



UC SANTA BARBARA
Environmental Studies

Commencement Celebration and Award Ceremony

Friday, June 16, 2023 | 3:30 PM
Bren Hall
University of California
Santa Barbara



Program

- 01 **Welcome**
Professor Carla D’Antonio
Chair, Environmental Studies Program
- 02 **Outstanding Alumni Award**
- 03 **Community Service Award**
- 04 **2023 Student Award Presentations**
 - Outstanding Senior
 - Outstanding Service Award
 - Marc McGinnes Law and Advocacy Scholarship
 - Distinguished Senior Thesis Award
 - Outstanding Academic Achievement Award
 - Other Awards & Program Scholarships
- 07 **ES Class of 2023 Closing Remarks**
Eric Zimmerman
Environmental Studies Student Affairs Manager

WELCOME

Message from the ES Program Chair



CARLA D'ANTONIO

Congratulations to the class of 2023!

Welcome to the 2023, UCSB Environmental Studies Awards Ceremony. I am honored to serve as the Chair of this amazing program. The class of 2023 is an extraordinary group of students, and we are thrilled to help them go out into the world to be extraordinary leaders, innovators, and scholars!

Today's graduates join a distinguished family of UCSB Environmental Studies alumni... over 8000 of them—distributed around the world....each with their own story and path. Our students and alumni share a common bond: a deeply held commitment to improving the health of our planet, for today and for generations to come, to ensuring equal access for everyone to a healthy environment, and to devising and implementing creative solutions to the many challenges we face.

Our students lead and inspire us in our classrooms, our research labs, and through student and community organizations whose goals reflect the urgency, determination, vision, and courage that this historic moment requires of us.

Environmental Studies is a space where people collaborate, share knowledge and experiences, and innovate to devise and implement solutions to the environmental challenges we face so that our future will be more hopeful, more equitable and more sustainable. We are strong because of the phenomenal commitment of our faculty and instructors, and the achievements of this group of students.

OUTSTANDING ALUMNI AWARD



PROFESSOR

ALEXIS RACELIS

UCSB Environmental Studies '98

Dr. Alexis Racelis holds the Houston Endowed Chair for Science and Technology at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, where he serves as an Associate Professor in the School for Earth, Environmental, and Marine Science, and Director of the Agroecology and Resilient Food Systems Program. His academic program reflects a deep commitment to students and community of south Texas, centered on equitable access to intellectual capital through participatory action research, culturally relevant pedagogy, and community engaged scholarship. He currently serves as an appointed Member of USDA's Federal Equity Commission, Subcommittee in Agriculture.

Professor Racelis is a rock star in the field of sustainable food systems and agroecology. He exemplifies our ES values because he has structured his research program to be directly relevant to both farmers in his community and federal policy. His research focuses on agroecological strategies for farmers to both mitigate and adapt to climate change, from cover cropping to ecological pest management to promoting mycorrhizal fungi, and he conducts these studies using participatory action research in partnership with farmers in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas. He credits his UCSB undergraduate experience in ES as the spark for pursuing his career in agricultural research.

OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD



CONDOR'S HOPE

Condor's Hope is a five-acre, family-owned vineyard grown using traditional dry-farm practices. Dry farming allows farmers to grow grapes and olives with little or no irrigation. Condor's Hope is a place where owners/farmers, Steve Gliessman and Robbie Jaffe, put the principles of ecology to practice bringing together their love of farming, the environment, and community.

The Cuyama Valley in northeastern Santa Barbara County, where their vineyard is located, is known as a 'food desert' where residents drive one hour to the nearest grocery store. Yet a burgeoning food system is developing with home gardens and small family farms serving the local community.

Steve is professor emeritus of Environmental Studies at the University of California Santa Cruz (UCSC) where he founded the agroecology program. Robbie founded Life Lab, a nonprofit organization that develops school garden curriculum, programs, and trainings, and was a lecturer in environmental education at UCSC.

Condor's Hope has hosted regular educational and community events, and they have been stalwart participants in community food systems planning in Santa Barbara County. More recently, they have been deeply involved in the struggle for water justice in the Cuyama Valley and equitable implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. They have hosted our UCSB Environmental Studies classes for very enriching overnight field trips both this year and last year--and we look forward to future collaborations!

2023 STUDENT AWARDS

Outstanding Senior Award

Awarded to the top graduating student who has demonstrated extraordinary academic excellence and a high level of extracurricular service

Cameran Bahnsen

Distinguished Senior Thesis Award

In recognition of an exemplary senior thesis

Yalda M. Khodadad

Outstanding Service Awards

Awarded to ES students who have demonstrated exemplary environmental service within the ES Program and/or the campus and local community

Joelle Canto Adams

Quinn Costello

Carissa Garcia

Alyssa Jain

Kat Lane

Lily Melendez

Visala Rozalia Tallavarjula

Marian Walker

Marc McGinnes Law and Advocacy Scholarship

In recognition of outstanding academic achievement in environmental law courses and outstanding environmental service and leadership

Caillian Sheehy

2023 STUDENT AWARDS

Outstanding Academic Achievement

Awarded to ES and Hydrologic Science seniors who have completed their major and college requirements with an outstanding overall GPA of 3.75 or higher.

Ava L. Abeck	Celeste Chavez Hernandez	Theodore C. Napoli
Dani S. Aflalo	Nick A. Hernandez	Natalie C. Nguyen
Cameron M. Bahnsen	Luna Herschenfeld-Catalan	Stephanie T. Nguyen
Brooke N. Bennett	Emily J. Hull	Ames D. Noll
Ethan D. Blacher	Alyssa N. Jain**	Sarah C. Olsen
Mina M. Boozarpour**	Emma R. Jurgensen	Rylee M. Pupa
Skylar R. Bowyer	Sierra J. Kacani	Claire Qiu
Anne R. Burdette	Lillian G. Kloubec	Leah C. Rice
Sarah S. Burnick	Chris J. Kracha**	Tara S. Robinson**
Mary S. Cadogan	Ameera B. Kumar	Claire A. Rouse
Jayne V. Campbell	Arushi Lakhan-Pal	Rayna C. Ruggeri
Joelle J. Cantoadams	Jack T. Lalonde	Isabella M. Salangsang
Emma A. Cardoso	Lawrence C. Lam	Eme E. Schwartz-Collins
Malia G. Cashel	Kat D. Lane	Sydney K. Shafer
Shelly F. Chen	Raina L. Larson	Camila L. Shannon
Aubrey P. Chuen	Tuan M. Le	Caillian J. Sheehy
Maya T. Colehower	Michael J. Lee	Eilidh Slater
Abigail Correa	Marie J. Levisay	Jessica E. Sofian
Amanda J. Costley	Lydia Liang	Lauren W. Stiles
Nina H. Crossen	Tyler T. Liddell	Caroline R. Sullivan
Emmaline V. Debecker	Mia H. Loo	Lauren A. Sullivan
Francesca S. DiMundo**	Milene Ly	Visala R. Tallavarjula
Charlotte J. Drop	Olivia H. Macior	Alice M. Taylor
Rachel L. Dye	Gabriella L. Manzo	Emeline L. Tu
Conner L. Edwards	Cece A. Marino	Marian S. Walker**
Jamison C. Evans	Olivia R. Mattair	Grace F. Weber
Aria W. Everingham	Bailey R. Mckernan	Brooke P. Wibberley
Sofia V. Fea Ruiz	Micah L. Meghreblian	Adam W. Woo
Ella G. Fletcher	Lily B. Melendez	Yongchen Wu
Carissa L. Garcia	Justinas A. Memenas	Victoria Yang
Molly A. Garrett	Milenne M. Mesropian	Jake R. Yarris
Aaron S. Gill	Sophie S. Miller	Diana Yi**
Samantha S. Gilman	Isabella N. Milles	William Yip
Jolie E. Gobler	Megan N. Musolf	Kobe Yu
Mckenzie L. Goetz	Chisa Nagai	Cassidy J. Zelinka
Juliana B. Goldman	Emma L. Nance	

****Indicates a candidate for the Distinction in the Major**

2023 STUDENT AWARDS

Recognition of Excellence

Recognition of ES and Hydrologic Science seniors who have completed their major and college requirements with an excellent overall GPA of 3.5-3.74.

Siham Abdi
Victoria S. Aispuro
Claire C. Alfano
Briza I. Alvarado
Ella F. Anderson

Nicole E. Anderson**

Alyssa A. Andrews
Sydney B. Arrillaga
Grace M. Benzler
Sequoia K. Bittner
Adrien D. Blanadet
Danielle L. Bollinger
Jenna E. Bowman
Julia M. Browne
Monique P. Cagan
Isabella L. Carr
Jesse T. Casey
Christine Cheng
Russell M. Chia
Nick J.D. Colwell
Gwen E. Conway
Kianna Coolidge
Quinn I. Costello
Ellie R. Cotter
Brooklyn S. Deal
Isabel K. Degreen
Sophie Dutsch-Zdanowicz
Paige A. Elling
Lindsay J. Erdmann
Wanzhou Fang
Ariana Fernandez
Juliana A. Fiore
Anna R. Flores
Rachel F. Frost
Kyle J. Fry
Isabel J. Hadly

Leanne M. Hagen
Brendan P. Hanley
Max S. Harding
Bryce S. Hatch
Jenna C. Haut
Bailey V. Hayes
Bryce J. Heng
Alison E. Heyne

Madeline A. Holroyd**

Anika J. Hua
Katie I. Huston
Khanh G. Huynh
Jessica C. Jagger
Sarah L. Jagger
Hazel B. Johnson
Jack C. Johnson
Miles C. Johnson
Abby E. Jones

Yalda M. Khodadad**

Keanna K. Lam
Yan W. Lei
Miguel Leon
Hannah L. Lewis
Ryan G. Lewis
Mora C. Lezama
Alexis G. Lopez
Devinne K. Luna
Krystal M. Luna
Graysen P. Mahon

Parker D. Malhotra**

Toni L. Marietti
Katherine L. McCabe
Richard Y. Mei
Abby A. Messe
Christian Lezama Mora
Eli D. Morton

Melanie J. Namkung
Ashton O. Reese
Johanna E. Onofre
Madeline G. Pacheco
Collin M. Paludi
Sydney C. Pastore
Oscar N. Peterson
Gabriel S. Ramirez
Alyssa D. Ravega
Katrina L. Reinart
Sonnet C. Richmond

Karissa M. Rodriguez**

Esther A. Ruvalcaba
Darren A. Saadat
Megan Y. Shimoda
Rebecca R. Siegler
Katie A. Sloan
Beckett E. Staubs-Friedman
Hayden S. Stein
Ellie J. Stewart
Cecilia K. Su
Sami J. Sugita
Lizzie I. Tjahja**
Luke G. Todd
Justin Tse

Kenna L. Vandermark
Sarah Vargas
Alissa M. Villanueva

Vicente E. Villasenor**

Lexi A. Werner
Lauren J. Winters
Gabby J. Woodford
Nick R. Wrubel**
Ziyue Yu

****Indicates a candidate for the Distinction in the Major**

2023 ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES GRADUATES

Siham Abdi	Jayne V. Campbell	Sophie Dutsch-Zdanowicz
Ava L. Abeck	Joelle J. Canto Adams	Rachel L. Dye
Emma Abercrombie Peters	Emma A. Cardoso	Maisie D. Edsall-Lingenfelter
Parker L. Abt	Isabella L. Carr	Conner L. Edwards
Dani S. Afalo	Jesse T. Casey	Paige A. Elling
Victoria S. Aispuro	Malia G. Cashel	Lindsay J. Erdmann
Claire C. Alfano	Inti R. Castelo Lujan	Adam R. Ernster
Joaquin V. Almendras	Nathaly C. Castillo Orozco	Jose A. Escobar
Thatcher J. Alvarado Vargas	Ian A. Castillo	Nikolaus N. Estrada
Briza I. Alvarado	Davis R. Chandler	Aidan M. Evans
Cynthia E. Alvarez	Naomi H. Charlet	Jamison C. Evans
Jenna E. Alvstad	Celeste Chavez Hernandez	Aria W. Everingham
Chris J. Anaya	Griffin R. Chen	Wanzhou Fang
Ella F. Anderson	Lucy Chen	Sofia V. Fea Ruiz
Nicole E. Anderson	Shelly F. Chen	Summit M. Fedler
Alyssa A. Andrews	Christine Cheng	Ariana Fernandez
Sydney B. Arrillaga	Russell M. Chia	Lesley A. Figueroa
Cade J. Auster	Aubrey P. Chuen	Juliana A. Fiore
Cameron M. Bahnsen	Alondra Cisneros	Ella G. Fletcher
Ben C. Bair	Alexa M. Coburn	Erica R. Flores Martinez
Emily W. Barone	Maya T. Colehower	Anna R. Flores
Abigail K. Barrientos	Nick J.D. Colwell	Esther Franco-Hernandez
Elizabeth M. Bartlett	Gabriel A. Contreras	Madeline M. Franco
Tosun I. Bayrak	Gwen E. Conway	Rachel F. Frost
Kate A. Becker	Kianna Coolidge	Kyle J. Fry
Siena C. Bellandi	Kennedy G. Cornwell	Gigi Fung
Brooke N. Bennett	Abigail Correa	Carissa L. Garcia
Zac Benzerara	Quinn I. Costello	Frida N. Garcia
Grace M. Benzler	Amanda J. Costley	Molly A. Garrett
Sequoia K. Bittner	Ellie R. Cotter	Aaron S. Gill
Ethan D. Blacher	Karmenita M. Cox	Samantha S. Gilman
Adrien D. Blanadet	Nina H. Crossen	Jolie E. Gobler
Danielle L. Bollinger	Gabriel G. Da Silva	Mckenzie L. Goetz
Mina M. Boozarpour	Laura E. Davis	Juliana B. Goldman
Jenna E. Bowman	Breanna J. De Lira	Jesus A. Gomez Garcia
Skylar R. Bowyer	Brooklyn S. Deal	Alan A. Gonzalez Cuna
Cole F. Bresnan	Emmaline V. Debecker	Augustus W. Green
Julia M. Browne	Isabel K. Degreen	Nathan T. Green
Sharlene Bungay	Clarissa J. Diaz	Adam M. Guerra
Anne R. Burdette	Francesca S. DiMundo	Steven Guo
Sarah S. Burnick	Ashley Dinh A. Dinh	Isabel J. Hadly
Mary S. Cadogan	Kat E. Dooley	Leanne M. Hagen
Monique P. Cagan	Charlotte J. Drop	Ismael S. Haile
Crystal Calderon	Hazel M. Drymon	Dylan T. Hamilton

2023 ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES GRADUATES

Aminah Hanif-Cruz	Ameera B. Kumar	Lucy J. Marx
Brendan P. Hanley	Arushi Lakhan-Pal	Tevya E. Mathew
Max S. Harding	Jack T. Lalonde	Olivia R. Mattair
Lindsay N. Harris	Keanna K. Lam	Katherine L. McCabe
Taylor R. Harwood	Lawrence C. Lam	Bailey R. Mckernan
Bryce S. Hatch	Kat D. Lane	Micah L. Meghreblian
Jenna C. Haut	Leilani A. Larez	Richard Y. Mei
Bailey V. Hayes	Raina L. Larson	Lily B. Melendez
Layne A. Hayward	Tuan M. Le	Justinas A. Memenas
Bryce J. Heng	Michael J. Lee	Milenne M. Mesropian
Kevin G. Hernandez Mancia	Yan W. Lei	Abby A. Messe
Nick A. Hernandez	Miguel Leon	Leslie S. Mex
Sara M. Herrera Orozco	Marie J. Levisay	Max J. Meyers
Luna Herschenfeld-Catalan	Hannah L. Lewis	Katie R. Miller
Alison E. Heyne	Ryan G. Lewis	Sophie S. Miller
Emma M. Hiett	Christian Lezama Mora	Isabella N. Milles
Jorie M. Hoffman	Lydia Liang	Nick N. Momaney
Madeline A. Holroyd	Tyler T. Liddell	Paulo C. Moreno Mendez
Anika J. Hua	Jeanine D. Lomaintewa	Eli D. Morton
Jonathan Huaracha	Mia H. Loo	Jesus A. Mu—Oz
Nicole E. Huaringa Lecca	Alejandra Lopez Gonzalez	Peter P. Murphy
Emily J. Hull	Alexis G. Lopez	Alyssa M. Murray
Katie I. Huston	Eva C. Lopez	Megan N. Musolf
Khanh G. Huynh	Lucas W. Lowe	Chisa Nagai
Jessica C. Jagger	Devinne K. Luna	Roshan A. Nair
Sarah L. Jagger	Krystal M. Luna	Melanie J. Namkung
Alyssa N. Jain	Milene Ly	Emma L. Nance
Sebastian T. Jeon	Kayla F. Macabitas	Theodore C. Napoli
Hazel B. Johnson	Olivia H. Macior	Thea E. Neushul
Jack C. Johnson	Shelby L. Mackey	Natalie C. Nguyen
Miles C. Johnson	Earl A. Magno	Stephanie T. Nguyen
Abby E. Jones	Graycen P. Mahon	Jack T. Nielsen
Moorea S. Jones	Parker D. Malhotra	Ames D. Noll
Asia E. Juarez	Kenny J. Malysz	Lukas L. Olesinski
Emma R. Jurgensen	Arman R. Mansur	Reese A. Oliver
Sierra J. Kacani	Gabriella L. Manzo	Sarah C. Olsen
Dara Kelly	Matty P. Mariani	Ethan M. Olvera
Yalda M. Khodadad	Toni L. Marietti	Johanna E. Onofre
Jaelen B. Kim	Cece A. Marino	Ivan A. Ortiz
Timothy M. King	Meribeth K. Martella	Victoria Ortiz
Lillian G. Kloubec	Elizabeth S. Martinez	Madeleine G. Pacheco
Francesca S. Knoell-Harris	Escobar	Collin M. Paludi
Chris J. Kracha	Melanie N. Martinez	Sydney C. Pastore
Lucas S. Krall	Sean Martinez	Wendy M. Perez

2023 ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES GRADUATES

Zyrus A. Perez	Kylie N. Schmidt	Kendra N. Twist
Oscar N. Peterson	Eme E. Schwartz-Collins	Alejandra Valdez
Dylan J. Peterson	Avrie D. Seeley	Isabella R. Valencia
Jose Pimentel Ruiz	Ibukun A. Segun-Abugan	Kenna L. Vandemark
Rylee M. Pupa	Sydney K. Shafer	Sarah Vargas
Claire Qiu	Camila L. Shannon	Alissa M. Villanueva
Cody V. Quach	Caillian J. Sheehy	Liliy N. Villarreal
Gabriel S. Ramirez	Megan Y. Shimoda	Vicente E. Villasenor
Giselle Ramirez	Rebecca R. Siegler	Marian S. Walker
Orozco G. Ramirez	Samuel B. Simons	Jasper Z. Wallace-Boyd
Zion Ramirez	Eilidh Slater	Grace F. Weber
Alyssa D. Ravega	Katie A. Sloan	Jackson B. Weill
Katrina L. Reinhart	Jessica E. Sofian	Lexi A. Werner
Sophie M. Reinhart	Beckett E. Staubs-Friedmann	Brooke P. Wibberley
Leah C. Rice	Hayden S. Stein	Cal P. Williams
Sonnet C. Richmond	Ellie J. Stewart	Elizabeth C. Willis
Samantha Rico Zapata	Lauren W. Stiles	Lauren J. Winters
Tara S. Robinson	Jensen Stodder	Adam W. Woo
Jacob M. Rodriguez	Cecilia Su	Jake D. Wood
Karissa M. Rodriguez	Sami J. Sugita	Zoya L. Wood
Joshua P. Romero	Caroline R. Sullivan	Gabby J. Woodford
Lucas N. Roque	Lauren A. Sullivan	Nick R. Wrubel
Stephanie N. Ross	Allinta Tadesse	Steve Wu
Claire A. Rouse	Visala R. Tallavarjula	Yongchen Wu
Nate W. Rozman	Alice M. Taylor	Victoria Yang
Rayna C. Ruggeri	Olivia J. Teague	Jake R. Yarris
Lucy E. Russell	Kevin M. Tessier	Diana Yi
Esther A. Ruvalcaba	Lizzie I. Tjahja	Lily Yin
Darren A. Saadat	Luke G. Todd	William Yip
Isabella M. Salangsang	Nathan Torres	Kobe Yu
Anne U. Saludaes	Angie A. Torrico	Ziyue Yu
Lesley J. Sanchez	Kaylee H. Tran	Cassidy J. Zelinka
Amanda Sandoval	Justin Tse	Mariam Ziauddin
Perla L. Santana Luna	Emeline L. Tu	
Emma L. Schaberg	Micayla K. Turner	

The Environmental Studies Faculty and Staff heartily congratulate this year's graduating Environmental Studies and Hydrologic Science majors, and offer our best wishes in all future endeavors.

In Memoriam

Emeritus Professor Mel Manalis



Emeritus Professor Mel Manalis was a renowned environmental scientist, researcher, and teacher in our Environmental Studies Program for 42 years until his retirement in 2017. Dr. Manalis was a pioneer in the study of wind as a viable energy source in California and preached the gospel of renewable energy to more than 6,000 students at UCSB. As a beloved teacher and mentor, Dr. Manalis created our “Energy and the Environment” course and pioneered the only undergraduate course on renewable energy on campus. Well ahead of his time, he was promoting wind, geothermal, ocean wave, and solar power through the 1980s, ‘90s, and 2000s. He was an early member of our Campus Sustainability Committee, helping to develop the Campus Sustainability Plan that serves as a blueprint for our campus’s ongoing sustainability efforts.

The significance of Dr. Manalis’s contributions to UCSB, to the field of environmental studies, and to our local community and the world at large are a source of pride for our campus and will never be forgotten. His legacy will continue through the impact of his own research, as well as through those who had the privilege of working with and learning from him. Looking to the future, UCSB students conducting research and leadership activities in energy can be supported through the Manalis Leadership Endowment.

UC SANTA BARBARA

Environmental Studies

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30% PCW