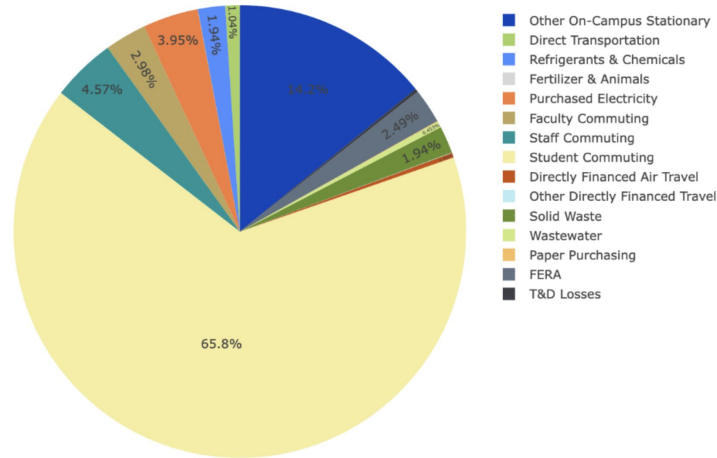
Kyle

GHG emissions inventory Scope 3 emissions

- Scope 3 emissions: largest portion of carbon footprint 49K+ metric tons
- Commuting is the dominant source, 73.35% of 2022 emissions
 - a. Goals for transit passes, expand bike infrastructure.
- Measured using SIMAP to help the District reach carbon neutrality by 2035

2022 GHG Inventory Summary

Carbon: 2022



Duy

The Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) Reports

- **AC-1: Sustainability Course Offerings:** encourage faculty members and academic departments to integrate sustainability into the curriculum.
- **AC-3: Undergraduate Program:** promote the implementation of sustainability-based requirements for candidates who pursue the Associate's degrees and vocational certificates.

Transit - Inequitable Difference in Cost

- Parking Permit: \$40/semester (or \$25/semester for students eligible for financial aid)
- Bus Pass: \$57.60/month or \$181/semester



Duy

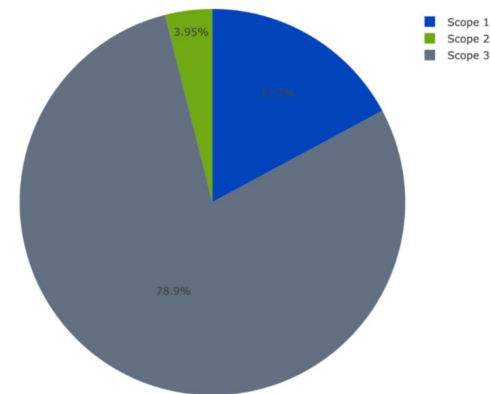
Scope 1 Emissions

- Greenhouse gases that are released by burning energy sources on campus, including natural gas, fuel cell, fertilizers, and refrigerants.
- As of 2022, scope 1 emission accounts for 17.2% of districtwide emissions.

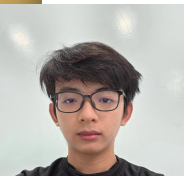
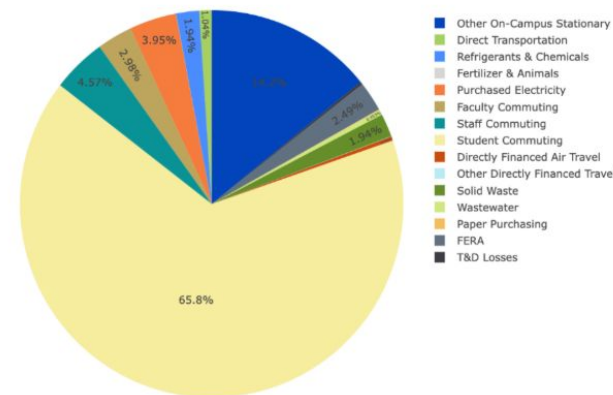
Scope 2 Emissions

- Greenhouse gases from energy sources that are brought into campus, including electricity.
- As of 2022, scope 2 emission accounts for 3.5% of districtwide emissions.

Carbon: 2022



Carbon: 2022



ESC focus in 2026-27



Analyze Environmental Sustainability Survey

Advance Transit Justice - celebrate and support students who ride the bus to campus

Reopen Mesa Woodland Trail - living laboratory + wellness space

Continue to work with MIP interns on STARS report

Build LEAF - new courses and support

Sha Environmental Sustainability Coordinators at district and/or colleges

Join us for Earth Day tomorrow!