

Cornell Center for a Sustainable Future

Sustainably Energizing New York's Creative Core

SUNY ESF July 16, 2008

President Skorton's Priorities

- **Campus Operations: Climate Commitment**

Can the campus become sustainable?

Reduce its carbon footprint to zero?

▶ www.sustainablecampus.cornell.edu

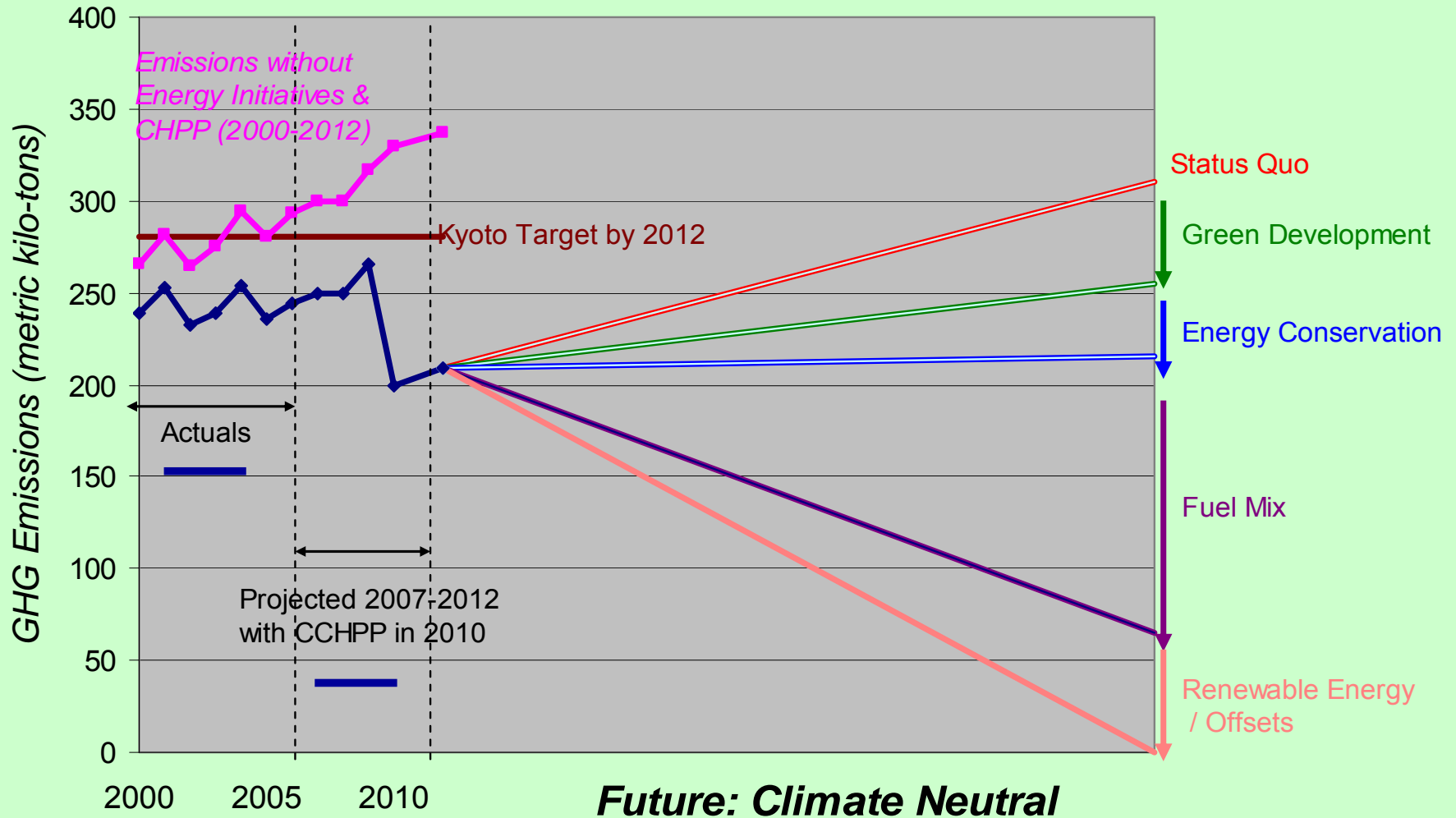
- **Campus Leadership: Global Impact**

Can we help nucleate new activities and seek synergies between existing programs?

Can we more effectively connect results of academic scholarship & education to the world?

▶ www.sustainablefuture.cornell.edu

Setting a Climate Goal



Cornell Center for a Sustainable Future

- Focus on three interconnected & interdependent themes:
 - Energy
 - New Sources, Conservation & Efficiency, Global Climate Change, Adaptation & Mitigation, New Businesses, ...
 - Environment
 - Biodiversity, Water, Agriculture, Resource Management, Buildings to Cities, ...
 - Economic Development
 - Poverty, Food & Water Systems, Infrastructure, Capacity Building, Institutions, Education,

CCSF Mission

- Create real-world solutions to sustainability problems
 - Coordinate, leverage, and amplify Cornell research
 - Several dozen centers and institutes
 - Over 300 faculty on campus in sustainability
 - This is a large investment in people, space and resources
 - Foster partnerships with external collaborators that can employ advances/findings of CU research in addressing world challenges.
 - Government, industry, foundations, NGOs, other orgs
- Campus-wide: all colleges – systems approach
 - Agriculture; Architecture, Art & Planning; Arts & Sciences; Engineering; Hotel Administration; Human Ecology, Industrial and Labor Relations, Law, Johnson School, Medical College, Veterinary Medicine

Center Programs

- Faculty hires, bridging and retention
- Enhance cross E Research
- Alliances with Strategic Partners
- Communication and Visibility

- Educational Programs
- Outreach and Public Engagement

Center Challenges and Opportunities

Annual Budget for Programs: 2.8 M\$

- Connect related activities at Cornell: synergy
- Address interconnected nature of the 3 E's: system approach
- Establish teams for large collaborative response to opportunities
- Enhance internal & external visibility in sustainability arena
- Provide potential external partners easy entry to Cornell
- Optimize “return on investment” in sustainability

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