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In Support

University of Dayton

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President Daniel J. Curran has joined more than 170 Catholic college and university leaders from around the globe in signing a statement in support of Pope Francis' leadership on climate change and social justice.

Pope Francis is expected to continue his message, first laid out in his recent encyclical Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home, during his historic visit to the United States this week.
In the letter, Curran and the other leaders pledge to work collaboratively “through all the means available to and appropriate for our colleges and universities as institutions of higher learning, to study, promote, and act on the ideals and vision of integral ecology laid out by Pope Francis.”

“This strong affirmation by the Catholic higher education leadership internationally, joined with the overwhelming consensus of the scientific community, should silence those who try to dismiss Pope Francis’ message by questioning his credibility on the issues,” said Christopher Kerr, executive director of the Ignatian Solidarity Network, which coordinated the higher education commitment effort.

The full statement can be read at the related link.

Founded in 1850 by the Society of Mary and now the largest private university in Ohio, the University of Dayton, through the Hanley Sustainability Institute, takes a comprehensive approach to sustainability in academics, research, service, community responsibility and leadership programs. A member of the American College and University Presidents’ Climate Commitment, which pledges the University will become carbon neutral by 2050, the University of Dayton is listed in The Princeton Review’s Guide to 322 Green Colleges. The University has also earned a silver STARS rating from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education. In June 2014, the University became the first U.S. Catholic university to divest from fossil fuels as part of its overall sustainability initiatives and in alignment with its social justice mission.