

Organization Name: Office of Campus Sustainability, Georgia Tech

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Organization Mission: Working across all units and academic partners, OCS's role is to ensure Georgia Tech "walks the talk" of sustainability in its own culture and actions. OCS is concrete in our alignment and aspirations to meet the intent of the Institute Strategic Plan Vision. OCS's purpose and approach aligns around the strategic plan overarching themes to exemplify meaningful sustainability leadership in higher education.

Social Innovation Statement: OCS's work, and this project, are directly tied to "systems change" elements of social innovation. As a climate change-focused project, the student will be helping OCS manage information that inspires the GT leadership and campus community about the most innovative ways to reduce its carbon footprint. GT's carbon impact has ripples (and even waves) across the greater Atlanta area too. This project will help GT more fully embrace that impact for positive change.

Internship Semester: Summer 2021

Project Title #1: Tracking and Reporting Georgia Tech's Scope 3 Emissions

Keywords: Data, Analysis, Visualization

SLS Priority Issue Areas: Climate Change, UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Priority SDGs: Sustainable Cities and Communities (11), Responsible Consumption and Production (12), Climate Action (13)

Project Background: OCS annually tracks and reports the greenhouse gas inventory for Georgia Tech. This is a required reporting process through Second Nature and our Carbon Neutrality commitment by 2050. A GHG report includes data and total carbon outlays for three types of emissions - Scopes 1, 2, and 3. Scope 3 emissions are those that are indirect emissions created by the operations and activities of the organization. Examples include: 1) business air travel, (2) study abroad air travel, (3) daily commute trips, (4) procurement and vendor delivery, (5) solid waste services, (6) food consumption, and (7) embodied carbon in construction. Currently, in partnership with the Center for Global Change, OCS is able to track only #1 and #3 listed above through real and representative sample data approaches, meaning we don't have a full picture of the total Scope 3 emissions attributed to GT's actions. Last year's intern developed a comprehensive approach to collect the daily commute trips. This year's project will build on this work to round out the ability for Georgia Tech to report and develop data methodologies to capture these missing impacts. The student's work will help analyze the potential prioritization of Scope 3 emissions OCS should track, research and evaluate peer examples/best practices for reporting Scope 3 emissions, and will work with data owners at GT to collect raw data for analysis. The intern will work as a team member with OCS staff. They will be coached in weekly 1-1 meetings with OCS Associate Director and project team meetings as needed with OCS staff and relevant data owners. Data analysis will mostly be done independently.

Project Timeline: The intern's work will build on existing data collection methodologies and approaches to round-out the institute's ability to understand our organizational carbon impact. This work never ends, but will fill a valuable gap in the picture we need to see.

Desired skills and qualifications: Data analysis/strong excel; Strong oral and written communication; Initiative and self-starting

Deliverables: Summary report - Outlining methodology, data collection approaches, and report of data results; Written reflection on experience working with OCS in the summer internship.