



ADVANCING CLIMATE SOLUTIONS. NOW.

THE SWAIN CLIMATE POLICY SERIES

HELP FUND CLIMATE INITIATIVES

The Humphrey School invites financial contributions to ensure the long-term reach and impact of this important initiative.

To make a gift to the Swain Climate Policy Fund in support of the Climate Policy Series, please visit: z.umn.edu/swainclimatepolicyfund

Or contact Gwendolyn Freed, Humphrey School Director of Development
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THE FUTURE OF CLIMATE CHANGE SOLUTIONS

The Humphrey School of Public Affairs is launching a new Climate Policy Series honoring retired government, business, community, and University of Minnesota leader Thomas H. Swain in his 100th year.

Alarmed by the warming of our planet, Swain is keen to enlist his fellow citizens in efforts to reduce the climate threat, urging that “all Minnesotans should be Greta Thunbergs.”

Answering Swain’s call-to-action, the Humphrey School developed the Climate Policy Series. This initiative is geared to mobilize civic engagement throughout the year. Its elements will include:

- High-profile public lectures
- Interaction among climate experts, students, researchers, community partners, and the public
- Development and analysis of policy strategies for reduced reliance on fossil fuels and deployment of carbon-neutral energy resources
- A focus on climate justice, aimed at reducing the disparate impacts of climate change on people based on geography, income and race
- Opportunities for participants to learn how to be more effective climate stewards through both individual and collective action

A member of the Humphrey School Dean’s Advisory Council since 2003, Swain believes the school’s mission to “inspire, educate and support leadership for the common good” makes it ideally suited for this work. The Humphrey School will work collaboratively across the University to maximize the impact of the Swain Climate Policy Series. A key partner will be the University’s Institute on the Environment.



Thomas H. Swain

"THE FUTURE CAN'T WAIT"



As he approaches his 100th birthday on Sunday, July 4, 2021, Tom Swain is intently focused on the future of our planet and the wellbeing of future generations.

Considered one of Minnesota's most eminent public servants, Tom has served as chief of staff to Governor Elmer Andersen; as executive director and chair of several state commissions; as director or board chair for numerous nonprofit cultural and human services; as an exemplary executive at The St. Paul Companies and the Minnesota State Mutual Insurance Company; and as mayor of Lilydale, Minnesota. A longtime member of the Humphrey School Dean's Advisory Council, he is author (with Lori Sturdevant) of the 2015 book, "Citizen Swain: Tales of a Minnesota Life," published by the University of Minnesota Press.

Rather than look backward at this point in his life, Tom is looking ahead. He is concerned about the fate of his seven grandchildren, 10+ great-grandchildren, and their contemporaries as they face the harmful reality of a rapidly warming planet.

"Unless we do something significant," he says, "my grandchildren and great-grandchildren—and everybody else's—will face life-threatening environmental challenges."

Tom intends to mark his personal centenary in a manner consistent with his life's work: He and a committee of friends are making plans to inspire all Minnesotans to get to work on combatting harmful climate change.

"No problem confronting humankind is more urgent," Tom says. He implores people of all ages to get involved in environmental policies that advance climate solutions.

**JOIN THE
INITIATIVE**

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