Sustainable Foodservice at the University of California

Sapna E. Thottathil
Associate Director of Sustainability
UC Office of the President
A single university can have an annual food budget of several millions of dollars.
• 10 campuses
• 5 medical centers
• 3 national laboratories
• 150 academic disciplines
• 600 graduate degree programs
• 238,700 students
• 198,300 employees
• 1.7 million living alumni
• 61 Nobel laureates
• 20,000 UC extension courses
• 430,000 jobs supported
• $46.3 billion contributed to California economy
“At UC we combine education, research, operational sustainability, cutting-edge entrepreneurship, and public service in a way that uniquely positions us to help take on both the local and global challenges of climate change.”

— UC President Janet Napolitano, 2016 UC Annual Report on Sustainable Practices

Since the opening of its first campus in 1868, the University of California system has been committed to responsible stewardship of its resources and education and innovation for the public good. Today, its 10 campuses and five medical centers are nationally recognized living laboratories of sustainability. From directly investing in a sustainable future to innovating climate solutions, UC is working to ensure that students have a healthy environment in which to learn for generations to come.

https://www.ucop.edu/sustainability/
2025
Carbon Neutrality Goal (10 campuses + 5 health systems)

5th
Largest generator of renewables in the U.S.

88
on-site projects and 5 off-site

ANNUAL REPORT: HTTPS://WWW.UCOP.EDU/SUSTAINABILITY/
>$33.5 Million

Spent by UC locations on Local and Sustainable food in FY 2017-18
UC Structure of Sustainability
Sustainable Foodservice Policy

20%

UC goal for sustainable food spend by 2020
Thank you

Sapna E. Thottathil
sapna.thottathil@ucop.edu