



CAL POLY

Initiative for Climate Leadership
and Resilience



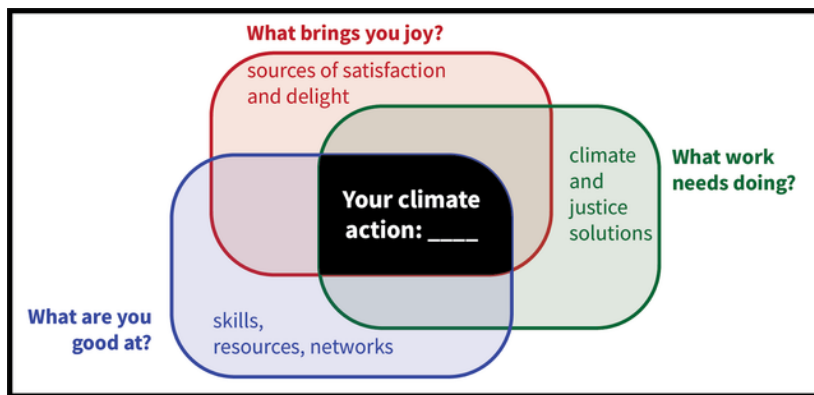
CLIMATE SOLUTIONS NOW

6th Annual, All-Virtual Conference | February 22-26, 2027

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

On behalf of the Initiative for Climate Leadership and Resilience (ICLR) at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, I cordially invite you to participate in our annual conference, Climate Solutions Now (Feb 22-26, 2027).

The challenges facing our planet today necessitate collective action and innovative solutions, and it will be driven largely by students as they join the workforce. Climate Solutions Now serves as a vital platform for students and the future green workforce to come together, exchange ideas, and collaborate on strategies to address pressing environmental and societal issues. The goal of the conference is to help all our attendees to fill in the blank at the center of what Dr. Ayana Elizabeth Johnson calls the “Climate Action Venn Diagram”:



As the name suggests, Climate Solutions Now is focused on solutions, and a big part of this means helping people answer the question “What is a climate solution?” Through over 290 presentations in a dozen different sectors, Climate Solutions Now has showcased the work being done by engineers and scientists, journalists and public relations workers, nonprofits, government agencies, entrepreneurs and established businesses. Our community of 4,000+ attendees from communities and campuses around California, and the globe, continues to elevate the energy, tenacity, and ingenuity of folks around the world working to solve the challenges of climate change. Every challenge is an opportunity, and climate change is such a large and multifaceted challenge that it presents a bewildering array of opportunities for growth, learning, business development, and societal restructuring that benefit our communities. Through thought-provoking discussions, interactive workshops, and networking opportunities, the conference aims to inspire and empower participants to lead the charge towards a more sustainable world.

Please join us in February for this year’s Climate Solutions Now- your energy will enrich the conference program and contribute to meaningful dialogue and action-oriented outcomes. Additionally, your participation will not only demonstrate your organization's commitment to sustainability but you will receive exclusive access to our community of future sustainability leaders and a chance to provide invaluable perspectives and guidance towards achieving our shared goals.



Dr. Erin Pearse

Director, Initiative for Climate Leadership and Resilience
Cal Poly San Luis Obispo

ABOUT ICLR

Climate change is the biggest problem humanity has ever faced, and it will be the defining challenge for the next generation. To meet this challenge, the **Initiative for Climate Leadership and Resilience (ICLR)** is building an institute focused on climate change solutions at Cal Poly, to train the next generation of climate leaders for these emergent careers, increase regional resilience on the Central Coast, and make Cal Poly a recognized climate leader in higher education.

ICLR exists to facilitate collaboration among donors, industry partners, different campus departments, and our global community to create a future workforce that can produce climate solutions. The foundational skills to lead the necessary work of developing climate resilience are teachable, and our students are uniquely qualified with the ability and passion to lead the way.

Cal Poly's robust portfolio of high-impact research centers and firmly established brand of top-tier polytechnic education uniquely position it to provide leadership in developing applied climate solutions and to train the climate professionals of tomorrow.





COMMUNITY-BASED PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH

- **Sustainable Land Initiative**
 - Equipment development (*BioResource and Agricultural Engineering*)
 - Website creation (*Liberal Arts and Engineering Studies*)
 - Educational material/logo design (*Graphic Communications*)
 - Outreach material translation (*Spanish*)
 - Soil health, emissions, and economics of climate-smart agriculture
- **Community Choice Aggregators**
 - Rooftop solar incentivization (*SEI research internship*)
 - EV incentivization (*College Corps research project*)
- **Repurposing Phillips 66 Refinery**
 - Conceptual desalination environmental constraints analysis
 - Conceptual multipurpose site redevelopment analysis

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

ICLR supports faculty developing new curricula related to climate change and sustainability, or adapting existing courses to include a project-based service learning component. Example courses:

- **NR 310 - Global Climate Change.** This junior-level Natural Resources Management course is a general education course open to all majors and covers global climate systems, methods of inference used in climate science, how global warming affects the human and natural world, and policy impacts.
- **BIO 470 - Biology of Climate Change.** Biological consequences of climate change at different levels of biological organization and various environments. Atmospheric chemistry, global and regional climate dynamics and history, consequences for human populations. Possible mitigation actions and their contribution to CO2 emission reductions.

ICLR also works with other units on campus to create and administer a Sustainability Literacy Assessment in order to gauge how effectively Cal Poly is fostering sustainability literacy and values.

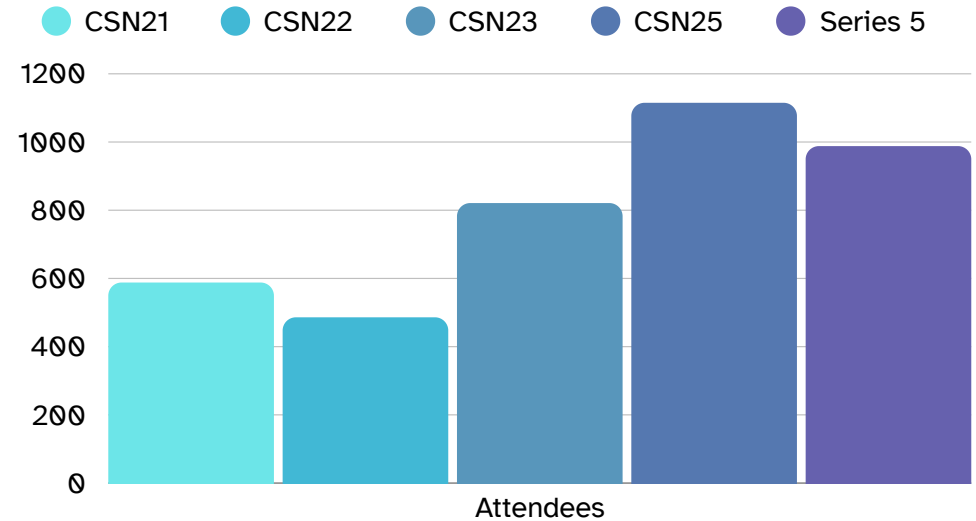
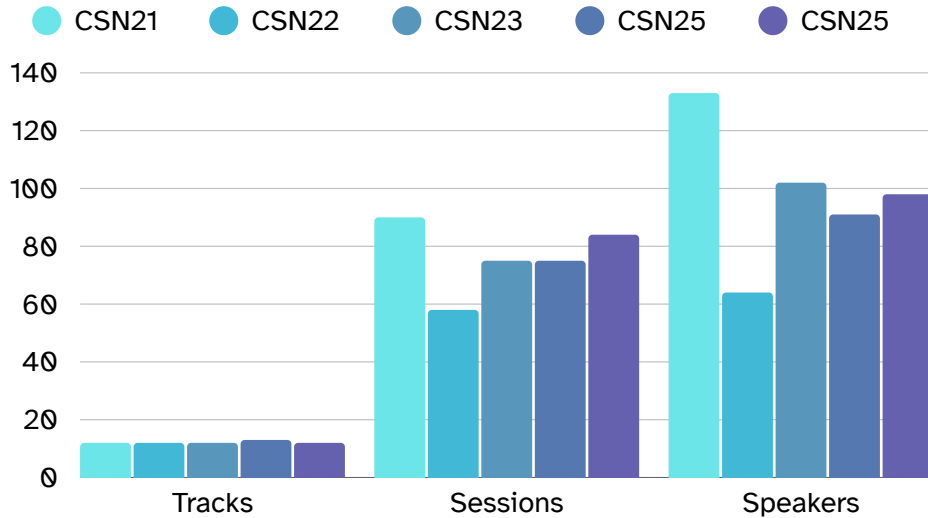


PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ICLR offers workshops and courses through Extended Education that allow professionals to pivot towards sustainable pursuits within their chosen career. Courses include:

- **Carbon Farm Planning.** For farmers and agribusiness professionals to learn about low-carbon and regenerative farming techniques and implementation.
- **High-Performance Buildings.** For HVAC professionals to learn about automated control systems and new electric alternatives to gas appliances (heat pumps, thermal energy systems, etc.).
- **LCA Literacy.** For city staffers and managers of industrial operations to learn about Life-Cycle Analysis (LCA) data, how to interpret it and how to incorporate it in the decision-making process.
- **Climate Action Planning.** For city staffers and elected officials to learn about the process of developing a community plan for decarbonizing at a municipal level.

CLIMATE SOLUTIONS NOW - AT A GLANCE



EXAMPLES OF PAST TRACKS:

Agriculture and Food Systems

Climate Communications

Built Environment

Campus Sustainability

Alternative Energy

Climate Action Planning

Environmental Justice

Forest Carbon and Earth Observation

Water

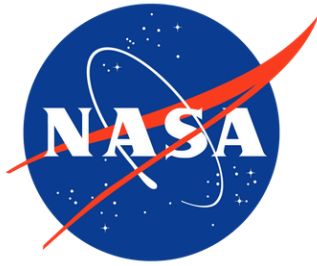
Public Policy

Science and Education

Transportation

Waste

PAST SPEAKERS' ORGANIZATIONS



Institute of the
Environment and
Sustainability



Stanford
University



CALIFORNIA
Public Utilities Commission



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY



CONSERVATION
INTERNATIONAL



Zero Foodprint

METROLINK

Invenergy



BIOMIMICRY
INSTITUTE

-chargepoint+



WORLD
RESOURCES
INSTITUTE



UC San Diego



SCRIPPS INSTITUTION OF
OCEANOGRAPHY



The Climate
Reality Project



EXAMPLES OF PAST TALKS

- **“The Politics of Climate Change and the Future of Offshore Wind in California”** - John Laird, California State Senator
- **“Built This Way: Why our buildings contribute so much to climate change and how this knowledge can guide us forward”** - Amanda Smith, Senior Scientist for the Built Environment at Project Drawdown
- **“Driving Toward a Fossil-Free Future”** - Gia Vacin, Deputy Director, ZEV Market Development at California Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development
- **“Collective Regeneration: A New Approach to Unlock Agricultural Climate Solutions”** - Anthony Myint, Executive Director of Zero FoodPrint
- **“How ESG is changing the way companies do business”** - Faiza Asifuddin, Director, ESG & Sustainability at Diligent
- **“Transforming Insurance Into a Force for Climate Action”** - Brad Stevenson, Executive Director at Premiums for the Planet
- **“Using research to build political will for climate action”** - Clara Fang, Deputy Director of Partnerships at Yale Program on Climate Change Communication
- **“Women Leading the Way in Climate Justice Organizing”** - Osprey Orielle Lake, Executive Director of Women's Earth and Climate Action Network

ATTENDEE TESTIMONIALS

"The Climate Solutions Now conference is a tremendous resource for people regionally and beyond to get in-depth information from experts across the U.S. The sessions deliver excellent value for the participants' investment of time and registration fee. CSN provides superb opportunities not only to learn from but also to network with key people who can help us work for a healthier climate."

-Don Maruska, author of "Solve Climate Change Now: Do What You Love for a Healthy Planet"

"This conference was enlightening, encouraging, and versatile. I was able to listen in on several talks on topics that I had no knowledge of prior and felt completely comfortable. The speakers were approachable and explained their topics with grace. Hearing from a wide variety of scientists, community members, and other eager climate activists was truly amazing and I am so thankful for the organizers and speakers that made this possible."

-Ashley Clark, Fellow/Partner with Sustainable Marin Schools

"A wonderful conference at the intersection of climate research, teaching, and action."

-Mook Bangalore, Postdoctoral Researcher at emLab, UC-Santa Barbara

SPONSORSHIP TIERS

Cal Poly is a registered 501(c)(3) corporation.

	DIAMOND			
2-3 minute sponsored video on event platform, website, and ICLR social media				
Banner placement on event platform and web home page with “Climate Solutions Now” brought to you by ____” message		\$2,000		
		GOLD		
Verbal recognition via opening remarks				
Track sponsorship: sponsor graphic appears in agenda listing and on talk page for any talk on sponsored track of choice			\$1,000	
			SILVER	
Sponsored student scholarships	25	12	5	\$500
Ad space in event platform	Full-Page Space	Full-Page Space	Half-Page Space	BRONZE
Sponsor page in event platform				
Banner graphic on rotating headline banner	Prominent Placement, Home Page & Sponsor Page	Secondary Placement, Home Page & Sponsor Page	Sponsor Page	Sponsor Page
Recognition via event communications (attendee emails, social media)	All emails, 1 solo & group post	All emails, 1 solo & group post	All emails, 1 group post	1/4 of emails, 1 group post
Complimentary conference registrations	10	5	3	2

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Sponsored Student Scholarship

Price: \$50 | Limit: none

Support the next generation of sustainability changemakers by sponsoring two students' conference registration. Recipients will be selected by Cal Poly according to basic criteria provided by the sponsor, and priority will go to registrants for whom attendance would not otherwise be possible due to cost.

- All recipients will receive an email confirmation with the sponsor logo, a brief description of the organization, and additional information as chosen by the sponsor.
- Organization's logo on the conference website and event platform.
- Recognition during opening remarks.
- Access to testimonials provided by the scholarship recipients after the conference concludes.

Virtual Exhibitor Booth

- **1-Day Package: Price: \$200 | no limit**
- **2-Day Package: Price: \$350 | no limit**
- **3-Day Package: Price: \$450 | no limit**
- **5-Day Full Package: Price: \$500 | Limit: 5**

Advertise an open position, professional certification, book, event, and more in a virtual exhibitor booth.

- Feature videos, photos, and livestreams.
- Talk to potential leads 1:1.
- Set up giveaways or coupons.
- Use Lead Retrieval to collect, save, and export all leads.

Ready to join us for Climate Solutions Now?

*Please reach out to Hadley Willman, Assistant Director
of ICLR, at hwillman@calpoly.edu.*

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