

## **Colgate University Green Building Standards**

*John Pumilio, Director of Sustainability, Colgate University*

### **ABSTRACT**

In January 2014, Colgate University completed its campus master plan. It had been more than 20 years since Colgate last undertook a master plan of its built environment and land holdings. Therefore, the master plan determined how to best meet the university's academic mission, future campus needs, and commitment to sustainability through the ongoing evolution of our physical space. As we move into the implementation phase, the process is underway to construct a new athletic facility, a new cultural arts center, new residence halls for students, and a new career services building. These and other projects amount to what is perhaps the most aggressive transformation of campus in the university's 200 year history. Colgate also has an institutional commitment to achieve carbon neutrality by 2019. Minimizing or neutralizing the amount of energy each new or renovated building requires through high-performance design will help Colgate manage future energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions. While Colgate is committed to achieving LEED certification for all new construction and major renovations, we did not have a design and construction process that was in line with our sustainability and carbon neutrality goals. Last summer (2014), the university charged a Green Building Standards working group to develop a set of comprehensive standards that allow a consistent and coordinated design and construction process essential to developing high-performing, sustainable buildings on campus. During this presentation, we will highlight some of the standards that will fundamentally transform the way we design, construct, and renovate buildings on campus.

### **BIOGRAPHY**

A native of Central New York, John Pumilio received his bachelor's degree in environmental and forest biology from ESF at Syracuse University and graduate degree from The Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington. In April 2009, John became Colgate University's first Director of Sustainability. Since coming to Colgate, the university has been able to reduce its carbon footprint by 20 percent and shave over \$500,000 off its annual operating budget through energy and water conservation and efficiency programs. In 2011, John led the university's climate action planning effort that committed Colgate to climate neutrality by 2019. These efforts have resulted in Colgate receiving the 2011 National Climate Leadership Award from Second Nature.