



CAL POLY

| **Initiative for Climate Leadership and Resilience**



Climate Solutions Now

6th Annual Climate Solutions Now Conference

Call for Proposals

February 22-26, 2027 (All-Virtual)

Cal Poly's [Initiative for Climate Leadership and Resilience](#) (ICLR) is hosting its sixth annual "Climate Solutions Now" virtual conference on February 22-26, 2027. The conference connects faculty, government employees, industry professionals, entrepreneurs, and students, to showcase current and future solutions to climate and sustainability challenges.

Visit the [Climate Solutions Now website](#) to learn more about the conference via its previous agendas and speaker lists.

ICLR is seeking proposals from potential speakers. To submit a proposal, please read through the remainder of the guidelines included in this document and fill out [this form](#) by the deadline of **Friday, October 30, 2026**. Speakers of interest will be contacted for more information no later than **mid-November**.

Thank you for your consideration!

Conference Goals

1. Inspire new audiences to engage with solutions to the climate crisis, particularly in sectors not inherently sustainability-focused, whether in academia or practice.
2. Showcase unique perspectives in sustainability, and different career green trajectories.
3. Highlight speakers and organizations from diverse backgrounds/identities and underrepresented communities.
4. Promote a welcoming environment for thoughtful, respectful discussion of issues that may be contentious.

Talk Organization

There are typically 12 concurrent tracks per conference, grouped by theme, and some talks may appear crosslisted in more than one. Recurring tracks include agriculture, buildings, energy, communications, and more. Speakers may choose to present on their own, with one or more partners/colleagues, or to hold a moderated panel. Talks are either 20 or 50 minutes long, with 5

minutes afterwards for a Q&A with attendees. The virtual event platform allows speakers to engage with attendees before, during, and after their talk, either publicly or privately. The talks themselves are presented via Zoom.

For authors, speakers, and vendors, virtual booths are available for \$100. These may be used for publicity, to provide discount codes for books, promote additional events or speaking opportunities, fill job postings, etc.

Audience

The majority of attendees are college students from Cal Poly, the Cal State University (CSU) system, and around California. Other attendees include San Luis Obispo community members, higher education faculty and staff, business owners, and international climate advocates. Given the range of potential attendees, it is recommended that content is accessible to those of varied backgrounds and climate literacy levels.