

ES NEWS

Environmental Studies Program

University of California, Santa Barbara

2019 Year-In-Review



1970-2020
UC SANTA BARBARA
Environmental Studies

>> A Message from the Chair:



David Pellow | Chair

UCSB's Environmental Studies Program continues to grow by leaps and bounds, and is a center for some of the most exciting and inspiring teaching, research, and leadership on campus and in the nation. We are thrilled to have three new faculty join our ranks this year: Liz Carlisle, Halley Froehlich, and Jennifer Martin. They bring unique talents, skills, and expertise to our Program and will be expanding our curricular offerings and deepening our commitment to solutions-driven multidisciplinary education, mentoring, and scholarship.

I am delighted to see our students taking part in and leading the Climate Strike activities this fall. Global climate change/disruption is an urgent environmental, human rights, and public health challenge, so it is truly gratifying to see UCSB students taking the lead in calling attention to this matter and mobilizing support for solutions. Some of those students took my "Energy Justice" course in Spring 2019 and collaborated directly with community leaders from

the Central Coast Climate Justice Network to develop new tools to support campaigns aimed at improving public education about climate change, keeping fossil fuels in the ground, and ensuring that fossil-fuel workers are included and centered in policy discussions around transitioning toward a renewable energy economy.

Our staff are the backbone of our Program and have done an amazing job of ensuring that students receive high quality advising and get access to the courses they need, that our financial house is in order, and that our alums and supporters are up to date on the latest developments in ES and on campus. I regularly hear from other Department Chairs that we have the best staff team on campus, and that is one of the many reasons why I believe I have the best job on campus.

Finally, our 7,000+ alumni are a special community of change-makers who are actively shaping the direction of government policy, spurring innovation across numerous industry sectors, and transforming the terrain of civil society. As we celebrate our Program's 50th anniversary, we look forward to seeing many of you here on campus this academic year. Many thanks for making Environmental Studies the extraordinary program it has become.

Sincerely,

David Pellow
Chair and Professor
UCSB Environmental Studies Program

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ES Turns 50!

This year, Environmental Studies is celebrating its 50th year! ES will host and sponsor events throughout the year, leading up to the Environmental Studies' 50th Anniversary Celebration in the winter of 2020.



The Next Wave of Leaders

ES would like to congratulate its class of 2019! With 337 graduates this year, the number of ES alum has grown to 7,257.



A Brilliant Trio

ES has hired three new female faculty members. With these new additions, ES has grown the number of female faculty departmental hires since 2015 by 6!

The Environmental Studies Program would like to thank the program's students, faculty, staff, alumni and supporters who contributed content and suggestions for this issue of ES News.

Chair

David Pellow

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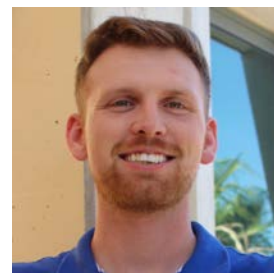
Departmental Transitions



Celia Alario

After 8 years with ES, Celia has temporarily stepped away from teaching to pursue new directions in her communications consulting practice. She hopes to return in the next few years and continue offering her ES public speaking course.

Elijah has joined ES as its new academic advisor. He previously worked as the advisor for Computer Science. He is looking forward to helping connect students to campus resources, and research and internship opportunities.



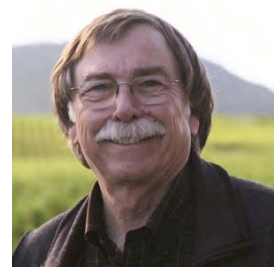
Elijah Baker



Greg Graves

Greg arrived at UCSB in 1980 and has been a lecturer for ES since 1993. For years, Greg taught the program's largest class. Last fall, however, Greg hung up his lecturer hat and taught his last class. ES thanks Greg for his 25 years of distinguished teaching.

Paul has been an integral part of ES since the early days of the program. This year, ES celebrated Paul's retirement and his 40+ years of service to the program. ES thanks Paul for his many years of extraordinary teaching and service.




Paul Wack

By the Numbers

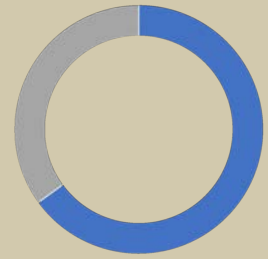
UC SANTA BARBARA
Environmental Studies Program

1,096 

STUDENTS IN THE PROGRAM

34% 

FIRST GENERATION
STUDENTS ENROLLED



66%

FEMALE

7,000+ 

ALUMNI

FACULTY

15 

FACULTY MEMBERS

 2
CHAMPIONS OF
SUSTAINABILITY

912 
PUBLICATIONS
TO DATE
BY CURRENT
FACULTY

2 
ENDOWED
CHAIRS

ES Welcomes Three New Faculty



LIZ CARLISLE

Liz Carlisle comes to us from Stanford University, where she worked as a Lecturer in the School of Earth, Energy, and Environmental Sciences and served as a field instructor at the Stanford Educational Farm. She is a proud UC alum, having completed her Ph.D. in Geography at UC Berkeley. Prior to her academic career, she worked as an agriculture and natural resources aide for US Senator Jon Tester, who represents her home state of Montana.

Liz's research program focuses on sustainability transition in the food system, and she works closely with farmers to understand both barriers and opportunities for scaling out agro-ecological management of farmland. Her first book, *Lentil Underground*, profiled a thirty-year farmer science movement among wheat farmers in Montana. Her most recent book, *Grain by Grain*, is coauthored with organic farmer Bob Quinn, and describes how regional food systems can reverse economic decline in rural American communities while providing more nutritious food and regenerating soils that have been depleted by industrial agriculture.

Liz looks forward to teaching courses on food and agriculture at UCSB and connecting with community partners to collaborate on field experiences for students and participatory research projects that further sustainable food systems work in the area. She is delighted to join the ES community and deeply honored to get to work with the next generation of sustainability leaders.



HALLEY FROEHLICH

Halley Froehlich is not a stranger to Santa Barbara, as she was a Science for Nature and People Partnership postdoctoral scholar at the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis. Halley received her Ph.D. from the School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences at the University of Washington.

Halley's research interests combine her background in aquaculture and fisheries to explore their interactions and sustainability. She employs interdisciplinary science to understand the potential mechanisms that drive patterns at the species to global scales, using empirical measures and theory of physiology and behavior, ecological modeling of fisheries and aquaculture, and quantification of interacting social factors of these systems. The breadth of her research reflects the diverse approaches necessary to understand and use different forms of data to speak to the varying levels of human impacts on the oceans. At the core of the data frontier is transdisciplinary, collaborative science to effectively and rapidly synthesize, process, and analyze the disparate pieces in an ecologically meaningful way.

Halley is thrilled to be joining both the Environmental Studies and EEMB departments, where she is excited to introduce and teach students about the other important part of the food production system: seafood. She is developing a new course that will help prepare students to address the socio-ecological challenges facing the aquatic food and ecosystem now and in the future. Here's to ocean optimism!



JEN MARTIN

Jen Martin will continue teaching in a new capacity as a tenure-track faculty. For the past few years, Jen has served as a lecturer for Environmental Studies and the History Department at UCSB. After she completed her Ph.D. in History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2013, she came to UCSB as a Postdoctoral Fellow for an interdisciplinary Mellon-Sawyer Seminar focused on the topic of sea change.

Jen considers one of teaching's greatest challenges to be helping students learn how to think critically, especially in ES where many of our students walk into our classrooms already passionately engaged in contemporary environmental issues. This fall, Jen is teaching an introductory course on critical thinking in environmental studies that will focus on evaluating different kinds of evidence and argumentative reasoning in order to understand the complexity of environmental issues and the challenges of designing long-term solutions to those problems.

These pedagogical concerns motivate Jen's research as well. She investigates how ideas about the ocean and vulnerability shape each other over time. Her current project looks at the relationships between sharks and Americans over the twentieth century; the challenge of saving these organisms has as much to do with the sharks that swim through our minds as with those that swim through our waters. Jen is excited to deepen her relationship with the ES team as well as the program's inspiring students.



Distinguished Speakers

CHRISTINA BABBITT



Courtesy Photo

On February 12, 2019, ES hosted its 4th annual Darcy Aston Memorial Water Lecture. The keynote speaker for this year was Dr. Christina Babbitt. As manager for the California Groundwater Program at the Environmental Defense Center, Christina leads efforts to advance water trading policy in California. In her lecture, titled "A New Age of Groundwater Management: Opportunities and Challenges in Building a more Resilient Water System in California," Christina discussed California's opportunity to become a leader in groundwater management through the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

Babbitt noted California's potential role in water trading, the process of buying and selling or transferring water access entitlement either permanently or temporarily. While water sales grew significantly in the 1990s, trading has been relatively stagnant.

She added that establishing more local groundwater markets could significantly lower the costs of balancing groundwater basins and can give flexibility to California's water allocation process.

While these water trading programs are on the rise, they are not without their limitations. In one study, trust and community involvement emerged as a key component for implementing these programs. A way to mitigate the distrust, she says, is to include stakeholders in the planning process.

Inclusion is particularly important since different regions and counties have different needs. Babbitt concluded her presentation by stating that SGMA can offer a lot of promise in California by allowing local groups and stakeholders to devise groundwater management solutions that work best for their local regions.

ALEXIS BUNTEN



Courtesy Photo

Dr. Alexis Bunten was the 2018-2019 Steven Manley Memorial Lecturer. Alexis is the co-director of Indigineity Program of Bioneers, a nonprofit organization that highlights practical and breakthrough solutions to environmental problems. Her lecture, "The Tribal Rights of Nature Movement: Protecting Tribal Lands while Strengthening Sovereignty" opened with a traditional Chumash welcome by Chumash tribal leaders.

Bunten began by defining the Rights of Nature (RON), a legal framework to protect nature by recognizing legal rights, to which, then, a person can have legal standing on its behalf in a court of law. She broke down the RON Movement into three categories: the Non-Indigenous RON Movement; the Global RON Movement; and, the US Tribal RON Movement.

While the first two movements have been prevalent in policy influence, the US

Tribal Rights of Nature is a fairly new concept. The movement, in terms of policy, began in 2016 when the Ho-Chunk Nation took a first vote for the Rights of Nature tribal constitutional amendment. She added that there needs to be a nexus of environmental law, tribal law and federal Indian law. Specifically, the Tribal Rights of Nature Movement can help with many issues regarding public lands in today's political landscape.

If tribes adopt Rights of Nature policy to cover their reservation's lands, waters and resources, then, theoretically, it can protect those same lands that are outside of it, such as a river running through tribal land. Bunten concluded the presentation by outlining different strategies tribes can use to implement the Rights of Nature. This will require many tribes to be on board to have effective sovereignty and to protect public lands.

Congratulations ES Class of 2019!



"I truly feel like I found a field to be passionate about thanks to the supportive and engaging ES program."

"I am grateful to have been able to participate in the ES program thanks to the interesting and challenging coursework and excellent instruction."



"Thank you for making my undergrad experience truly meaningful!"



ES 2019 Award Winners

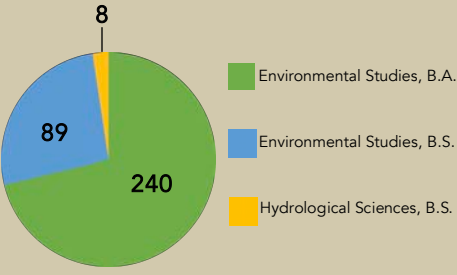
Outstanding Senior
Harrison Ashby

Distinguished Senior Theses
Angela Delos Santos
Yekaterina Sitnikova

Outstanding Service
Michaela Austin
Bowin De Barros
Angela Delos Santos
Cooper Dinapoli
Michelle Geldin
Annie Golay
Lauren Enright
An Nguyen
Amanda Pantoja
Yekaterina Sitnikova
Elizabeth Szulc
Cynthia Torres
Jem Unger Hicks

McGinnes Law Scholarship
Lauren Lankenau

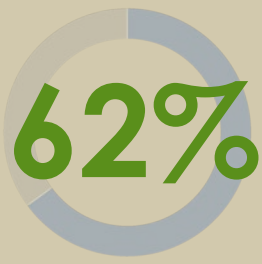
In addition, 98 students received the award in **Outstanding Academic Achievement!**



Degree breakdown



Graduates



Female



Double majors



Students studied abroad



"The best thing that has ever happened to me. Life changing. It's given me purpose and direction and the skills and resources to pursue my dreams."

"So grateful for my amazing professors and inspiring peers; proud to be an ES major."



*"Amazing.
Invigorating.
Humbling.
Rewarding."*

"I love [ES]. I love the diversity and breadth of the topics covered and most all [the] professors in the department."



"I felt like a baby octopus in an expansive bubbling tide pool with more nook sand crannies to explore than could be explored under one moon."

*These quotes were taken from the UCSB Environmental Studies Class of 2019 Exit Survey.

Save the Date!

ES Alumni Celebration

February 28th - March 1st, 2020



Recent Donors

The Environmental Studies Program would like to thank the following donors for their recent gifts of support.

FRIENDS, ALUMNI, & FACULTY

Mr. Anthony DeMaria
Mr. Bret A. Stone and Mrs. Danielle S. Stone
Mr. Brett A. Williams
Mr. Bruce H. Zike and Mrs. Linda Zike
Chris and Malin Fletcher '77
Dan and Lisa Pullman
Mr. David E. Lawrence
Mr. Donald P. Kohlmann
Mr. Frederick S. Etheridge and Mrs. Megan Etheridge
Mr. George Weising and Ms. Julie R. Bechtloff
Gregory W. Mohr and Wendy J. Wittl '76/'82
Gwen Dandridge and Joshua Schimel
Kelly and Matthew Garcia '93/'94
Kevin P. Hrabovsky '94
Mr. Kevin G. Vielbaum
Mr. Liberty Partridge and Mrs. Serene J. Partridge
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Ms. Jennifer B. France and Mr. Chester J. France
Ms. Linda J. Krop and Ms. Leslie J. Harvey
Ms. Roneet Levy

FOUNDATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS

American Endowment Foundation
Schwab Fund for Charitable Giving
YourCause Edison

A Brief History

The blowout of Platform A in the Santa Barbara Channel on January 28, 1969 was undoubtedly the most dramatic incident of a "new environmental movement." Nearly three million gallons of crude oil expelled into the ocean, spanning from the coasts of Ventura to Goleta. A week after the blowout, all of the local beaches would be covered with oil and an estimated 3,500 birds, and countless marine animals perished. Within just a few days, the small community of Santa Barbara had become the focus of the nation.

The oil spill came at a time of turmoil across the nation with large protests and demonstrations regarding foreign relations especially with the Soviet Union and Vietnam. At UCSB, large and, at times, violent protests occurred over civil rights issues and the Vietnam War. Most memorable is the burning down of a Bank of America branch in Isla Vista on February 25, 1970 and the death of Kevin Moran, a student, during another riot on April 18 later that year. The ensuing chaos left many students in crisis and in pursuit of a "search of relevance" in a university educational experience.

On February 18th, 1969 a group of twenty-one faculty across campus, calling themselves "The Friends of the Human Habitat," met to discuss the possibility of promoting some form of environmental education at UCSB. The dedication of this small group of professors, along with the public's reaction to the spill, and the fervor among college students, served as the catalyst for the introduction of Environmental Studies at UCSB.

Over the course of one year, these professors worked endlessly to create a proposal for an "Interdisciplinary Major in Environmental Studies at UCSB." After receiving approval from the chancellor in May 1970, the Environmental Studies Program at UCSB was established. With its inception, Environmental Studies became one of the first multidisciplinary programs drawing on the strengths of many fields and providing an interdisciplinary approach to addressing environmental issues.

For the fall of 1970, the Environmental Studies Program had over 150 majors, and the first graduating class in 1972 consisted of 12 students. Today with over 7,000 alumni actively working to preserve and protect our environment, the Environmental Studies Program at UC Santa Barbara is considered one of the oldest, largest, and most successful undergraduate environmental programs in the world.



Supporting Environmental Studies

Visit

www.es.ucsb.edu/giving to
learn more about the ways
you can support
Environmental Studies'
commitment to educating
the next wave of
environmental leaders.

For 50 years, the goal of Environmental Studies at UCSB has always been to provide our students with the best opportunities to explore, learn, and develop. Each year, we are fortunate to receive support from alumni, friends, family and community members who recognize the value of our program. The support from our donors goes a long way toward enhancing classroom and fieldtrip experiences, providing scholarships and awards, and other student support. We invite you to join us in pursuit of our goals by donating to one or more of the following causes:

Environmental Studies 50th Anniversary Celebration

This academic year represents the 50th anniversary of the Environmental Studies Program. Help us to celebrate the past, present and future of this fabulous program through speakers, performers, panels, and engaging events for students, alumni, staff and faculty throughout the year.

Barry Schuyler Lecturer Fund

This fund honors founding father of the Environmental Studies Program and emeritus lecturer, Barry Schuyler. Lecturers have long been a crucial component of Environmental Studies as they bring a real-world insight to complement the academic perspectives provided by faculty. Gifts to this fund support existing lecturers with resources for professional development and classroom enhancements.

Student-Learning Enrichment Funds

To remain competitive with other top universities, the program provides undergraduate students with fieldtrips, guest lecturers, exposure to new technologies, and other hands-on experiences that enhance education across the curriculum. Student enrichment gifts support the William Freudenburg Academic Development Fund. Other student enrichment funds will provide scholarships to students to participate in external programs focused on experiential learning such as Wildland Studies, the School for Field Studies, Education Abroad and off-campus internships.

Environmental Studies General Fund

The Environmental Studies Program has a general fund, which is intended to give the Chair complete discretion to provide funding for the program's most pressing needs.

Environmental Leadership Incubator (ELI)

Gifts to the Environmental Studies Program Environmental Leadership Incubator (ELI) support a yearlong leadership experience organized around student-initiated team projects addressing local to national environmental challenges. The ELI harnesses undergraduates' dedication to environmental change by teaching, training and developing leaders to become change-makers and environmental champions. The ELI centers on student-driven projects across the domains of social activism, technology development, and policy change that seek to implement positive environmental change.

Darcy Aston Memorial Lecture Fund

This fund will support an Annual Lecture and Community Gathering on Water Sustainability. These annual lectures will focus on innovative approaches to the complex issues of water quality and watershed protection.





UC SANTA BARBARA
Environmental Studies Program

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University of California
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-4160