

Alumni Action...

As scientists and engineers, we understand the basic principles of physics and chemistry that make climate change a fundamentally scientific issue, and we despair at the anti-science rhetoric employed to delay action on climate change mitigation.

Many alumni are certainly keen to contribute their talents to tackling the barriers to a clean energy transition. In order to harness our skills and energy towards this goal, a group of alumni from diverse backgrounds have come together over the past year to form MIT Alumni for Climate Action Leadership (MITACAL). We believe that by joining together we can be much more effective in pushing MIT to adopt the recommendations of the Climate Change Conversation Committee Report and advocate for other bold actions at local, national, and global levels. Our vision is to become an informational hub for fellow alumni and a force multiplier for inspiring MIT to lead on this critical issue.

What can Alumni Club and Affinity Leaders do?

We at MITACAL recognize that many reunion organizers represent specific interest groups within the MIT community. While climate change is an issue which affects us all, different aspects of the challenge (e.g., technological innovation, fighting disinformation, moral leadership) may resonate more strongly with different groups. We are happy to work with group leaders to identify those focus points and tailor outreach that speaks to your members.

Alumni Leaders...

As a starting point, we encourage all group leaders to tell their members about MIT's climate efforts and encourage them to plug into the resources MITACAL has available.

Finally, we hope group leaders will share information about the [Multi-School Divestment Fund](#) with their members as an alternative alumni donation portal for climate-conscious alums.



Important MITACAL Info

email: info@mitacal.org
website: www.mitacal.org
Twitter: twitter.com/mitacal
Facebook: www.facebook.com/mitacal
LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/mit-academy-for-climate-action-leadership>
DivestFund: www.divestfund.org



MITACAL | ∞

MIT Alumni for Climate Action Leadership

www.mitacal.org

STEP 1 Acknowledge the Problem



Extreme Weather Events

Food Production

As the preeminent science institution, we demand MIT take the lead in addressing the climate threat

Infrastructure Maintenance

SCIENCE IS CLEAR!

STEP 2 Track What MIT is Doing



MIT Leadership

WHAT CAN MIT DO?

STAND UP TO THE DENIERS!

Cutting-Edge Research & Innovation

We are excited about the C4 report and are expecting President Reif to implement its recommendations.

Implement C4 Report

Divest from Fossil Fuels

STEP 3 Be the Change



What can Alumni DO?

Join MITACAL!

Network

Help us accelerate MIT's transformation into a global climate leader. We are ready to roll up our sleeves and pitch in.

Donate to the DIVESTFUND

URGE MIT!

Human-caused climate change is an existential threat to life on our planet. As a preeminent science and technology institution, MIT can be no less than a major global leader in addressing that threat. Our goal as alumni is to help accelerate MIT's transformation into such a leadership position. We are excited about the C4 report and are expecting a strong commitment from President Reif to implement key elements of the report. As alums, we are ready to roll up our sleeves and pitch in.

Climate Change

Why is Climate Change so Important?

Climate change represents a departure from the "normal" state of Earth's climate, which has supported human civilization for millennia. Increases in the frequency and/or magnitude of extreme weather events such as droughts, hurricanes, blizzards, heat waves and coastal flooding, and shifts in the geographic ranges of plants and animals will have cascading effects throughout human society.



Challenges to water availability, food crop production, and infrastructure maintenance will place growing stress on our economic and political systems which sustain commerce and human well-being. The longer society waits to make the changes required to our energy system by decreasing fossil fuel emissions, the more negative impacts we will experience.

We are at a juncture where bold, decisive action to curb emissions can help avert the worst consequences of climate change. Individuals and institutions must exercise their maximum leverage to bring about the political, economic, and technological innovations that can transform our fossil fuel-based society to a green energy society focused on the long-term sustainability of human and environmental well-being.



What is MIT doing?

MIT has taken some important steps towards promoting the green energy transition. Before climate change was a buzzword, researchers across MIT departments were investigating cutting-edge technologies of non-fossil-fuel energy production and more sustainable economic models. The creation of the MIT Energy Initiative and the Sloan Sustainability Initiative in 2006, the launch of the Climate CoLab in 2009, and the Climate Change Conversation in 2014 are prominent examples of MIT's commitment towards a clean energy future.

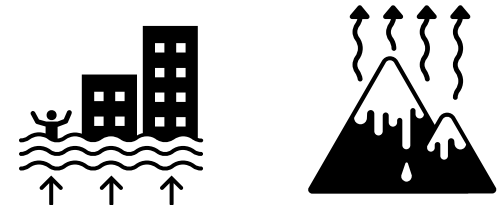
Through the Climate Change Conversation, the MIT administration sought input from the MIT community. Throughout the fall 2014 semester, seminars, discussion groups, and an online Idea Bank solicited ideas from the community. Other events, such as a debate on fossil fuel divestment focused on encouraging students, faculty, and alumni to engage in the conversation.

During the Spring 2015 semester, a committee prepared a report based on these activities. Their recommendations include implementing a campus-wide carbon price, creating a Climate Institute, transforming the campus into a "Living Laboratory" for climate mitigation and energy efficiency, implementing targeted divestment from fossil fuel operations which most endanger climate health (such as coal and tar sands), and the formation of an Ethics Advisory Council to "explicitly combat disinformation and avoid inadvertently supporting disinformation through investments." A formal response to the report from President Reif is anticipated in Fall 2015.

What more can MIT do?

Set an example by making the changes internally that governments around the world need to implement

- Actively promote emissions reduction legislation in state and federal government
- Implement a media campaign calling out science disinformation and its impact on climate (in)action
- Seek out non-fossil fuel sponsors and board members of MITEI
- Discuss climate action and campus resilience at Executive Committee meetings



What can Alumni do?

By joining the MITACAL network and mobilizing fellow alumni to speak up, we can move MIT in the right direction together. MIT alumni are innovators and leaders in the fields of science, technology, management, economics, and policy.



Many alumni are respected authorities on issues at the intersection of science and public policy.