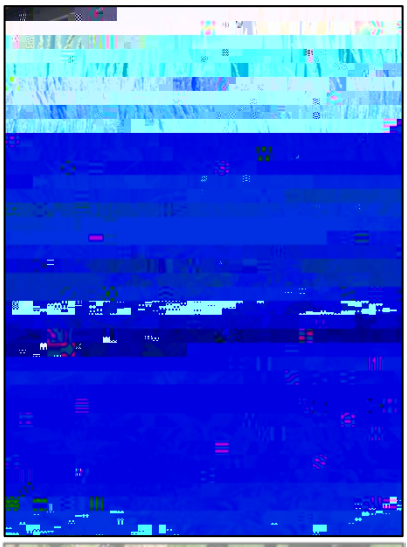
Saint Louis University
Greenhouse Gas Inventory
Executive Summary

FY2015



Introduction

A greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory is a comprehensive analysis of all emissions created from used energy by an institution. Greenhouse gases are gases which absorb radiated heat in the atmosphere. As the gases absorb heat, the atmospheric temperature rises. This creates climate change. The most common and impactful greenhouse gases are carbon dioxide (CO_2), methane (CH_4), and nitrous oxide (N_2O).

The tool used to complete the greenhouse gas inventory, is the Carbon Management and Analysis Platform. This online tool measures SLU's emissions from six primary greenhouse gases:

- Carbon dioxide (CO_2)
- Methane (CH_4)
- Nitrous oxide (N_2O)
- Hydrofluorocarbons (HFC)
- Perfluorocarbons (PFC)

Summary Statistics

FY15 Metrics	

Emissions by Scope

Comparisons

When compared to the city of St. Louis, Missouri, SLU's FY15 emissions contribute roughly 0.2% to the total measured emissions of St. Louis emissions for calendar year 2010. The city of St. Louis measured emissions in two groups: community emission and government emissions. These combined emissions equal 7,857,132 mtCO_2e. SLU's campus is 271 acres. The city of St. Louis is 42,240 acres. SLU accounts for 0.6% of the total city's acreage.

Compared to inventories of other universities, SLU's emissions are higher than the average. Some possible reasons for higher emissions are related to a) an older building portfolio compared to other higher education institutions, b) energy-intense medical and research spaces, c) regional fuel sources that are primarily coal-based, and d) regional climate patterns which reach temperature extremes throughout the year.