

Audience Breakdown

389

Attendees

108

Speakers

15

Campus &
Community
Partners

19

Sponsors &
Exhibitors

Attendees by Location

267

Washington

83

Oregon

23

Other

Attendees by Category



Student
26%



Sustainability
Department | **15%**



Instructional
Faculty | **12%**



Student
Affairs | **6%**



Architecture/Construction/
Engineering | **6%**

Other | **35%**

Attendees by School

- University of Washington - 73
- Oregon State University - 44
- Central Washington University - 27
- Portland Community College - 23
- University of Oregon - 17
- Bellevue College - 14
- Seattle Colleges - 13
- Western Washington University - 13
- Evergreen State College - 10
- Seattle University - 10
- Lake Washington Institute of Technology - 10
- Whatcom Community College - 10
- South Seattle College - 9
- Portland State University - 7
- Cascadia College - 6
- Olympic College - 6
- Gonzaga University - 5
- University of California, Santa Cruz - 5
- University of Idaho - 5
- Reed College - 4
- Lane Community College - 3
- Pacific University - 3
- Wenatchee Valley College - 3
- Tacoma Community College - 3
- Boise State University - 2
- University of Puget Sound - 2
- Washington State University - 2
- Everett Community College - 1
- Lewis & Clark College - 1
- Whitman University - 1
- Cal Poly Humboldt - 1
- Georgia College & State University - 1
- Highline College - 1
- Prescott College - 1
- San Diego State University - 1
- Scripps College - 1
- Shoreline Community College - 1
- South Puget Sound Community College - 1
- The Northwest School - 1
- The University of Arizona - 1
- University of California Office of the President - 1
- University of California, Riverside - 1
- University of Minnesota - 1
- Walla Walla Community College - 1

Program

Conference Theme:

Still We Rise

This year's gathering, centered on the theme **Still We Rise**, brought together students, faculty, staff, and community partners committed to advancing sustainability and climate justice across higher education. Through inspiring keynotes, student-led sessions, interactive tours and collaborative discussions, participants explored resilience and the power of collective action with intergenerational leadership. Together, we examined how institutions can navigate today's challenges while building more equitable, regenerative, and community-centered campuses. Attendees left with practical tools, renewed momentum and strengthened relationships to continue moving sustainability forward across the Cascadia region and beyond.

Our 2026 Program Included:

3
Keynotes



30 Breakout
Sessions



2 Plenaries



4 Tours



1 Sustainability
Action Challenge



"For my first conference, WOHESC raised my expectations for what is expected from a student in a professional environment. Participating in the Sustainability Action Challenge, showed that we can take a larger part in conferences and allowed us to apply what we have previously learned as well as information we learned at the conference. I would 1000% recommend everyone to go to WOHESC!"

—2026 WOHESC Attendee



Waste
Management &
Recycling



Architecture



Green
Transportation



Construction &
Building



Energy
Management



Food Service



Janitorial
Supply

"A must for all higher ed sustainability professionals"

—2026 WOHESC Attendee

Thank You 2026 Sponsors



UW Sustainability



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MACKENZIE.

MITHŪN



ELLENOS



Campus & Community Partners



"My experience at WOHESC 2026 was extremely positive and full of learning, light, and hope. I returned to my university with a new perspective, ideas for improvements, and a renewed sense of love for the work I'm doing. All of the people I met at WOHESC were wonderful and I'm thankful I was able to attend."

—2026 WOHESC Attendee

Sustainability Report

University of Washington - WOHESC 2026 Host Campus

The University of Washington is a leader in higher education sustainability. The UW's sustainability vision calls for sustainability to be interwoven in all aspects of the University, including scholarship, service, operations, public health and community. The UW is currently updating our Sustainability Action Plan, which will set goals and drive our future sustainability efforts.

The UW has begun the process of decarbonizing the energy system on our Seattle campus, which will convert our heating from a natural-gas driven steam system to an electrical hot-water system. The University also adopted a comprehensive Green Building Standard in 2024, setting out sustainability requirements for all construction and renovation projects.

A few other recent sustainability efforts include:

- Completing the University's first comprehensive Greenhouse Gas Inventory, including a full Scope 3 accounting.
- Creating an ad hoc committee of staff and faculty to create a policy proposal that calls for developing a University-wide program to reduce and mitigate emissions.
- Starting the Huskies for Equitable Sustainability (HuES) program, a new opportunity for students to actively engage in the UW's sustainability efforts, organized by UW Sustainability. HuES features monthly sessions with information on a specific sustainability topic and efforts at the UW.
- UW Athletics introducing a pilot reusable cup program for basketball and volleyball games this past season

Conference venue: Husky Student Union (HUB)

The Husky Union Building (HUB) is a certified LEED Gold building, with many sustainability features incorporated into a 2012 renovation that completely transformed the interior of the 260,000 square-foot building. The HUB's open, inviting spaces also contribute to energy efficiency, utilizing natural lighting and air circulation. During the renovation, 95% of the material from the old building was reused or recycled. Examples can be seen in the downstairs bowling alley, where wood from the old lanes was refashioned into items such as benches. Water bottle refill stations on each floor encourage reusable bottle use, and 3D waste signage helps keep recyclables and compost out of the landfill. Learn more about the HUB's sustainability features.

The HUB houses many student resources, including the Student Activities Office, Commuter Student Commons, Q Center (LGBTQ+ student resource center), D Center (Disability and Deaf Cultural Center), and many more. The ASUW Bike Shop on the ground floor is a student-run shop providing maintenance and repair services along with bike products.

Bold Reuse Return Rates

- Cups - 96.65%
- Small Bowls - 95.80%
- Silverware - 99.20%
- Plate - 98.50%
- Total - 97.80%

[Read OSU's WOHESC 2026 Recap here](#)

[Read UW's WOHESC 2026 Recap here](#)

See You All in 2027!

March 3-5, 2027



the
evergreen
state college

Get involved with WOHESC! Contact us at info@wohesc.org or 1.855.740.8417