



DISSOCIATE NOW
A FOSSIL FREE BROWN

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



September 6th, 2022: A storm slammed into Rhode Island. The Ocean State was inundated with 11 inches of rain as city streets turned into rivers. Floodwaters clawed apart asphalt, multiple major roads shut down, and a building collapsed in Providence's West End.¹ Over the last half-century, Rhode Island has been devastated by a 104% increase in heavy downpours, nearly double that of the next closest state.² Just two months earlier, sweltering heat in the third-driest July on record sent at least twenty-four people to the emergency room and killed at least one individual.^{3,4} **The climate crisis is here.**

The fossil fuel industry knew this would happen. In the 1970s, Exxon scientists determined that the company's business model would create world-altering climate change. Rather than pivot away from fossil fuels, the industry chose to embark on a disinformation crusade to protect their profits by convincing the public and policymakers to look the other

way.⁵ According to Harvard professor Naomi Oreskes, a preeminent scholar of science history and corporate public relations, the fossil fuel industry has systematically misled the public by discrediting climate science, manufacturing controversy over the reality of climate change, and promoting false solutions.⁶ Moreover, individuals who made their fortunes in fossil fuels have contributed enormous sums to these disinformation campaigns, such as Charles and David Koch.⁷

For its part, Brown asserts that environmental sustainability "is part of everything we do, from the way we operate our campus, to what we teach in the classroom, to our research around the world."⁸ Its Sustainability Strategic Plan emphasizes the university's commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving human health, and adopting pragmatic solutions.⁹ Yet Brown is rife with financial and social ties to the fossil fuel industry.



Since 2010, Brown-affiliated authors have published at least **63 journal articles** with funding from the world's fifty largest oil and gas companies. The top research sponsors are **BP, ExxonMobil, Chevron, and Shell**. Furthermore, between 2003-2019, Brown received more than **\$20 million** from foundations associated with the fossil fuel industry and foundations that have contributed more than \$35 million to climate denial groups. It is likely that much more fossil fuel money flows to Brown as this number only reflects contributions from non-profit foundations, which are publicly available through third-party sources. The university does not make information about contributions

publicly available.

Through these financial and social relationships, Brown University compromises the integrity of university research and fosters an environment in which the fossil fuel industry can operate unchallenged, all while pledging to be a national leader in sustainability.

This report calls on Brown University to demonstrate its commitment to the values and objectives it proclaims by dissociating from the fossil fuel industry. This requires terminating all financial and social connections with fossil fuel corporations, their affiliated foundations, and industry groups.

In accordance with the evidence presented in this report, and in alignment with Brown's stated values of environmental sustainability and academic freedom, we recommend that Brown University take the following measures to dissociate itself from the fossil fuel industry:

- ◆ **Prohibit fossil fuel companies, their affiliated foundations, and industry groups from funding research and donating to the university.**
- ◆ **Adopt a fossil fuel-free careers policy that bans fossil fuel companies from hosting recruiting events and attending career fairs, posting job vacancies, sponsoring events, and otherwise advertising to students through Brown.**
- ◆ **Require all retirement plan vendors to offer fossil-free retirement plan options.**

PART I: THE FOSSIL FUEL INDUSTRY




The Fossil Fuel Industry is Causing the Climate Crisis

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) unequivocally states that in order to effectively tackle the climate crisis, it is imperative that we cease all fossil fuel combustion.¹⁰ To put it in the simple words of Oxford Geosystem Science Professor Myles Allen, “We have to stop fossil fuels.”¹¹ He is far from alone in this plea — there is an overwhelming scientific consensus that Earth’s climate is changing at an unprecedented rate, and fossil fuels are to blame.¹² Coal, oil and gas account for over 75% of global greenhouse gas emissions and close to 90% of all carbon emissions.¹³ Rather than meaningfully contribute to climate solutions, fossil fuel executives talk out of both sides of their mouths: publicly promising renewable energy investments while privately

discrediting and undermining their own efforts.¹⁴

Four decades and five IPCC reports after Exxon scientists confirmed that fossil fuels cause global warming, fossil fuel industry leaders ExxonMobil, BP, Shell, and Chevron maintain a business model that is wholly dependent on fossil fuels.¹⁵ Their green energy investments are insignificant by comparison.¹⁶ The fossil fuel industry’s adamant commitment to releasing carbon into the atmosphere directly obstructs the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions that is necessary to avoid the most extreme repercussions of climate change.

The devastating impacts of the fossil fuel industry are not felt in statistics



and risk assessment reports. They are experienced by communities whose land is polluted by oil spills and whose children breathe toxins spewing from local refineries. They are experienced by people fleeing drought and the famine it causes, and those who cannot afford to rebuild after a flood.

These effects are not distributed equally. Fossil fuels are intertwined with the exploitation of marginalized groups. Today, race is the biggest determinant of a person's exposure to pollution in the United States, above education and income.¹⁷ Through systems of systemic racism, such as housing discrimination, the fossil fuel industry has sited polluting facilities in low-income neighborhoods and communities of color. Fifty-seven

percent of residents living within three miles of oil refineries with high rates of benzene emissions – a well-known carcinogen that causes leukemia and other lung conditions – are people of color. Forty-three percent are below the poverty line.¹⁸

Accepting funding from an industry that disproportionately harms and targets people of color, displaces Indigenous peoples across the globe, and refuses to take accountability for doing so is not a choice that is compatible with an institution that claims to value diversity, equity, and inclusion. By dissociating from the fossil fuel industry, Brown will also dissociate from a system rooted in white supremacy that continues to harm marginalized communities.

Fossil Fuel Money Creates Research Bias

The fossil fuel industry perennially targets climate science. The reason is clear: climate science is the backbone of policies designed to limit fossil fuel production and expand the development and use of renewable energy. In response to increased public awareness of the climate crisis, fossil fuel companies have orchestrated an extensive campaign to combat government climate action and sway public perception.

The American Petroleum Institute (API) began casting doubt on climate science as early as 1980, when it argued for the possibility of global cooling by misinterpreting research and

highlighting flimsy claims.¹⁹ A 1989 internal Exxon report proposed the manufacture of scientific uncertainty as a strategy to counteract public awareness of the climate crisis.²⁰ Similarly, a 1998 action plan by API proposed orienting media coverage towards viewpoints that challenge the scientific basis of climate change, including funding scientific research that aligns with fossil fuel interests.²¹

It is no secret that the oil industry and its allies seek to use academic institutions to their benefit. Oil magnate Charles Koch has explicitly manipulated the academic sphere to advance his business interests for half



a century. His brother, David, co-led this effort until his death in 2019. Between 1997 and 2018, the Koch family foundations spent at least \$145 million on more than 90 different groups that have attacked climate science and policy solutions.²² In 1974, Charles stated,

“I maintain that the educational [philanthropy] route is the most vital and the most neglected. We should support only those programs, departments, or schools that can contribute in some way to our individual companies or to the general welfare of our free enterprise.”²³

Since then, the Koch donor network has left a global paper trail demonstrating its intent to parlay “intellectual raw materials” produced by academic institutions into public opinion campaigns and policy.^{24,25} For example, the Koch donor network has plowed funding into the Regulatory Studies Center at George Washington University, which has long advocated for deregulation and produced research that “dramatically [reduced] the cost that the government attributes to carbon emissions.”²⁶ Manipulating government policy through the targeted application of academic research is a key tool that the fossil fuel industry and its allies use to delay climate action.

A study published in *Nature Climate Change* in November 2022 demonstrated that university-based energy research centers funded by the fossil fuel industry produce reports that are more favorable to natural gas than centers that do not receive such funding.²⁷ At the University of Manchester, the school’s relationship with BP “informs and directs” its scholarship.²⁸ The Advanced Energy

Consortium at the University of Texas, which has counted at least ten fossil fuel industry companies among its members, has invested at least \$50 million in research and development towards its stated mission to “optimize energy production.”^{29,30}

These research outcomes not only encourage fossil fuel exploration and exacerbate the climate crisis, but they also produce serious social consequences. By receiving fossil fuel funding, universities like Brown are complicit in a counterscientific quest to delay decarbonization. When research does not directly aid the expansion of fossil fuels, it often develops technologies that can be utilized to perpetuate fossil fuel dependency, such as carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) and oil spill remediation.³¹ In isolation, some of these research topics are not problematic. Still, by flooding climate research with funds, the fossil fuel industry dictates research agendas and fundamentally alters how we conceptualize the severity of climate change and its solutions.³²

Even when fossil fuel-funded research has nothing to do with industry expansion or the climate, universities grant them social and cultural legitimacy. A fossil fuel company that works with a university can broadcast to shareholders, policymakers, the media, and the public that it is working alongside — or inside — a highly respected institution to advance the public good. Universities that associate with fossil fuel companies help those companies corrupt research, distract policymaking, and appear as if they are contributing to climate solutions.

By receiving fossil fuel funding, universities like Brown are complicit in a counterscientific quest to delay decarbonization.



PART II: METHODOLOGY AND FINDINGS



We conducted this research to inform our dissociation campaign in two central areas: the amount of money Brown has received from fossil fuel-affiliated and climate disinformation-affiliated organizations through general contributions, and the quantity of Brown-affiliated research articles sponsored by the fossil fuel industry. The data in this section is based on publicly-available information and therefore only reflects the minimum amount of money Brown has received from the fossil fuel industry and the minimum number of studies that Brown-affiliated authors have published. Fossil fuel companies may contribute directly to institutions or by way of donor-advised funds, which hide these sums from the public view, rather than through their affiliated charitable foundations which have publicly available donation records.

Methodology

For the data on general donations, we collaborated with Fossil Free Research, an international coalition of university student organizers advocating for an end to fossil fuel-funded research.³³ We exclusively relied on Foundation Directory to identify grants awarded to Brown from non-profit foundations affiliated with the fossil fuel industry and climate disinformation.³⁴ Foundation Directory is an online database that compiles grants found

in IRS 990 forms, which are filed annually by non-profits.

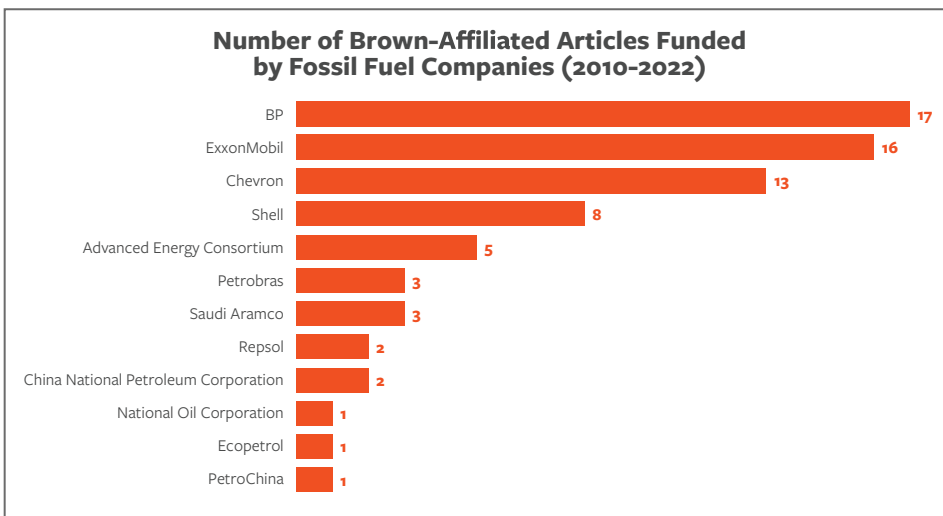
We searched for grants awarded to Brown University from a list of foundations tied to the top organizations from Urgewald's Global Oil and Gas and Exit List, Global Coal Exit List, Sierra Club's Report on fossil fuel utilities, and Fortune 500 oil and gas companies.^{35,36,37,38} We also included philanthropic



foundations that have given more than \$35 million to the climate change countermovement (referred to as the denial movement in this report) since 2003, as identified by climate disinformation scholar Robert Brulle, a Visiting Professor of Environment and Society at Brown University.³⁹ See the appendix for more information on the lists and the full list of funders that have given money to Brown.

To search for Brown-affiliated articles with fossil fuel funding, we utilized

Web of Science, an online database that houses articles published in over 34,000 different academic journals.⁴⁰ Web of Science lists funding disclosures and author affiliations for each of its articles, making it ideal for identifying fossil fuel-sponsored papers. We searched for articles that had both a Brown-affiliated author and sponsorship from at least one of the top fifty companies by total fossil fuel production on the Urgewald Global Oil and Gas and Exit List or the Global Coal Exit List.



Findings

Research Papers

Since 2010, **63 journal articles** have been published by Brown-affiliated authors with funding from the world’s fifty largest oil and gas companies. Seven of these articles received funding from multiple of these companies. The top funders are **BP, ExxonMobil, Chevron, and Shell**. It should be noted that all of these organizations are also members of the American Petroleum Institute. Other

companies include China National Petroleum, Ecopetrol, National Oil Corporation, Petrobras, PetroChina, Repsol, and Saudi Aramco. This list also includes the Advanced Energy Consortium, whose known member groups all belong to the top 50 fossil fuel companies.⁴¹

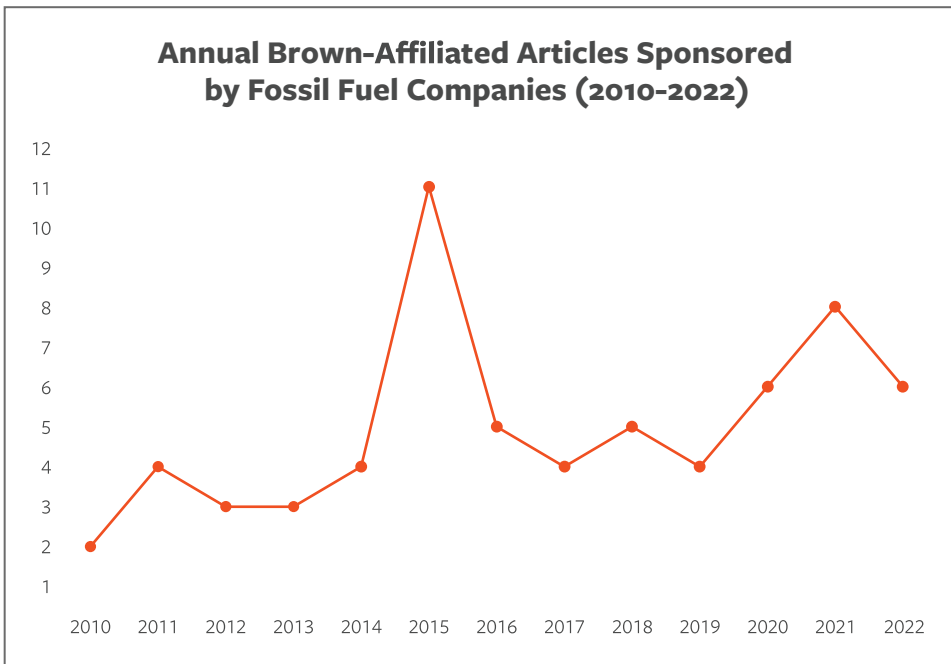
The quantity of articles published with fossil fuel funding peaked in 2015, but



yearly fossil fuel-funded article output increased between 2010 and 2022.

Five departments at Brown received fossil fuel funding for more than one article. These departments are

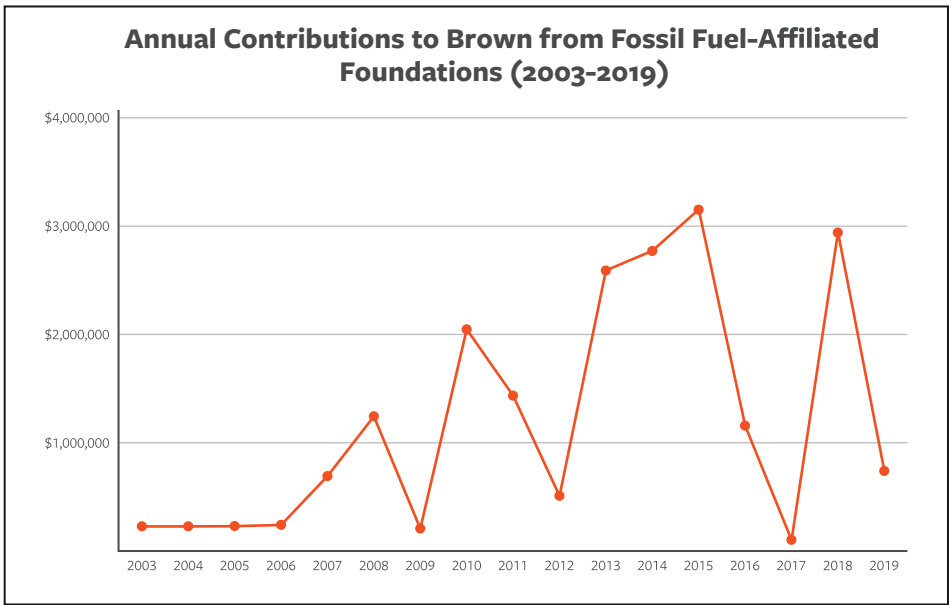
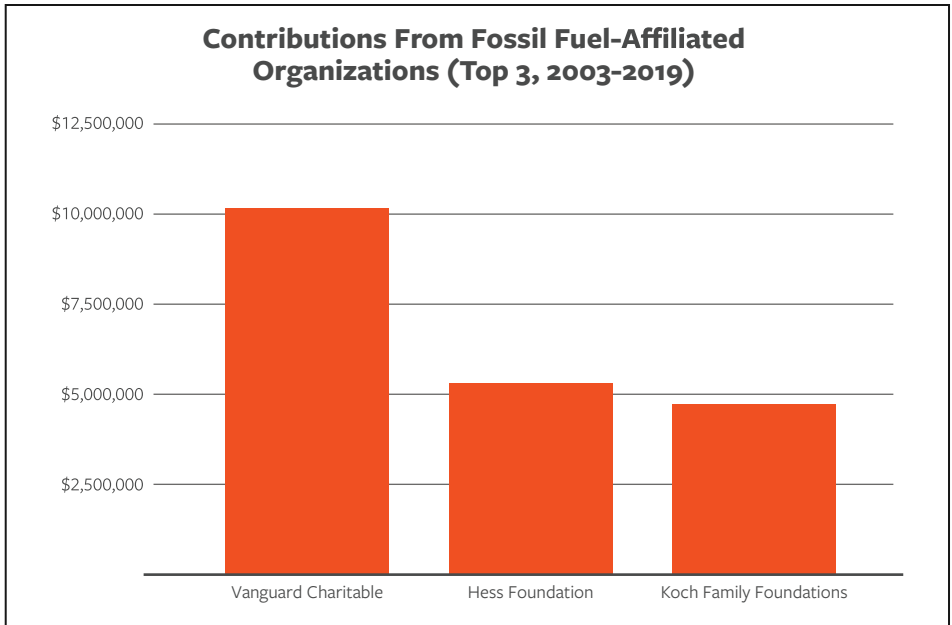
Chemistry, Engineering, Geological Sciences/Earth, Environmental and Planetary Sciences, Applied Mathematics, and Pathology & Laboratory Medicines.



Contributions

Between 2003 and 2019, Brown University received at least **93 contributions** amounting to **\$20,511,567** from non-profit foundations affiliated with the fossil fuel industry or the top donors of the climate change countermovement. **16 such foundations** contributed to Brown during this span. These contributions indicate transfers from these organizations to Brown – they may be donations to the university’s operating budget, funds for research, or something else entirely. **Three** large, potentially problematic foundations stand out.

Over the specified period, the **Vanguard Charitable Endowment Program** donated more than **\$10,157,039**. It has also funded dozens of climate change-denying think tanks, such as the Heartland Institute, The Heritage Foundation, and the American Enterprise Institute.⁴² Vanguard Charitable is an arm of the Vanguard Group, one of the largest fossil fuel asset managers.⁴³ **The Hess Foundation**, a family foundation closely tied to the Hess Corporation, a fossil fuel exploration company, donated **\$5,310,000**. **The Koch family foundations** donated **\$4,728,628**. They are notorious donors to climate



change denial groups and their wealth comes from Koch Industries, which extracts, transports, and refines oil and gas.

The vast majority of identified money has come from these three organizations that are intimately tied

to the fossil fuel industry or climate disinformation. But our analysis also revealed that Brown has accepted money from a variety of fossil fuel extraction, transport, and refining companies, such as **Valero Energy, Shell, Equitrans Midstream, and EQT.**

PART III: APPLICATIONS TO BROWN



Dissociate Now

Fossil fuel dissociation would not be Brown's first attempt to curtail its exposure to the fossil fuel industry. In March 2020, President Christina Paxson announced that Brown's Investment Office had divested nearly all of its assets that were entrenched in fossil fuel extraction companies, citing the high risk inherent to those companies during the global shift towards renewable energy sources.⁴⁴ We commend the Brown administration, faculty, staff, and students who advocated for such a

decision, enabling Brown to take an important step towards environmental sustainability.

Additionally, in April 2022, President Paxson announced updates to the university's business ethics policy, stating that the university would no longer do business with "individuals and organizations that promote science disinformation."⁴⁵ This policy was the first of its kind to be enacted by a university, and established Brown as a leader in global battles against



Fossil fuel dissociation pieces these policies together to make the unequivocal statement that fossil fuel companies' climate demolition and disinformation have no home at Brown.



science disinformation. However, we have yet to see any action suggesting that Brown will use the new standard to end its relationships with fossil fuel companies, which clearly spread climate disinformation through a host of intentionally deceptive claims.⁴⁶

This is a golden opportunity for the university to live up to its ethical ambitions. Fossil fuel dissociation fills in the gaps where divestment and the lackluster enforcement of the business ethics policy fall short. Our proposed policies take cues from other schools that have, to varying degrees, used their social standing to counter fossil fuel influence. In September 2022, Princeton announced that it would refrain from entering financial relationships with ninety companies active in the thermal coal and tar sands segments of the fossil fuel industry due to their climate impacts.⁴⁷ Faculty even established a method for identifying climate disinformation espoused by fossil fuel companies.⁴⁸

Princeton isn't the only school demonstrating that dissociation is possible. Birkbeck, University of London became the first school in the United Kingdom to end on-campus fossil fuel recruiting, including all career fairs, job postings, and advertising.⁴⁹ By the end of 2022, three more UK schools – The University of the Arts London, University of Bedfordshire, and Wrexham Glyndwr University – followed suit.⁵⁰

Fossil fuel-free retirement plans are already in place nationwide. When the University of California system divested its \$126 billion in assets from fossil fuel institutions in 2020,

its pension funds became fossil fuel-free too.⁵¹ The New York State Common Retirement Fund, which holds \$226 billion in assets for 1.1 million employees, divested the same year.⁵² Fossil fuel dissociation pieces these policies together to make the unequivocal statement that fossil fuel companies' climate demolition and disinformation have no home at Brown.

As a global leader in research, Brown holds significant standing in the public sphere. By accepting research money from fossil fuel companies and foundations, Brown actively provides the industry with a “social license to operate” – or the legitimacy, credibility, and communal trust it needs to continue its business practices.⁵³ This social license allows the fossil fuel industry to sustain a positive reputation in the public eye, despite destroying the climate and spreading disinformation.⁵⁴ Continuing to hold financial and social ties with fossil fuel companies thus makes Brown an enabler of the climate crisis.

By providing social legitimacy to fossil fuel companies, Brown helps obscure how fossil fuel affiliations fundamentally threaten its academic mission. This is true for all relationships with fossil fuel companies, but especially for academic research. Before a project even begins, funding shapes which questions are asked. It incentivizes researchers to avoid conclusions that may be unfavorable to the donor, thus threatening future partnerships.⁵⁵ Fossil fuel companies have proven masterful at weaponizing funding in this way. Academic projects must be

free from companies whose agenda relies on corrupted research and the denunciation of science. Protecting free inquiry at Brown means excluding funding that too often has a preordained result.

There may be concern that banning fossil fuel funding to research hampers academic freedom by dictating where funding must come from. But far greater risk is brought by allowing fossil fuel companies to shape research outcomes and agendas, and by inviting the reputational damage associated with their planetary destruction and subversive goals in academia. The same is true for career recruiting, a key platform for fossil fuel companies to market themselves to students as ethical and sustainable firms—exactly ExxonMobil’s strategy when it came to campus in October 2022.⁵⁶

This exposes students to an agenda of explicit deception that covers up a cataclysmic business model incompatible with the university’s basic ethical responsibilities.

Brown has already taken stances on sustainability and disinformation through its Sustainability Strategic Plan and Business Ethics Policy. Now it must follow through with fossil fuel dissociation. Brown has the opportunity to become the first university ever to completely dissociate from fossil fuels. As a world class research institution with a commitment to the pursuit of truth, Brown must end its ties with organizations actively destroying the climate and deploying science disinformation to prolong their profits—and the climate crisis.

History of Environmental Activism at Brown

In launching a fossil fuel dissociation report and campaign, we understand that we are one note in a symphony of climate activists at Brown over the last several decades. The activists who came before us – those named in records such as *The Burn Brown Book* and those omitted from the historical record – inspire us to fight for truth, transparency, and climate justice. Their struggles for change inform and inspire our advocacy.⁵⁷ We stand on their shoulders.

In line with many academic institutions across the country, Brown saw the mainstream environmental

movement first take root on campus in the 1970s, as students began to form environmentally-oriented independent concentrations. This led to the university formally establishing the Center for Environmental Studies in 1978, now the Institute at Brown for Environment and Society (IBES), which was quickly followed by the construction of Brown’s Urban Environmental Laboratory in 1979.^{58,59}

Since then, student activism at Brown has played a significant role in university and local politics. In 2007, the Brown Environmental Action Network (BEAN) successfully

pushed Brown to reduce its carbon emissions by 80% by 2050, compared with 1990 levels.^{60,61} Around the same time, student groups like EcoReps and emPower focused on university energy and plastic consumption.^{62,63} In 2008, the Rhode Island Student Climate Coalition (RISCC) was founded with a focus on mutual relationships between policymakers, students, and community organizations.^{64,65} Five years later, RISCC organized the attendance of over 100 Brown students at a Washington D.C. protest against the Keystone XL pipeline.⁶⁶

Under the RISCC banner, Brown students allied with NoLNGinPVD – now the People’s Port Authority – to fight against the construction of a new liquified natural gas facility in Providence. They also pushed for carbon pricing legislation alongside the Energize Rhode Island Coalition and lobbied for renewable energy policy at the state level.^{67,68}

Then, in September 2012, Brown Divest Coal demanded that Brown divest its endowment from the fifteen largest American coal companies. The group became the first in recent memory to present their case in front of the Brown Corporation. Despite their appeal and the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Corporate Responsibility in Investment Policies (ACCRIP), President Christina Paxson declared that Brown would not be divesting from those fifteen companies.^{69,70} In the months after her announcement, student activists wrote letters, marshaled sit-ins, organized a student union, and advocated for an environmental justice-based track in the new Environmental Studies

concentration.^{71,72}

While the university refused to divest from coal, student climate activism continued. Three Brown students were arrested at a November 2016 protest for their peaceful demonstration against the Dakota Access Pipeline, an oil industry project constructed on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation.⁷³ In 2018, Environmental Justice @ Brown allied with Brown Divest, the Immigrant Rights Coalition, and others to demand that Brown end its affiliation with then-IBES Presidential Advisory Council member Warren Kanders, whose company Safariland manufactured tear gas used against peaceful protesters at Standing Rock, in Palestine’s West Bank, in Ferguson, Missouri, and against migrants along the southern US border.^{74,75} After Kanders dug in, the Warren Kanders Must Go coalition launched a flier and banner-drop campaign, a teach-in, a series of Family Weekend disruptive demonstrations, and a public interrogation at an IBES panel.^{76,77,78} Safariland divested from its weapons divisions in 2020 and Kanders is no longer listed as a member of the IBES Advisory Council.^{79,80}

Today, we move towards dissociation with the knowledge that pioneering student activists are responsible for environmental scholarship, policy, and justice at Brown. Groups like RISCC and Brown Divest Coal – as well as non-climate groups such as the Third World Coalition – demonstrate righteousness and perseverance, and they lend us practical strategies. Equipped with the lessons of the past, we strive for a more sustainable and equitable tomorrow.⁷⁹

PART IV: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Brown's financial and social ties to fossil fuel-affiliated organizations clearly indicate its enablement of the climate crisis and climate deception. As such, Sunrise Brown urges that Brown takes action against the fossil fuel industry and its affiliated organizations to revoke the industry's social license and set a meaningful standard for how a university should associate with groups driving the climate crisis.

We advocate for a comprehensive dissociation policy.

This policy should include the following components:

1. Gifts and Grants Dissociation Policy

As our findings show, Brown-affiliated authors have published 63 journal articles funded by fossil fuel companies and foundations since 2010. In context, this figure is almost trivial. Between 2017 and 2021 alone, Brown-affiliated authors published nearly 7,500 articles.⁸¹ So Brown's mission and integrity are compromised by fossil fuel funding, yet the benefits it reaps from such funding are negligible. Brown gets nothing in return that can't be easily replaced by other donors. Meanwhile, the benefits to the fossil fuel industry are immense: social legitimacy, institutional trust, and research outputs that enable fossil fuel expansion. This same logic holds for gifts given to the university by fossil fuel companies, foundations, and industry groups – their donations are not vital to Brown's day-to-day operations and will not have a major effect on the university's revenue streams.

We are calling for an official policy prohibiting all fossil fuel-funded research grants and gifts to the university. By enacting a strict gifts and grants policy, Brown has the opportunity to take a significant step towards a fairer, more sustainable future with minimal impact to their research funding portfolio and operating budget.





2. Careers Policy

In fall 2022 alone, two fossil fuel companies hosted recruiting events on campus: ExxonMobil and SLB.^{82,83} By helping the fossil fuel industry in its recruiting efforts, Brown legitimizes the industry on campus and in the minds of students. The business models of these companies are built on deception and destruction. They are unfit to represent themselves to students as forward-thinking firms with integrity and a social conscience.

Therefore, we are calling for a fossil free careers policy that bans fossil fuel companies from hosting recruiting events and attending career fairs, posting job vacancies, sponsoring events, and otherwise advertising to students through Brown.

3. Retirement Fund Divestment

We are calling for the university to require all retirement plan vendors to offer fossil free retirement plan options, giving faculty and staff the opportunity to divest their retirement fund from the companies actively harming the future of their students. Including fossil fuel companies in retirement fund portfolios normalizes their unethical and harmful practices. Worse, investments in these companies directly fund oil exploration, pipeline construction, and political lobbying, which actively worsen the climate crisis and help the industry retain its social legitimacy.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

There were many minds that helped bring this project from a scattered idea born in a conference room to the campaign that is now launching alongside this report.

Thank you to the revived and vibrant student activism groups on campus – especially Students for Educational Equity, Students for Justice in Palestine, and the Student Labor Alliance – for fighting alongside us and for their persistent efforts to make this campus a better place.

Thank you to Fossil Fuel Divest Harvard, Divest Princeton, Earth Guardians, Fossil Free Research, People & Planet, Sunrise American University, Sunrise Dartmouth, and the University of California Green New Deal Coalition for providing invaluable precedent, inspiration, and advice.

Thank you to the activists that came before us, on Brown’s campus and beyond.

Thank you to Kim Cobb, Baylor Fox-Kemper, Tim Herbert, Dawn King, Brian Lander, Myles Lennon, Timmons Roberts, Kurt Teichert, and all other Brown faculty who guide us in our collective fight for climate action.

Thank you to Gregory Hitch, whose encouragement and leadership led to the revival of Sunrise Brown.

Thank you to the students who care and who continue to fight.

Thank you to the youth, each of you who are working to change the world.

Thank you to the Urban Environmental Lab for hosting late-night art builds and providing warm tea (and cold oat milk), and thank you to Jeanne Loewenstein for taking care of our peculiar home.

Thank you to Dove Street, which needs no further explanation.

And thank you to the salmon, stubbornly swimming home.

APPENDIX

A spreadsheet containing the data backing the findings of this report can be accessed [here](#). Please contact sunrise@brown.edu with any further questions.

Search process for Web of Science:

1. Searches were initialized using the “Affiliation” and “Funding Agency” search features whereby companies were searched for using keywords (i.e. “Shell”) in order to return all possible related results.
2. Information collected included the article title, publication year, funding agencies present on our search lists, all Brown-affiliated authors and, if specified, their department(s).
 - a. Departments were listed under the Author Information section. If the general Brown University address was given, departments were determined through internet searches using websites such as LinkedIn or Brown University website pages.
 - b. All specific company subset names (i.e. Shell International Exploration and Production, Inc.) stem from names provided by Web of Science. On occasion, Web of Science provided “appeared in source as” names. For the sake of data cleanliness, these were not used.
3. All search results were verified by multiple contributors.

A note on co-authorship

Both Brown-affiliated lead authors and co-authors were included in our searches. Of the 63 articles, 52 of them did not specify which author the fossil fuel funding source went to. Five specified that the fossil fuel contribution went directly to the Brown-affiliated author, and six specified that the funding went to a non Brown-affiliated author on the study.

Lists of potential donors

To determine general contributions from the fossil fuel industry, we worked with Fossil Free Research to build a list of fossil fuel corporations and identify the corporations that have contributed to Brown. We searched through the following companies and their affiliated foundations:

- ◆ Top US and Global corporations in the Urgewald Global Oil and Gas and Exit List by hydrocarbons production for upstream firms and by pipeline length and LNG capacity for midstream firms.
- ◆ Top US and Global corporations in the Urgewald Global Coal Exit List by annual production and installed capacity.
- ◆ All oil and gas equipment corporations and petroleum refining corporations in Fortune 500.
- ◆ Utilities with a score of lower than 40 in Sierra Club’s report “The Dirty Truth About Utility Climate Pledges,” based on Utilities plans to expand fossil fuel capacity.

Below is a list of the funders that have been identified as financial contributors to Brown. It includes fossil fuel affiliated foundations and foundations affiliated with the denial movement. Note that Vanguard and the Koch foundations have a star since they appear in the list of core foundations of the denial movement and also are closely affiliated with the fossil fuel industry, as mentioned earlier in the report.

Funder	Affiliated with the Climate Change Counter-movement (denial movement)
Vanguard Group	TRUE*
Hess Foundation	FALSE
Koch Foundations	TRUE*
Searle Freedom Trust	TRUE
John Templeton Foundation	TRUE
Valero Energy	FALSE
Shell	FALSE
Equitrans Midstream Corporation	FALSE
EQT Corporation	FALSE
Baker Hughes	FALSE
NextEra Energy Inc.	FALSE
Alabama Power	FALSE
DTE Energy Co.	FALSE
Sempra Energy	FALSE
Southern Company	FALSE

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Executive Summary

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