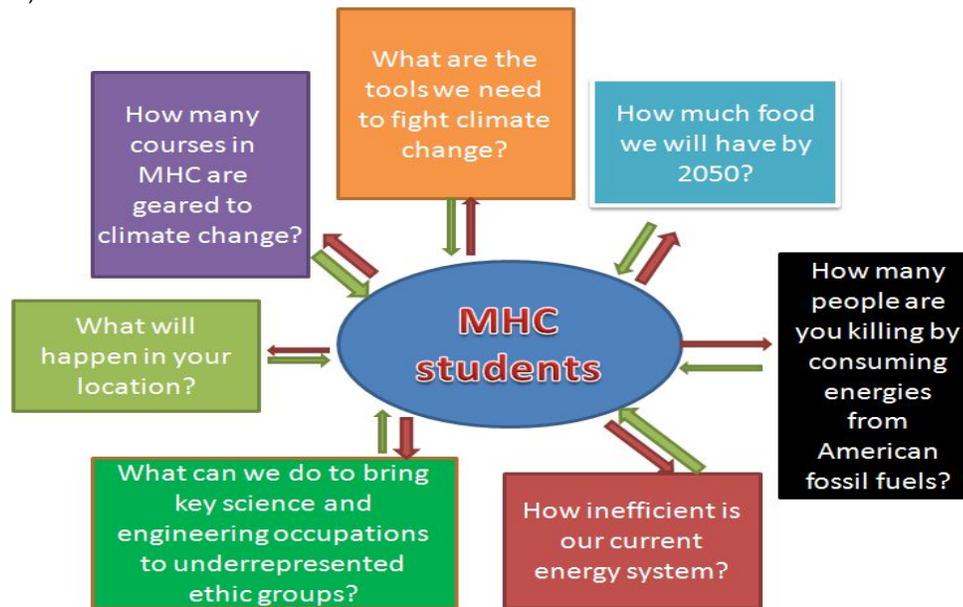


## “Education to avoid the Apocalypse: It’s never too late”

Do you know your chances of **survival** by the time you’re **50**? We really need this knowledge for which we **urgently** need a **conference** similar to the BOOM conference held earlier this semester. The panels and events will be based around the topics outlined in this fact sheet. Both **students and faculty** would be invited to present or facilitate panels and discussion. The topics that would be covered should be important and relevant to helping **Mount Holyoke students** become climate literate. **Climate change impacts everyone**, no matter what they’re studying, and a conference could be instrumental in increasing climate literacy on campus. Because Mount Holyoke is a **diverse and inclusive** space, putting an emphasis on the make up of industries that will be responsible for helping to fight these issues with **renewable** goods and technologies is important. As a community with students from 45 states and 75 countries<sup>1</sup> we need to address the ways people in different regions will be affected by climate change differently, and this also serves to help students learn about the regions they may be focusing on in their time here. **Fighting climate change** requires knowledge of the opposing factors, such as the petroleum industry, and the financial and political ways real change can be hampered. Overall this conference should give students the knowledge and tools they need to be changemakers, no matter what they’re studying, and impart a sense of urgency in finding and fighting for solutions to the problems facing our world. (FS)

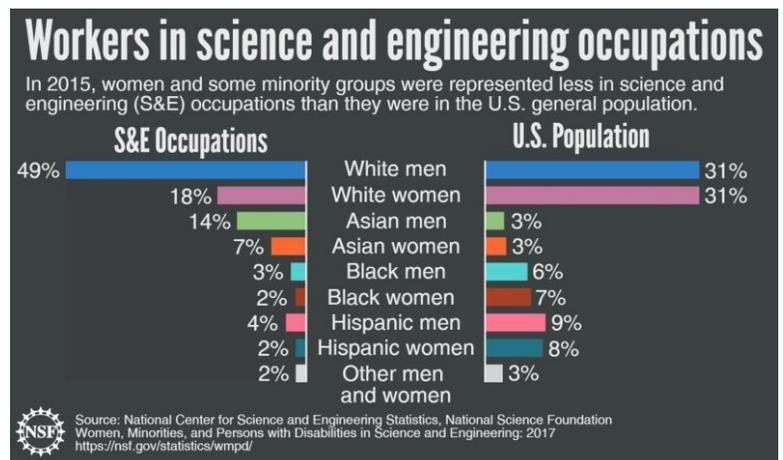


### 1. Interest in Environmental and Climate Change Education (OM):

- There are currently no credit courses geared specifically toward education on the present and future effects of global climate change and ways to mitigate these effects offered by Mount Holyoke College.
- Alexi’s class always has 20 students on the waitlist, even when the enrollment cap is increased to 60 students
- A conference is meeting of two or more persons for discussing matters of common concern
- There are currently around 70 declared Environmental Studies majors at Mount Holyoke.(FS)

### 2. Breaking Down the Walls Excluding Women, People of Color, and LGBT Persons in Science and Engineering Occupations (OM):

- Despite 13% of the general U.S. <sup>2</sup>population being African American, only 5% of jobs in science and engineering are held by African Americans.
- 6% of the general U.S. Population are Asian American, and they make up 21% of science and engineering occupations.



<sup>1</sup> Mount Holyoke College: Fast Facts

<sup>2</sup> "Women, Minorities and Persons with Disabilities in Science and Engineering Report Released." Phys.org - News and Articles on Science and Technology. Science X Network, 31 Jan. 2017. Web. 09 Apr. 2017.

- 17% of the general U.S. Population is Hispanic, yet only 6% percent of science and engineering occupations are held by Hispanic men and women.
- 67% of science and engineering occupations are held by white men and women, yet they only make up 61% of the U.S. population.
- African Americans, Native Americans, and Hispanics are underrepresented in science and engineering fields of study, only making up 21% of bachelor's recipients, 13% of doctoral recipients, and 11% in employment.
- More than 40% of LGBTQ people in STEM fields have not disclosed their LGBTQ identity to colleagues, coworkers, or students, even if they are totally "out of the closet" at home.<sup>3</sup>

### 3. Curriculum Must Address the Necessities of the Global Student Body (FK):

- The wheat-growing regions of South Asia, Europe and Central Asia, and sub-Saharan Africa, will be most affected by climate change. Production is projected to decline by 46%, 47%, and 35%, respectively in these regions. Middle Eastern rice paddies are also under threat. Production is expected to fall by 36% by 2050<sup>4</sup>.
- 60% people in Latin America are concerned about water shortages while in Europe only 30% are concerned about it.
- MHC is one of the most globally diverse liberal arts college in the US and has currently 614 students enrolled from 75 different countries of the world, each contributing to the drastic environmental changes occurring across the globe.
- There are many chances of wars between countries over food, oil pipelines, water and basic human needs.
- There are 50% chances that you may die due to environmental toxicity by the time you turn 50.
- Russia and US contribute to almost half of the global CO2 emissions at an intensely increasing rate.



### 4. Gain Tools of Solving the Challenges(JZ):

- Topics of courses we can choose:
- Technologies to improve renewable energy implement: energy storage, transmission and integration, which is the current barriers of implementing direct solar energies. Storage technologies are becoming more efficient and economically viable. Lithium-ion batteries are one of the fastest-growing energy storage markets due to their high energy densities, high power, near 100% efficiency, and low self-discharge.<sup>5</sup>
- Economical strategies to lower renewable energy prices: The cost of current renewable energy technologies is higher than existing energy price. However, The cost of most renewable energy technologies has declined and additional expected technical advances will result in further cost reductions.
- Politics: We need political stimulus to increase investment in renewable energy. Local legislation and government policies concerning small scale renewable development also need to be examined.

<sup>3</sup> Yoder, Jeremy. "Queer in STEM." Queer in STEM. Blogger, 01 Jan. 1970. Web. 09 Apr. 2017.

<sup>4</sup> Worldwatch institute (2017) "Vision for a sustainable world"

<sup>5</sup> U.S. DOE EAC (2011) Energy Storage Activities in the United States Electricity Grid.