



EMORY  
COLLEGE  
OF ARTS AND  
SCIENCES

Creating the  
next generation  
of climate  
leaders.



A few members of the Emory COP21 delegation with Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed

# Support Emory's Delegation to the UN Climate Change Negotiation

In Emory College of Arts and Sciences, experiential learning is an essential part of our mission. Emory was accredited as an official observer to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2014, providing a unique opportunity for undergraduate students to participate in these annual international negotiations of significance. Emory delegations have attended the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UNFCCC since 2015.

The goal of Emory's UN Climate Change Conference delegation program is to send 10 to 15 students and 1 to 2 faculty members each year to the UN COP. As a part of the Emory COP delegation and related initiatives, participating students complete an interdisciplinary course that emphasizes collaboration, science and policy knowledge, communication skills, and community advocacy.

## WHAT IS THE UNFCCC?

- ▶ Ratified in 1992, it is the first global treaty addressing climate change, which created this body and meets yearly to discuss progress and take bold action.
- ▶ The Kyoto Protocol and more recent Paris Agreement are other landmark treaties that have come out of these annual meetings.
- ▶ Emory sent delegations to COP21 in Paris, France in 2015 and COP22 in Marrakech, Morocco in 2016.

## CLOSE THE GAP: SUPPORT THE EMORY UN COP DELEGATION

At Emory, we do not want opportunities like the UN Climate Change Conference delegation to be limited only to students with the means to finance an overseas trip. We aim to build delegations that are diverse in terms of socio-economic status, race and ethnicity, research interests, and other aspects of background and identity. This diversity creates an eye-opening experience for the students and faculty involved, as well as ensures that we are showcasing the best Emory has to offer. We believe that any qualified students with a passion for combating climate change should have the opportunity to represent Emory on the world stage. Support from alumni and friends is crucial in ensuring Emory has the resources necessary to fund the delegations.

## WHY HAVE A DELEGATION?

Emory is one of only 50 American universities with official observer status at the COP each year. Emory and Duke University are the only schools representing the southeastern United States. As a top institution for public health, scientific research, and law, Emory is a valuable addition to the RINGO (Research Institutions and Non-Governmental Organizations) constituency at the UNFCCC. After only two years attending the COP, Emory has gained new research partnerships and ideas, presented our research to large international audiences, and made connections with NGOs, businesses, and policymakers.

### Visit our website for more information:

[envs.emory.edu/home/climate-emory/](https://envs.emory.edu/home/climate-emory/)

### For questions or to support the delegation, please contact:

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# A once in a lifetime opportunity to participate in the UN Climate Change negotiations

## MAE BOWEN 16C

“There is only so much you can learn about the process of negotiating an international agreement from a textbook. Attending the COP expanded my knowledge of the painstaking process of crafting these treaties. My appreciation for this process changed my entire academic and professional trajectory. I’ve always known that I wanted to enter public service and protect the environment, but this invaluable experience convinced me to enter law school on my way to combatting climate change on an international scale. It was truly inspiring to see that 195 nations, despite immeasurable differences, could come together and make progress on an issue which many believe to be impossible to fix. Now, I have hope.”



## JENNIE SUN 15OX 17C

“The COP 22 experience was beyond any knowledge learning process in class. It was really impactful to see that people from different parts of the world are actually struggling with various problems caused by climate change and that they are advocating for their rights and a greater attention.”



## EMORY STUDENTS AT COP

At the UN COP, Emory focuses on creating a unique growth experience geared mostly toward undergraduate students. Emory has taken the flexible and creative approach of allowing students to propose individual projects based on their interests. The interdisciplinary course prepares students for the climate negotiation, and delegations will have ample opportunity to take action on climate change on the Emory campus and surrounding communities after their trip.

## EMILY LI 17C

“COP isn't your average conference--it's not just attending talks (by NASA scientists and government policy-makers), brainstorming in panels (about combatting climate skepticism, with youth activists from around the world), or networking (with global leaders in climate science research). The event is a testament to the widespread, prevailing nature of climate change, which is just as much ingrained in the feathers on the traditional garb of Native Americans discussing environmental justice, in the sculptures inspired by climate disasters, and in every bite of sustainable chocolate. For me, COP was all that and more--the opportunity to learn first-hand how world leaders, policymakers, and activists are approaching climate change so that in the future I, too, can be part of that solution.”



## TAYLOR MCNAIR 16B

“COP21 in Paris was undoubtedly the defining experience of my Emory education. The opportunity I received to meet and engage with academics, activists, business leaders, and politicians across the world had a profound impact on my post-graduation plans, and gave me the drive and resources to pursue opportunities in the cleantech industry.”



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