

Science to Action: Engagement in Research

Strategic Growth Council Climate Change Research Symposium



ABOUT THE SYMPOSIUM

This symposium focuses on Science to Action, highlighting California Strategic Growth Council's vision for climate change research and what it can achieve in California. Specifically, the event will:

- » Spotlight *meaningful engagement in research*; share best practices and examples; include discussions with community-based organizations, other stakeholders, and scientists.
- » Emphasize *Science to Action* throughout, and make the link to how meaningful engagement enables actionable science. Provide insights on how participants can build momentum around climate action through community participatory research.
- » Build knowledge in California's research community on engagement best practices and "how-tos" by showcasing what scientists and others are doing in this space, and importantly, by having community-based organizations (CBOs), governments, and other community leaders discuss this directly.
- » Demonstrate how research can advance equity and economic opportunity, along with climate action, through engagement in research.

PARTICIPANTS:

- » Scientists in California
- » Community leaders, including local and regional governments, tribal governments, community-based organizations, non-profits, and other organizations who are actively partnering, or want to partner, on research projects.
- » State agency Staff

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

- » American Geophysical Union's Thriving Earth Exchange
- » California Council on Science and Technology
- » California Department of Conservation
- » California Environmental Protection Agency
- » Climate Resolve
- » Greenlining Institute
- » Institute for Local Government
- » Intertribal Agriculture Council
- » Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability
- » Liberty Hill Foundation
- » North Coast Resource Partnership

This symposium hosted in partnership with Climate Resolve

NOVEMBER 5, 2019; SHERATON HOTEL, SACRAMENTO, CA

EVENT AGENDA

8:00–8:30 AM Breakfast & Registration

8:30–8:50 AM Opening

- » Tribal Blessing: **Ralph Troy Hatch**, Wilton Rancheria
- » Welcoming remarks by **SGC Executive Director Louise Bedsworth**

8:50–9:05 AM Participant Introductions

9:10–10:00 AM Keynote Discussion: *Historical Perspectives and Challenges for Communities in Scientific Research*

This keynote features a moderated discussion with an environmental justice leader and a tribal leader. The conversation offers an opportunity for the audience to hear the history of race and privilege and its role in scientific research. Speakers will discuss current institutional challenges and barriers for community groups, tribes, and other organizations to engage in research, and share ideas on how to shift the overall mindset.

- » **Carl Anthony:**
Co-founder of Breakthrough Communities Project; former President of Earth Island Institute
- » **Valentin Lopez:**
Chairman of the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band
- » **Dr. Manuel Pastor, Moderator:**
Director - University of Southern California Program for Environmental and Regional Equity; Center for the Study of Immigrant Integration

10:00–10:45 AM Participant Discussion: *Barriers and Challenges to Partnership-Based Research*

Based on the keynote discussion, participants will engage in dialogue at their tables. Some prompts are provided in the participant packet to guide discussion around barriers participants have faced in working with scientists, and challenges scientists experience in pursuing partnerships. The goal of this discussion is to build trust to move into a solutions focus for the rest of the day.

10:45–11:00 AM Readout from Discussion

11:00–11:15 AM Break

11:15–12:00 PM Panel: *Successes and Best Practices in Research Engagement*

This moderated panel discussion features scientists and community leaders who will talk about why engagement matters, provide examples of successes, tips, and best practices for how to engage meaningfully, and share inspirational stories that demonstrate the value of engagement.

- » Researcher: **Dr. Megan Jennings**; Co-Director of Institute for Ecological Monitoring & Management, San Diego State University
- » Local government: **Rafael Guzman**; Assistant City Manager, City of Riverside
- » Community partner: **Amee Raval**; Senior Policy Researcher, Asian Pacific Environmental Network
- » Tribal perspective: **Dr. Don Hankins**; Professor and Indigenous Prescribed Fire Expert, California State University, Chico
- » Moderator: **Dr. Martha Matsuoka**; Executive Director of the Urban & Environmental Policy Institute, Occidental College

12:00–1:00 PM Lunch

1:00–1:30 PM State Keynote Speakers

- » **Kate Gordon**;
Director of the Governor's Office of Planning and Research and Senior Advisor to the Governor on Climate
- » **Senator Bob Wieckowski**

1:30–3:15 PM Workshop Session on Engagement

This 90-minute session is based on the Thriving Earth Exchange model to support community and partner-driven science, but scaled for a larger group. The goal is for all participants to practice listening and understanding local and/or regional climate-related concerns and challenges in California, and to understand how science and research can help address these challenges.

Every participant can expect to actively engage with the other participants at their table; each table will have a mix of scientists, community and government representatives, and others. A facilitator at every table will offer guidance on how to structure the dialogue; additional details are available in the participant packets. SGC hopes this workshop will provide a starting point for building dialogue between participants from various disciplines and organizations that we can all build upon for future work.

3:15–3:30 PM Break

3:30–4:00 PM Closing Remarks & Call to Action

- » **Dr. Louise Bedsworth**; Executive Director, California Strategic Growth Council
- » **Dr. Raj Pandya**; Director, Thriving Earth Exchange

4:00–6:00 PM Networking Reception & Research Poster Session

The reception provides further networking opportunities for participants. Posters will highlight SGC Climate Change Research program's funded projects.

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