

APRU CERTIFICATE IN GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE LEADERSHIP

2025





ASSOCIATION OF PACIFIC RIM UNIVERSITIES

A Network With Impact

As a network of leading universities linking the Americas, Asia, and Australasia, APRU (the Association of Pacific Rim Universities) brings together thought leaders, researchers, and policy-makers to exchange ideas and collaborate on practical solutions to the challenges of the 21st century.

We leverage our members' collective education and research capabilities into the international public policy process. In the post-pandemic era, our strategic priorities focus on:

1. providing a neutral platform for high-level policy dialogue,
2. taking action on climate change, and
3. supporting diversity, inclusion, and minorities.

APRU's primary activities support these strategic priorities, focusing on critical areas such as disaster risk reduction, women in leadership, indigenous knowledge, virtual student exchange, population aging, global health, sustainable cities, artificial intelligence, waste management, and more.

Global Health Program

The APRU Global Health Program aims to leverage the global health education and research of Asia-Pacific universities to address global health issues through interaction with public policy and media.

Since its launch in 2007-2008, the program has covered a significant range of topics including emerging public health threats, aging and chronic diseases, infectious diseases and health security issues.

It has recently engaged academics, policy leaders, media specialists and communities on non-communicable diseases and on global health issues on campus. The program is hosted by the USC Institute on Inequalities in Global Health and has an advisory group coordinating the program.

Sustainable Cities and Landscapes Program and Research Hub

The University of Oregon, an international leader in sustainable urban design and landscape planning through its renowned Sustainable Cities Initiative and its Department of Landscape Architecture, is hosting the APRU Sustainable Cities and Landscapes Program and Research Hub.

The Program and Hub works within the framework of the Voice of Knowledge and Innovation for the Asia-Pacific region and aims to engage with cross-disciplinary experts, government officials and non-governmental organizations to consider cities in the context of their many landscape interdependencies, including services, networks and systems within and beyond the urban periphery. It will harness the breadth of experiences and socio-ecological contexts across the Pacific Rim to compare existing practices and models of city-landscape interactions, and to initiate solutions and policy interventions to make entire city-landscape complexes more sustainable.



APRU CERTIFICATE IN GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE LEADERSHIP

The APRU Certificate in Global Climate Change Leadership is a role-playing exercise in which students will form multi-country, multi-disciplinary teams to play the role of delegates to the UN Climate Change Negotiations.

Over four sessions, we will hold an online simulation activity using materials from the World Climate Interactive and the C-ROADS simulation model developed by MIT. These live sessions will be supplemented with short lectures and other materials developed and curated by the APRU experts, which will be available on a shared Canvas website. To learn more, visit the [World Climate Interactive](#).

Students will be assigned to international teams (students from various universities). Teams will be assigned one of six (6) countries/regions. Over two (2) rounds of discussions and negotiations, teams will participate in breakout rooms facilitated by international experts in climate science. In addition, teams will hear perspectives from experts on topics such as indigenous knowledge, planetary health, public health, coastal habitats, deforestation, clean energy, trading and offsets, and diplomacy and negotiation skills.

Teams will discuss the human and environmental effects of climate change, as well as the economic impact that countries/regions consider in determining their position and global commitments.

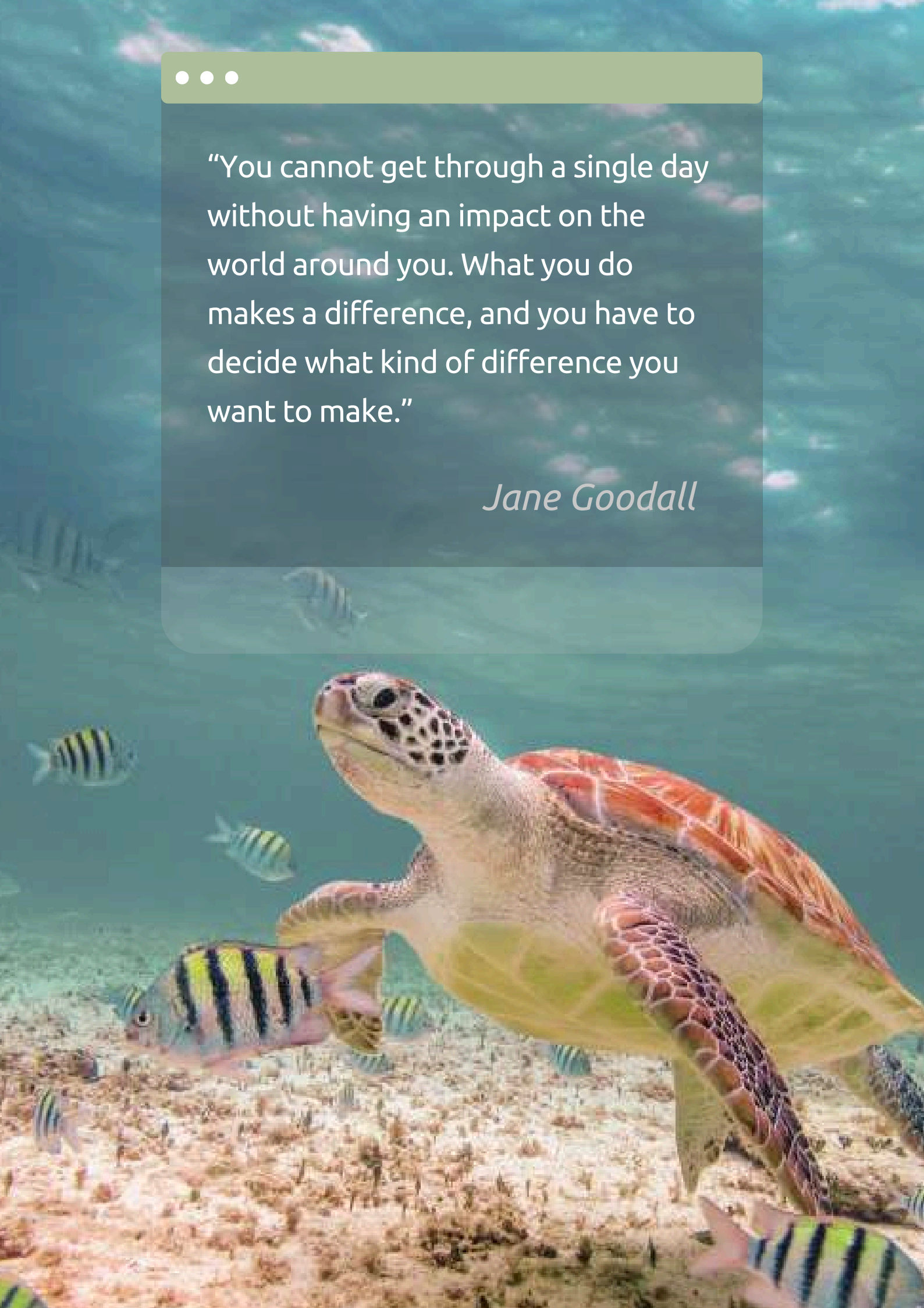
The APRU Certificate in Global Climate Change Leadership is co-organized by APRU Sustainable Cities and Landscapes Program housed at University of Oregon and APRU Global Health Program housed at University of Southern California.

Partner universities include: Chulalongkorn University, Fiji National University, Keio University, Nagoya University, Peking University, Tecnológico de Monterrey, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, University of Alberta, The University of Auckland, Universidad de Chile, Universidad San Francisco De Quito, Universiti Malaya, University of the Philippines, and University of Sydney.



“You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.”

Jane Goodall



PROGRAM *U.S. PACIFIC TIME*

DAY 1 | OPENING CEREMONY APRIL 3

6:00pm - 6:10pm	Welcome by Mellissa Withers, University of Southern California and Eleanor Vandegrift, University of Oregon
6:10pm - 6:15pm	Thomas Schneider, APRU
6:15pm - 6:45pm	Ralph Chami, Blue Green Future
6:45pm - 7:15pm	Renzo R. Guinto, Duke-NUS
7:15pm - 7:30pm	Simulation 101
7:30pm - 7:45pm	Move to delegation rooms (Blue or Green)
7:45pm - 8:00pm	Delegation member introductions
8:05pm - 8:30pm	Delegation discussions

Day 2 | TEAM MEETINGS APRIL 10

6:00pm - 6:10pm	Welcome by Mellissa Withers, University of Southern California
6:10pm - 6:30pm	Siobhan McDonnell, ANU
6:30pm - 6:45pm	Q & A
6:45pm - 6:50pm	Move to delegation rooms (Blue or Green)
6:50pm - 8:30pm	Delegation meeting with facilitators

PROGRAM *U.S. PACIFIC TIME*

DAY 3 | 1st NEGOTIATION APRIL 24

6:00pm - 6:10pm	Welcome by Eleanor Vandegrift, University of Oregon
6:10pm - 6:25pm	Railla Veronica D. Puno, NUS
6:25pm - 6:40pm	Q & A
6:40pm - 6:45pm	Move to delegation rooms (Blue or Green)
6:45pm - 7:05pm	Delegation position speeches
7:05pm - 7:25pm	1st round of pledges & discussions
7:25pm - 7:40pm	Delegation meetings
7:40pm - 8:20pm	Negotiations with other delegations
8:20pm - 8:30pm	Final closed delegation meetings with facilitator

Day 4 | 2nd NEGOTIATION MAY 1

6:00pm - 6:05pm	Welcome by Mellissa Withers, University of Southern California
6:05pm - 6:35pm	Special Topic Discussions 1
6:35pm - 6:40pm	Switch rooms
6:40pm - 7:10pm	Special Topic Discussions 2
7:10pm - 7:20pm	Move to delegation rooms (Blue or Green)
7:20pm - 7:40pm	Closed delegation discussions
7:40pm - 8:00pm	2nd round of pledges & discussion
8:00pm - 8:30pm	Debriefing

PROGRAM *HONG KONG TIME*

DAY 1 | OPENING CEREMONY APRIL 4

9:00am - 9:10am	Welcome by Mellissa Withers, University of Southern California and Eleanor Vandegrift, University of Oregon
9:10am - 9:15am	Thomas Schneider, APRU
9:15am - 9:45am	Ralph Chami, Blue Green Future
9:45am - 10:15am	Renzo R. Guinto, Duke-NUS
10:15am - 10:30am	Simulation 101
10:30am - 10:45am	Move to delegation rooms (Blue or Green)
10:45am - 11:00am	Delegation member introductions
11:00am - 11:30am	Delegation discussions

Day 2 | TEAM MEETINGS APRIL 11

9:00am - 9:10am	Welcome by Mellissa Withers, University of Southern California
9:10am - 9:30am	Siobhan McDonnell, ANU
9:30am - 9:45am	Q & A
9:45am - 9:50am	Move to delegation rooms (Blue or Green)
9:50am - 11:30am	Delegation meeting with facilitators

PROGRAM *HONG KONG TIME*

DAY 3 | 1st NEGOTIATION APRIL 25

9:00am - 9:10am Welcome by Eleanor Vandegrift, University of Oregon

9:10am - 9:25am Railla Veronica D. Puno, NUS

9:25am - 9:40am Q & A

9:40am - 9:45am Move to delegation rooms (Blue or Green)

9:45am - 10:05am Delegation position speeches

10:05am - 10:25am 1st round of pledges & discussions

10:25am - 10:40am Delegation meetings

10:40am - 11:20am Negotiations with other delegations

11:20am - 11:30am Final closed delegation meetings with facilitator

Day 4 | 2nd NEGOTIATION MAY 2

9:00am - 9:05am Welcome by Mellissa Withers, University of Southern California

9:05am - 9:35am Special Topic Discussions 1

9:35am - 9:40am Switch rooms

9:40am - 10:10am Special Topic Discussions 2

10:10am - 10:20am Move to delegation rooms (Blue or Green)

10:20am - 10:40am Closed delegation discussions

10:40am - 11:00am 2nd round of pledges & discussion

11:00am - 11:30am Debriefing

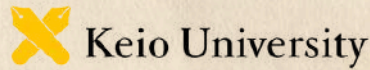
PROGRAM

SPECIAL TOPICS

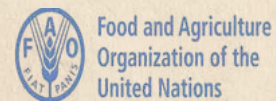
- Biodiversity **Wijarn Simachaya**
Thailand Environment Institute
- Clean Energy **Ying Zhang**
United Nations Development Programme
- Food Insecurity **Jia Li**
Food and Agricultural Office of the United Nations
- Infectious Disease **Roannie Ng Shiu**
University of Auckland
- Climate Migration **Chris Richter**
International Organization for Migration
- Trading and Offsets **Renard Siew**
Malaysia Carbon Market Association



PARTICIPATING UNIVERSITIES



COLLABORATING PARTNERS



SPEAKERS



Mellissa Withers

Dr. Mellissa Withers is Professor at the Keck School of Medicine in the Department of Population and Public Health Sciences. She is also the director of the Global Health Program of the Association of Pacific Rim Universities. She received a PhD from the Department of Community Health Sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health with a minor in cultural anthropology. She also earned a Master's in International Health from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and a BA in international development from UC Berkeley. Her research interests lie in community participatory research, mental health, gender-based violence, immigrant health, and global sexual and reproductive health. Dr Withers is the editor of two books: *Global Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health Across the Lifecourse*, and *Global Health Leadership: Case Studies from the Asia-Pacific*. She has also published more than 100 scientific articles, is the co-Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Public Health and Emergency*, and serves on the editorial boards of four other international global health journals. She also writes a blog on human trafficking titled *Modern-Day Slavery for Psychology Today*.



Eleanor Vandegrift

Eleanor "Elly" Vandegrift is the Director of the University of Oregon Global Studies Institute. In this role she supports faculty and student global research engagement and to promote academic excellence at the University of Oregon and with partners around the world. Trained as an ecologist, Elly earned multiple teaching awards for leading biology, pedagogy, and interdisciplinary courses focused on science literacy. She has worked with local, national, and international organizations dedicated to supporting faculty educational development to improve student learning experiences. Elly is excited to be co-leading the APRU Certificate in Global Climate Change Leadership 2025 and glad that all of you have said yes to being part of the APRU students and faculty who have participated in this important global conversation and work.



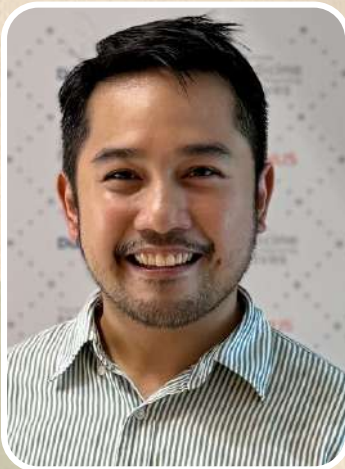
Thomas Schneider

Dr. Thomas Schneider is the Executive Director of the Association of Pacific Rim Universities. A native of Germany, Prof. Schneider studied at the University of Zurich, the University of Basel and the École Pratique des Hautes Études in Paris. He earned his degrees (Lizentiat 1990; Dr. phil. 1996; Habilitation 1999), all in Egyptology, from the University of Basel. Throughout his career, he has held academic and administrative positions in four global regions – North America; Asia; Europe; the Middle East. He was a Lecturer in Egyptology at the University of Zurich (2000-3), a Junior Research Professor of the Swiss National Science Foundation at the University of Basel (2001-5), Professor and inaugural holder of the Chair in Egyptology at Swansea University, Wales (2005-7), before joining the University of British Columbia. He held Visiting Professorships at the University of Vienna (1999), the University of Heidelberg (2003-4) and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem (2018). He was a Visiting Scholar at New York University (2006), the University of California, Berkeley (2012), the Institute of Archaeology of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in Beijing (2016) and Shanghai University (2018, International Masters Program). And from 2018-20, Prof. Schneider served the Southern University of Science and Technology (SUSTech) in Shenzhen, China's fastest-rising new STEM university, as Associate Vice President (International), spearheading its internationalization efforts. Recently, Prof. Schneider has founded PALAC – a new consortium of liberal arts colleges focused on experimental learning in the liberal arts across multiple economies in Asia and North America. His own scholarship (160 publications, among which 7 authored books and 7 edited books) focuses on cultural and linguistic interconnections in the Near East, the environmental history of Egypt, and the history of the humanities in Nazi Germany.



Ralph Chami

Dr. Ralph Chami has over 32 years of experience as a financial economist, with 25 years at the International Monetary Fund (IMF). He has also served as a consultant for the World Bank and for the private sector. He is the Co-founder and CEO of [Blue Green Future](#) and [Rebalance Earth](#), and holds visiting professor position at Williams College. He is an expert in a range of macro-financial topics including remittances, fragile states, financial inclusion, financial market development, banking regulation and risk management. Ralph is currently working on climate change and nature and biodiversity loss, developing a new framework for valuing natural capital, fauna and flora, to build an equitable and nature-positive economy. He has developed the new field "Science-Based Finance" and is leading and advising on projects around the globe, working with SDGs, indigenous peoples in South Pacific and Native American tribes in the US, as well as governments in Indonesia, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, among others. Ralph is a sought-after speaker on developing nature-positive markets. His work on valuing natural capital has been featured at [TED2022](#), TEDx Florence, [NPR](#), CNN, New York Times, National Geographic, Financial Times, The Economist, The Washington Post, World Economic Forum, among others, and in peer-reviewed journals. He is the recipient of the IMF 2104 Operational Excellence Award, 2020 Hermes Platinum Award, and 2024 MadBlue Five Oceans Award. Ralph is a member of [Planetary Guardians](#) and [IAPB](#), is Chief Economist for [WAVE](#), and serves as senior advisor to a number of companies and NGOs including [Colossal](#), [Hinemoana Halo](#), and [Ocean.us](#). Ralph has a BS from the American University of Beirut, an MBA in Finance and Statistics from the University of Kansas, and a Ph.D. in Economics from The Johns Hopkins University. Ralph is a professional musician and songwriter. His latest musical collaboration "[Moana](#)."



Renzo R. Guinto

Dr. Renzo R. Guinto is Associate Professor of Global and Planetary Health at the SingHealth Duke-NUS Global Health Institute (SDGHI), Duke-NUS Medical School. One of the world's pioneers of the new field of planetary health and Southeast Asia's leading voices for climate and health, Renzo works on diverse aspects of the climate and health nexus such as climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable health systems; impacts of climate change on mental health; climate, migration, and health; climate implications for global health interventions; climate and health education; ethical issues around climate and health, among others. Holding visiting appointments at the St. Luke's Medical Center in the Philippines and the University of Cambridge, Renzo is currently a member of the National Panel of Technical Experts of the Philippine Climate Change Commission; World Health Organization's Technical Advisory Group on the ethics of climate and health; editorial boards of several journals including The Lancet Planetary Health; and several Lancet Commissions, most notably the Lancet Commission on Sustainable Healthcare and the O'Neill-Lancet Commission on Racism, Structural Discrimination, and Global Health. An Obama Foundation Asia-Pacific Leader and Aspen Institute New Voices Fellow, he has served as consultant for various organizations including the WHO, World Bank, USAID, and Wellcome. At present, Renzo serves as member of the board of Health Systems Global (HSG) and co-lead of HSG's Thematic Working Group on Climate Resilient and Sustainable Health Systems, chair of the Committee on Environmental Health and Ecology of the Philippine Medical Association, and convener of Planetary Health Philippines. He obtained his Doctor of Public Health from Harvard University and Doctor of Medicine from the University of the Philippines Manila, and received further training from Oxford, LSHTM, Copenhagen, Western Cape, Institute of Tropical Medicine-Antwerp, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm School of Economics, and East-West Center in Hawaii. He has traveled to and lectured in nearly 70 countries and 100 universities across the world; published more than 200 reports and articles in scientific journals, books, and popular media; and directed and produced short films that communicate the message of planetary healing to the world. In 2020, Renzo was included by Tatler Magazine in its Gen.T List of 400 leaders of tomorrow who are shaping Asia's future. In 2022, he was named one of The Outstanding Young Men (TOYM) and Women of the Philippines for pioneering the field of planetary health in the Philippines and Southeast Asia. In 2025, Renzo is awarded the inaugural Kiyoshi Kurokawa Award by Japan's Health and Global Policy Institute for "extraordinary contributions to health policy and innovation in the Asia-Pacific region."



Siobhan McDonnell

Dr. Siobhan McDonnell is an Associate Professor and ARC DECRA Fellow at the Crawford School of Public Policy at The Australian National University. Siobhan is a lawyer and anthropologist who works on climate justice, disaster, resettlement, gender and land rights issues with Indigenous people in Australia and the Pacific. Since 2019 she has been a lead negotiator on climate change for Vanuatu, Fiji and Palau on issues of loss and damage and mitigation. In 2021 Siobhan drafted and launched the Loss and Damage facility for the Pacific at the Glasgow COP. Siobhan has run land cases for Indigenous groups, and in 2014 the Vanuatu government passed land reforms and Constitutional amendments she drafted to support better Indigenous land rights. Dr McDonnell's current ARC project focuses on working alongside Pacific researchers to conduct a collaborative ethnography of Conference of the Parties processes. Since 2023 she has also developed and been leading a climate alumni program to support Pacific Islander and Indigenous Australian students attend Conference of the Parties meetings. In 2023 Dr McDonnell drafted Vanuatu's National Relocation and Resettlement framework.



Railla Veronica D. Puno

Railla is the Associate Lead of the Climate Change Law and Policy team at the NUS Centre for International Law. Railla obtained her LL.M. degree in Environmental Law, specializing in Global Environmental Law, from Pace University's Elisabeth Haub School of Law (summa cum laude) and holds a Juris Doctor degree from the University of the Philippines. Railla has engaged in UNFCCC sessions in various capacities, including as negotiator and legal adviser for the Philippine government, and as Policy Coordinator for Climate Action Network, co-lead of the ENGO constituency. She previously worked for the Climate Change Commission of the Philippines as Legal Services Division Chief where she oversaw the national process for signing and ratifying the Paris Agreement and led the coordination of the Philippine climate delegation in various meetings. Railla has also done extensive research on oceans and climate, climate change and the rule of law, governance of climate geoengineering technologies, REDD+ and agriculture, and human rights and the environment, in collaboration with various intergovernmental organizations, national governments, and civil society groups. Railla also holds a Bachelor of Science degree, major in Psychology, from the Ateneo de Manila University. She is a member of the Philippine bar since 2015.



Zhenyu Zhang

Dr. Zhenyu Zhang received his Ph.D. in Epidemiology from Zhejiang University School of Public Health in 2016. He finished the post-doc training from the Department of Epidemiology at Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health from 2016-2021. Dr. Zhang is currently an assistant professor at the Department of Global Health of Peking University School of Public Health. Dr. Zhang's work is focused on the study of the adverse health effects of air pollution, in particular in evaluating the role of environmental exposures in the development of cardiovascular disease. Dr. Zhang has published seminal papers showing that particulate matter air pollution exposure has a measurable impact on cardiovascular risk factors, clinical outcomes, and mortality. In addition to his work in environmental epidemiology, Dr. Zhang has made important contributions in estimating the individual air pollution exposure with statistical models. Dr. Zhang uses novel machine-learning approaches that incorporate meteorological measurements, land-use terms, satellite-based measurements, and simulation outputs from a chemical transport model to estimate daily concentrations of PM_{2.5} in China, the United States, and South Korea. Dr. Zhang examines biologic risk factors as well as innovative epidemiologic methods and statistical analysis in the conduct of air pollution-health research. The ultimate objective of Dr. Zhang's work is to decrease the enormous burden of air pollution-related diseases through developing the scientific basis for behavioral and policy interventions.



Vivian Lee

Dr. Vivian Lee is currently Associate Professor of the Center for Learning/ Enhancement And Research (CLEAR) at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Professor Lee received her Bachelor of Sciences degree in Biochemistry at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and her Doctor of Pharmacy degree in the School of Pharmacy, University of Southern California (USC). After completion of her pharmacy training, she had pursued post-doctoral training in Pharmacy Practice residency for one year at the Huntington Memorial Hospital in Pasadena, USA. Her specialty is in clinical pharmacy in particular to cardiovascular medicine. She is also a certified Specialist by the Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties (US) in Pharmacotherapy and added qualification in cardiology pharmacotherapy. She is also the fellow of the Hong Kong College of Pharmacy Practice and the senior fellow of the United Kingdom Higher Education Academy. She has 153 full papers and 250 abstract publications. She has received numerous teaching and research awards including the Faculty Education Award (2018), the University Education Award (Highest Award on Education at the Chinese University of Hong Kong) 2014, Vice Chancellor's Exemplary Award 2010 and Master Teacher Award 2012 at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. In 2021, she was awarded the 10th Health Medical Research Fund Anniversary award to recognise her sustainable and translational research in health promotion. In addition to her passion in pharmacy research and teaching, Professor Lee also cares about the underprivileged and needy patients in the community. She has established the first interprofessional community outreach team (CU CHAMPION) and served over 50,000 elderly citizens in Hong Kong. Professor Lee also launched the first interactive online drug information (AMPOULE) to address drug-related problems for patients worldwide. To date, AMPOULE has accumulated over 45 million hits with an average daily hit of over 9,000 serving patients from 17 origins. She is also the country leader for multiple international collaborative projects including the May Measurement Month organized by the International Society of Hypertension and the Atrial Fibrillation Awareness Month organized by the Atrial Fibrillation Alliance.



Calvin King Lam Chung

Dr. Calvin King Lam Chung is assistant professor at the Department of Geography and Resource Management, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, and associate editor of *Asian Geographer*. He is broadly interested in research on state spatial restructuring, politics of planning and political ecology, with a geographical focus on China. He teaches courses in global political economy, sustainable development, environmental politics, and smart city governance.



Chris Richter

Chris Richter is currently the Regional Migration, Environment and Climate Change Specialist at the International Organization for Migration's (IOM) Regional Office in Bangkok. He was previously a Migration Officer with IOM's Office to the United Nations in New York, a position he held since 2012. He has also spent time at IOM's Headquarters in Geneva. In New York, Mr. Richter was responsible for the office's sustainable development portfolio, coordinating IOM's policy inputs to major UN processes and conferences, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development, the SAMOA Pathway for Small Island Developing States, and the Habitat III New Urban Agenda, amongst others. Prior to joining IOM, Mr. Richter held several positions across the Australian Government, covering a variety of thematic issues. He served as a Policy Officer with the UN and Human Rights Section of the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), as well as on the Counter-Violent Extremism Taskforce at the Attorney-General's Department. More recently, he was also an Assistant Director of the Strategic Policy Section of the former Department of Immigration and Citizenship. Mr. Richter studied International Relations and International Law at the University of Queensland, and has a Masters in International Development from Deakin University in Melbourne. He has published a number of articles on migration and development, refugee law and security policy.



Wijarn Simachaya

Dr. Wijarn Simachaya is a prominent figure in environmental management and sustainable development in Thailand. He holds several key positions, including President of the Thai Environment Institute (TEI), Secretary-General of the Thailand Business Council for Sustainable Development (TBCSD), and Chairman of the Public-Private Partnership for Sustainable Plastic and Waste Management (PPP Plastics). His work involves collaborating with a range of stakeholders—from international organizations and public-private agencies to civil societies and local communities—to advance environmental management and sustainable development. He was also a representative of the ministry of various UN, Regional/Sub-regional, MRC, GMS and ASEAN / ASEAN Plus 3 Forums. Dr. Simachaya has also contributed to various national committees and expert groups, such as those focused on Bio-Circular-Green Economy, Coastal and Marine Resources, and Circular Economy on waste management. He previously served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Thailand Greenhouse Gas Organization and the Bio-based Economy Development Office. His career in environmental policy includes significant roles in pollution control, natural resource management, climate change, biodiversity and international cooperation. Notable achievements in his career include developing the ASEAN Haze-Free Road Map and the Bangkok Declaration on Combating Marine Plastic Debris. In 2020, he was recognized as a “Thailand Climate Leader 2019” by Climate Scorecard. Dr. Simachaya joined the Office of Environmental Policy and Planning Board in 1984. He used to serve as a director of the Environment Division of the Mekong River Commission Secretariat (International Organization) in Lao PDR during 1997-1998. He served as several high-ranking positions in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, including Director-General of the Pollution Control Department for 2 times and the Secretary-General of the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning. His last position with government was the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment until his retirement, 30 September, 2019. Dr. Simachaya’s academic background is robust, with two Bachelor’s degrees in Chemical Education and Law, a Master’s in Environmental Science, and a Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering from University of Guelph, Canada.



Ying Zhang

Ying Zhang is the Regional Energy Specialist for Asia and the Pacific at UNDP. She has 20 years' experience in climate, energy, and green economy, including 8 years with UNEP in Geneva, where she led global and country projects on scaling up climate techs, transform high-impact value chains, and accelerate green transition. She contributed substantively to UN flagship initiatives such as GO4SDGs and PAGE (Partnership for Action on Green Economy). She has also curated climate agendas in UNIDO and the World Economic Forum, and served in government as a senior policy manager, contributing to UNFCCC Climate COPs and other international negotiations. Ying holds a Master's degree in Environmental Change and Management from Oxford University and a Professional Certificate in Competition Law from the College of Europe.



Renard Siew

Dr. Renard Siew is a sustainability and climate change expert based in Southeast Asia. He was previously a postdoctoral teaching fellow and a researcher based at the Centre for Energy and Environmental Markets (CEEM), UNSW. His research interest lies in sustainability/ integrated reporting, ESG research, socially responsible investment (across different asset classes: equities, infrastructure and property/real estate), climate change and sustainable construction for the building/infrastructure sector. Dr Siew is a graduate of Cambridge University and UNSW. In 2013, he was selected as one of 15 international scholars to attend the PhD Academy at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH). He has published in several international refereed journals. In 2014, he won a Highly Commended Paper award by the Emerald Literati Network and was a nominee for the Individual Leadership in Sustainability Infrastructure Award.

He received his Bachelor of Civil Engineering (First Class Honours) from UNSW under the sponsorship of Yayasan Sime Darby. He was the recipient of the ARC Hermes Scholarship, Brookfield Multiplex Engineering Construction Management Prize, Australian Conferences Management Education for Engineers Award, UNSW Postgraduate Research Support Scheme and was on the Dean's List (every consecutive year of study). He was nominated Top 10 for the MASA-Shell Excellence Award and the International Postgraduate Student of the Year Award by CISA for outstanding academic, extra-curricular achievements and commitment to society. He is a member of the International Corporate Governance Network (ICGN), Transparency International-Malaysia and the Network for Sustainable Financial Markets.



Jia Li

Dr. Jia Li is a Forestry Officer at the Food and Agricultural Office of the United Nations, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. She is an experienced professional with 16 years of project management and research in nature conservation and development sectors. She is skilled in forest and natural resources management, biodiversity conservation, environmental policies and GIS application. Dr Li possesses strong technical knowledge and capacity, having earned a PhD in Ecology and Conservation from the University of Hong Kong, and a Mphil in Conservation Leadership from the University of Cambridge. She has also worked for The World Bank and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature. Dr Li is an avid bird watcher.



Roannie Ng Shiu

Dr Roannie Ng Shiu is Samoan from Leone, Apia and Savaia, Lefaga. In 2021, Roannie joined the University of Auckland, where she helped to establish the University Research Centre for Pacific & Global Health as a Co-Director. She also is the Pasifika Medical Association (PMA) Senior Research Fellow with University of Auckland's Faculty of Medical Health and Sciences Office of the Associate Dean Pacific where she helps deliver robust high-quality Pacific Health equity research and helping develop efforts to increase the Pacific health workforce in Aotearoa New Zealand with the recruitment and retention of Pacific Health students. Dr Roannie is also the Principal Analyst for Malatest International, an organization specializing in progressive evaluation and market research. She has previously held research positions at the Australian National University, where she led Pacific capacity-building initiatives and was involved in large-scale Pacific development research projects. Roannie has 15 years of research experience specializing in human geography, and Pacific health, education, and development. With a strong background in research design and conducting research projects of all types, including qualitative, mixed-methods, longitudinal and cross-sectional studies. She has strong project management, stakeholder engagement and evidence-based policy development skills. She has vast research experience in the Pacific region, Aotearoa New Zealand, Australia and the United States. Her most recent research collaboration with the University of West Indies and the Lancet Countdown focused on the development of climate change and health policy for Small Island Developing States.



Dennis Galvan

Dr. Dennis Galvan is Dean and Vice Provost for the Division of Global Engagement, Vice Provost for Strategic Initiatives, and Professor of Political Science and Global Studies at the University of Oregon. A political scientist by training, Dr. Galvan has conducted extensive field work in rural Senegal and in Indonesia, and his research focuses on how ordinary people implement creative tactics to dismantle and reorganize institutions designed to promote development. This experience influences his work as a university administrator, as he implements the lessons learned about everyday institutional creativity from his field work. Dr. Galvan works with colleagues to carefully and creatively improve university structures to make higher education more resilient and able to respond with agility to changing circumstances. Dr. Galvan received his Ph.D. from U.C. Berkeley and his A.B from Stanford University.

FACILITATORS



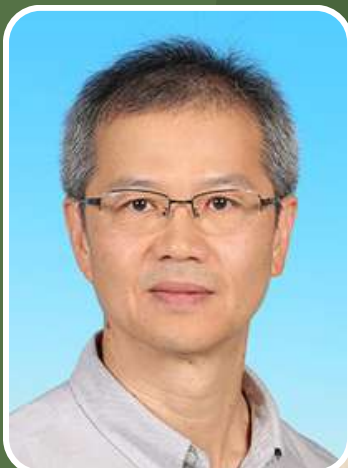
Ellen Fitzpatrick

Dr. Ellen Fitzpatrick is Professor at the University of Oregon in Development and Ecological Economics. Her research focuses on the design and measurement of climate adaptation in livelihoods, global health, and housing. This builds on evaluative research on sustainability and resilience in development interventions. Dr. Fitzpatrick received her PhD in Agricultural and Resource Economics at Michigan State University. She has 30 years of experience teaching undergraduates and graduate students in research methods, evaluation, and international development. Dr. Fitzpatrick served as Senior Scholar in Residence for Heifer International, leading the organization in strengthening their evaluative capacities, leading evaluations in Latin America, Asia, and Africa. She has also performed a similar role for Barefoot College International. She has also consulted with USAID, the World Bank, and the Asian Development Bank.



Victor Hoe

Dr. Victor Hoe is a Public Health Medicine Specialist. He is a highly qualified professional in medicine, public health, engineering, and occupational safety and health. His interdisciplinary collaboration with engineers, IT specialists, and dental experts led to innovative approaches for management of COVID-19, which included developing the online risk assessment for hospitals, managing ventilation issues in the ICU, Emergency Department, and Isolation Wards, Hybrid Mask Sterilizer, and aerosol collector for dental care. He actively engages in research and consultation projects on occupational and environmental health. Additionally, Dr. Hoe holds the position of Chair for the Association of Academies and Societies of Sciences in Asia Working Group, overseeing the IAP's Climate Change and Health project. His broad expertise enables him to contribute significantly to the development of solutions for public health challenges in diverse settings.



Arthur Lau

Dr. Arthur Lau is an associate professor of interdisciplinary education, Division of Environment and Sustainability at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST). He is the Program Co-Director of the BSc in Environmental Management and Technology (EVMT) at HKUST. EVMT is an interdisciplinary undergraduate program nurturing future sustainability talents and leaders. He is actively engaged in environmental and sustainability education from program and curriculum design to course delivery at HKUST. His research focuses on air quality.



Ma. Charisma T. Malenab

Dr. Ma. Charisma T. Malenab is a faculty member at the Department of Social Development Services, College of Human Ecology, University of the Philippines Los Baños. With a PhD in Environmental Science, her current research focus, developed in her dissertation, is on reducing disaster risks, planning resettlement, and analyzing socio-ecological systems within disaster-altered landscapes. Previously, she participated in research and public service initiatives related to environmental management, climate change, and needs assessment for improved delivery of social services. Dr. Malenab aspires to further her contributions to the scientific field especially in disaster education, environmental security and management, and in the design and delivery of social services.



Gavin Palmer

Gavin Palmer is the Global Education Specialist in University of Alberta International. A dedicated interculturalist and facilitator, he champions global understanding and inclusivity. Holding a Master's degree in Intercultural and International Communication, Gavin brings a wealth of experience from his ten years of living, working, traveling and learning across Asia, significantly shaping his intercultural expertise. Gavin's background in education and international tourism informs his commitment to the lived experiences of international students. He works diligently to build intercultural competencies and foster values of inclusivity. As a facilitator, he creates programs and dialogues that help students and staff navigate cultural differences, share perspective on worldviews, and develop mutual respect. A key consideration of Gavin's work is advancing the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). He integrates these global objectives into his initiatives, promoting sustainable practices and a global perspective among students and colleagues. His efforts contribute to a broader understanding and commitment to achieving these critical goals. Outside of his professional life, Gavin enjoys a variety of activities that reflect his love for adventure and relaxation. He spends his leisure time camping, kayaking, swimming, and enjoying moments with his family.



Bala Murali Sundram

Dr. Bala Murali Sundram is currently a Senior Lecturer in the Occupational and Environmental Health Unit, Department of Social and Preventive Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur. He completed his Masters (MPH) and Doctorate in Public Health (DrPH) from the University of Malaya. His areas of research interest are in Public Health, mainly in Occupational Health, Environmental Health and Climate Change, Infectious Disease Epidemiology, Disease Surveillance, Mental health and psycho-social biomarkers at the workplace. His research work has been presented in local and international conferences and has been published in some high impact and peer-reviewed ISI journals in the field of public health and occupational health. He is also being attached to professional bodies like Malaysian Medical Association, Malaysian Society of Occupational Health Doctors and a scientific committee member in the International Commission on Occupational Health (ICOH) and steering committee member in Green@UMHealth initiative for campus and healthcare sustainability in University Malaya.



Latileta Odrovakavula

Latileta Odrovakavula comes from the beautiful Isles of Fiji. She is a highly motivated public health professional with an interest in improving population health outcomes. She has proven experience in public health projects, research, and education and is committed to contributing effectively to the field of Public Health. She received a Master of Public Health, a Post Graduate Diploma Public Health, a Post Graduate Diploma Applied Epidemiology, and a Bachelor of Public Health, all from Fiji National University. Her areas of interest are adolescent health, and reproductive health.



Harikrishna (Hari) Rao

Harikrishna Rao Mohan Rao (Hari) is a Ph.D. candidate in Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada. His research focuses on advanced data-driven solutions for enhancing industrial alarm systems, with the goal of developing reliable decision support systems that improve operations and reduce operator workload in process industries. Hari earned his B.Tech degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Kerala, India, in 2012, graduating as the Best Outgoing Student and receiving the Proficiency Prize. Before pursuing graduate studies, he gained over seven years of industrial experience in the clean-energy sector, specializing in process control, automation, alarm management, and fault detection. His work in early failure detection using process data has led to two patent-approved invention disclosures. His research contributions have been presented at prestigious conferences, including the American Control Conference and the World Congress of the International Federation of Automatic Control (IFAC). He is an active member of IEEE and the International Society of Automation (ISA). At the University of Alberta, Hari has served as a Teaching Assistant for three years in an engineering design course, mentoring and leading other TAs in developing student projects based on the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). His dedication to education and leadership has earned him the Graduate Student Teaching Award from the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (2024) and the Service Award from the Graduate Students' Association (2025) at the University of Alberta. His achievements have been further recognized through the IEEE Systems Council James O'Gray Scholarship for Process Control and Automation (2023) and the ISA Student Volunteer of the Year Award (2024) as part of Celebrating Global Excellence. Hari served as a co-facilitator for the Global Climate Change Simulation organized by the Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU) in August-September 2024 and will return as a facilitator for the APRU Certificate in Global Climate Change Leadership 2025.



Patricia Segura-Medina

Dr. Patricia Segura-Medina is Professor at the School of Medicine and Health Sciences of Tecnológico de Monterrey. She is a member of the Mexican Researcher Board Level II. Since 2018 is a member of the Technical and Academic Council of the Research Network on Atmospheric Pollution and Climate Change Mitigation of Mexico (REDCAM). She studied Veterinary Medicine, obtaining the Gabino Barreda's Medal and the Silver Medal for the best students in Mexico. She obtained her master's science degree in physiological sciences and his PhD in biomedical sciences in pharmacology and toxicology. She completed a postdoctoral stay at the University of Liège in Belgium. She currently has 42 scientific articles with 723 citations. As well as 6 chapters of books specialized in his area of knowledge. He has obtained 8 external grants for his scientific research projects. Additionally, she has participated in the presentation of 70 free papers in various International Congresses and 75 National Congresses, and has been invited to give more than 20 national and international conferences. She has been awarded with the Borrego De Oro Award as the best teacher at Tecnológico de Monterrey and the Women Tec Award in Science and Technology in 2016.



Asaad Shamseldin

Dr. Asaad Shamseldin has considerable research, consultancy, and technology transfer experience in the field of hydrology and water resources. Professor Shamseldin acted as a reviewer for engineering design guidelines both nationally and internationally. He also served as editor for international journals. His research focuses on innovative predictive modelling combined with an experimental approach to advance scientific knowledge. His work covers the areas of climate and land use changes, urban water management, catchment hydrology, global water cycle, transboundary water issues, natural hazard engineering and risk & uncertainty analysis. Professor Asaad Shamseldin has a distinguished record of publications in peer refereed high-citation international journals, books and conference proceedings. He is currently Vice Chair for the Sustainable Development Goals Working Group of the International Association for Hydro-Environment Engineering and Research (IAHR). He is also a member of the executive committee for the IAHR Asia Pacific division (IAHR-APD).



Nicolas Vela

Dr. Nicolas Vela, BSc, MSc, PhD, MBA. Nicolas Vela is an Associate Professor at Universidad San Francisco de Quito, where he leads by example in the fields of environmental engineering, hydrology, and green chemistry. Armed with a deep-seated passion for innovation and sustainability, Nicolas has carved a niche in renewable energy production and innovative waste management solutions. His academic prowess is complemented by an MBA, which enhances his approach to integrating sustainable practices with business strategies. A prolific contributor to top energy-field journals, Nicolas's work not only advances the scientific community but also inspires the next generation of engineers to embrace eco-friendly innovations. Committed to making a significant impact on the environment, he continuously seeks new ways to promote sustainability in both local and global contexts.



Ilona Sakaguchi

Dr. Sakaguchi is a Designated Lecturer at Nagoya University, Japan. Originally from Finland, she moved to Japan over 10 years ago. She currently works at the International Admissions Office at Nagoya University. Her academic background is in geography and geology, and she completed my PhD studying mineral reactions related to earthquake formation. She has always been fascinated by topics at the intersection of natural sciences and the humanities, as these fields are often viewed as separate in academia but must coexist and interact in the real world.



Kristina Cordero-Bailey

Dr. Kristina Cordero-Bailey is currently an Assistant Professor at the Dept. of Community and Environmental Resource Planning at the College of Human Ecology in the University of the Philippines Los Baños. She received her PhD in Marine Science from the Marine Science Institute in University of the Philippines Diliman with her research interests covering biological oceanography, ocean remote sensing, climate change and disaster risk reduction particularly in coastal municipalities. Her current projects are mainly directed on providing technical assistance to local government units around the country to formulate their local development plans, particularly in assisting coastal communities to efficiently plan their coastal municipal waters.



Fabiola Wüst

Dr. Wüst is an Academic at the Institute of International Studies of the Universidad de Chile. She is a member of the Sustainability Committee and member of the Central Commission on Industrial Property of the UChile. She earned a Doctorate in International Law from the University of Sao Paulo, and a Master's in Law from the Federal University of Santa Catarina, Brazil.



Inti Lefort

Inti Lefort is Chilean and is an Engineer in Natural Resources, with a Master's degree in Public Policy Master Degree. Currently he is a PhD student in hydraulic engineering at the Universidad de Chile, with experience in climate risk assessment, especially in hydroclimatic risks and considering a transdisciplinary approach. He has previously worked for private companies, universities, and NGOs. Inti is also a bird enthusiast.



Bumi Herman

Dr. Bumi Herman is a lecturer at School of Global Health Faculty of Medicine, at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand. His expertise encompasses, epidemiology of non-communicable diseases, tuberculosis, biostatistics, health policy, and the application of artificial intelligence in health. Dr. Herman is also interested in evaluating the impact of heat and air pollution on health using ecological approach to influence the climate-resilient health policy in Thailand.



Meike Sauerwein

Dr. Meike Sauerwein is a lecturer in the Division of Environment and Sustainability of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST), and the academic lead of the HKUST Life Cycle Lab. Her research interests evolve around environmental assessment of systems & products and consumption behaviours with focus on of circular systems in FMCG & textile. She teaches about Sustainable Consumption & Life Cycle Assessment and its applications in business, sustainable finance, and policymaking.



Emma Thompson

Dr. Thompson is Senior Lecturer in animal sciences and wildlife conservation at the University of Sydney, a coordinator of multiple units of study, and the degree coordinator for the Bachelor of Wildlife Conservation. The degree is co-taught as part of an Education Alliance between the university and Taronga Conservation Society Australia where she worked for the first 5 years of the program, designing and implementing theory and practical content. Her research background is marine biology specifically working with estuarine and aquaculture species. She is interested in the immunological responses to climate change, environmental contamination, and disease, assessing physiological, proteomic and transcriptomic effects. She currently supervises a number of Hons and PhD students across a range of estuarine and marine species. She is a passionate educator focused on using sound pedagogical techniques to provide students with engaging and authentic learning experiences, and linking industry-associated activities to ensure students are ready for their chosen career.



Yoshiaki Miyamoto

Dr. Miyamoto is an associate professor in the faculty of Environment and Information Studies at Keio University in Japan. He studied Meteorology and Climate Science. His research focuses on hurricanes and typhoons and conducting global simulations with super high resolution.



Pritpal Singh

Dr. Pritpal Singh has a Doctorate in Cellular and Molecular Biology from Nanyang Technological University (NTU). Dr. Singh is currently a lecturer at the School of Biological Sciences Nanyang Technological University and teaches NTU's Interdisciplinary Collaborative Core Curriculum. His current research involves the use of herbal plants for disease therapy. He has had various roles in the education landscape, teaching and mentoring students at all levels, from high school to postgraduate. He is particularly proud of his work in developing playful educational programs with Lego for Bricks 4 Kidz in Perth, Australia.

AVAILABLE ONLINE



Kristie Ebi

Dr. Kristie L. Ebi has been conducting research and practice on the health risks of climate variability and change for 25 years. Her research focuses on understanding sources of vulnerability; estimating current and future health risks of climate change; designing adaptation policies and measures to reduce the risks of climate change in multi-stressor environments; and quantifying the health co-benefits of mitigation policies. She has worked with multiple countries in Africa, Central America, Europe, Asia, and the Pacific in assessing their vulnerability and implementing adaptation measures. She is a lead author for the human health chapter of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 6th assessment report, and was a lead author on the IPCC special report on warming of 1.5°C, and the 4th US National Climate Assessment. She co-chairs the International Committee On New Integrated Climate Change Assessment Scenarios (ICONICS), facilitating development of climate change scenarios. Her scientific training includes an M.S. in toxicology and a Ph.D. and a Master of Public Health in epidemiology, and two years of postgraduate research at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. She has edited four books on aspects of climate change and has more than 200 peer-reviewed publications.



Alistair Woodward

Dr. Alistair Woodward is a public health doctor and epidemiologist at the University of Auckland in New Zealand. He has worked for a range of international agencies, including WHO, UNEP and the Ford Foundation. His climate change interests go back to the 1990s, when the idea that human activity might disrupt planetary systems was regarded as rather odd, and hardly deserving serious attention. The world has changed, thank goodness.



Gonzalo Rivas

Dr. Gonzalo Rivas is interested in understanding the impact of biotic and abiotic variables on the plant communities of tropical forests in Ecuador, particularly in the Yasuní Biosphere Reserve, Galapagos and in the high Andean forests of the North of the country. His current projects include: 1) mapping the existing diversity in these areas using advanced technologies and remote sensing; 2) using spatially explicit results as the tools endorsed by the environmental authority of Ecuador, 3) understand in the short and long term how variation in climate at different spatial and temporal scales affects plant communities in his regions of interest.



Litiana Talake

Litiana Talake is the Adaptation Policy Adviser in the Climate Change Department of the Ministry of Finance of the government of Tuvalu.



Kathryn Bowen

Dr. Kathryn Bowen is Professor and Deputy Director at Melbourne Climate Futures, and Professor - Environment, Climate and Global Health, at the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne. She is an Affiliate Scholar at the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies, Potsdam, Germany (iass-potsdam.de). Kathryn works at the nexus of global environmental change, global health and governance issues primarily in low and middle-income settings. She holds a PhD (ANU), MSc (International Health), DTMPH (Humboldt & Freie Universities, Berlin) and BA/Psyc (Hons) (Newcastle). She has worked in global health research and policy since 1999, across public, private and university sectors. She is a Senior Research Fellow within the Earth System Governance project, and Alumni of the Centre for Sustainability Leadership. She also holds a number of key international leadership roles, including as Lead Author on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 6th Assessment Report (Ch. 7, Health), the Science Committee of the World Adaptation Science Program (UNEP); the Steering Committee of the Future Earth Health Knowledge Action Network (Health KAN), and the Planetary Justice Taskforce as part of the Earth System Governance network. Dr Bowen is regularly commissioned by international bilateral and multilateral agencies (eg. WHO, DFAT, UNEP, UNDP, ADB, GIZ, DFAT) to co-design solutions for sustainable futures, particularly in relation to planetary health. She works passionately to empower colleagues and decision-makers and collaborate with diverse stakeholders to drive positive outcomes.

PEER MENTORS

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Ming-Chin Wu	<i>University of Southern California</i>



“We do not inherit the earth
from our ancestors, we
borrow it from our children.”

Chief Seattle

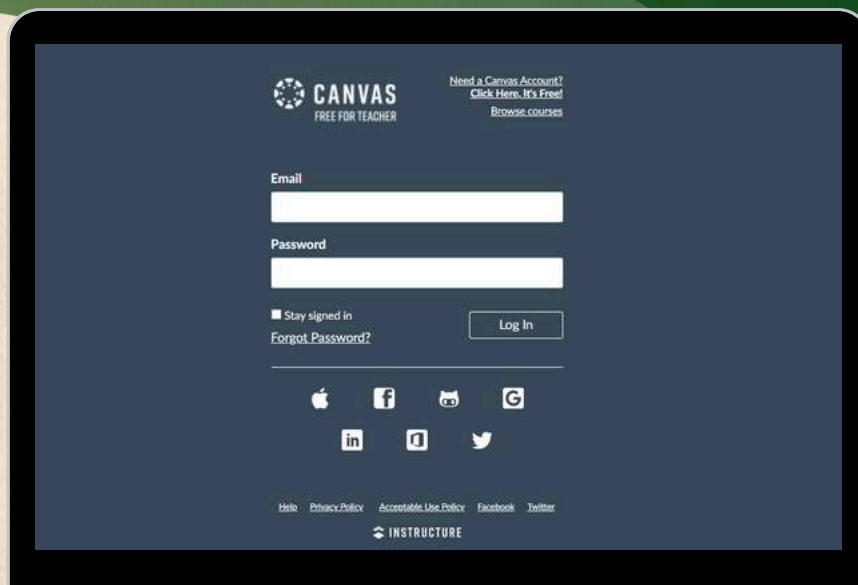


HOW TO GET ACCESS?

Watch the instructional video on this link:

<https://bit.ly/APRUSGCCS-VID>

Note: The instructional video was created in 2023 and still applies to the current year



WRITTEN INSTRUCTION

1. You will receive an email invitation to join the Canvas site for 2025 APRU Certificate in Global Climate Change Leadership. Follow the instructions in the email or these instructions below.

2. Go to <https://canvas.instructure.com/login/canvas>

NOTE: It MUST be canvas.instructure – if the URL says canvas.learn, you’re on the WRONG version of the site. If your university uses Canvas, you still need to make a new account with THIS version of Canvas.

3. On the top right corner it says “Need a Canvas account? Click here, it’s free!”

4. Click that link and it will take you to the following website:

<https://canvas.instructure.com/register>

5. Click on the student sign up

6. Complete the required information and **use the join code: 349NWF**

(you may also go directly to this site: <https://canvas.instructure.com/enroll/349NWF> to enroll)

7. Once you complete the sign up you should be granted access to the site.



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