This Way to Sustainability Conference XI
Thursday, March 24–Friday, March 25, 2016

Many Voices: Common Ground

THIS YEAR’S TOPICS

- Water Resources
- Climate Impacts on Food and Agriculture
- Lifestyles, Health, and Wellness
- Energy and the Environment
- Infrastructure and Transportation
- Laws, Policies, and Business
- Population
- Science and Technology
- Community Partnerships and Action
- Educating for Resilience
Welcome to California State University, Chico!

The Institute for Sustainable Development and the Associated Students of CSU, Chico would like to welcome you to our 11th annual This Way to Sustainability Conference. This year’s conference theme, “Many Voices, Common Ground,” recognizes that we are facing global socioeconomic and environmental uncertainties, and that there is an urgent need to bring divergent perspectives together to find common voice and chart a new path into our collective future. We encourage you to join in the conversation, learn from each other, and build new friendships and professional associations. Over the next two days, we will explore collaborative possibilities, to that end we have organized conference tracks that are cross-disciplinary, investigating where environmental, cultural, economic, and social concerns intersect. It is here that we must cultivate a cooperative approach that will develop sustainable strategies for our common good.

Chico State is an institution that is deeply committed to sustainability and resilience. This is reflected throughout our campus culture, from the co-curricular activities of our students to the curricular innovations and dedication of our faculty and staff to sustainability education, from our campus being a founding signatory of the Second Nature Climate Leadership Commitment, to the restoration of native species along the creek; from our divestment from fossil fuels, to the continued implementation of resource efficiencies and conservation efforts by facilities management.

A special thanks to our speakers for their time and efforts, to our sponsors for their kind and generous support, and to all of you who have made this possible. We hope it will be an exciting, informative few days and along the way you will find opportunities to enjoy the unique environment that is CSU, Chico. Welcome!
### THURSDAY, MARCH 24 AT A GLANCE • CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

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*Separate fees apply*
**GREENING OF THE CONFERENCE**

*Sustainability is the mission of the conference content and operations. We have taken the following measures to ensure that the conference reflects those principles:*

- Asked presenters to limit paper handouts during sessions
- Implemented a mobile application to limit the number of programs printed
- Printed posters and programs on Green Seal Certified “Environment” paper, made with renewable energy and containing 100 percent post-consumer chlorine-free fiber
- Implemented a 100 percent electronic check-in and ticketing system
- Reused lanyards and wristbands from previous years
- Provided only reusable and compostable dish ware at all meals
- Consciously chose foods that were seasonal, local, and organic when possible, including produce from our own University Farm
- Used bulk condiments (no single servings)
- Obtained all food from the greater North Valley when possible
- Suggested participants stay in downtown Chico so they are within walking distance of the campus
- Used reusable, compostable, or borrowed items for special conference events
- Provided recycling and compost bins throughout the conference
- Provided options for moderators to limit light during sessions
- Offered vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free menu options for conference meals
- Removed trash cans from session rooms to encourage zero waste
- Created and encouraged a carpooling system using Zimride
- Provided plantable name badges for speakers made from wildflower seed paper to plant after the conference

**2016 CONFERENCE LEADING TEAM**

Left to right: Giovanni Quezada, Avalon Brown, Skyler Roe, Carly Todd, Jesi Naomi, and Kelsi Bosman

**CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE TEAM**

Teri Randolph, Jim Pushnik, Avalon Brown, Giovanni Quezada, Fletcher Alexander, Colleen Hatfield, Nate Millard, Heather Kilcoyne, Jennifer Rotnem, and Courtney Silver
Conference Kickoff

Trinity Commons

Step Into Sustainability is a student-run sustainable festival that will be a kickoff event for the This Way to Sustainability Conference. Step Into Sustainability is focused on celebrating and spreading awareness about applying sustainable practices to your everyday life. The core values of this festival are all about being sustainable and reducing waste, which is why Step Into Sustainability is taking extra steps to make sure that the festival in itself is as sustainable as possible. Throughout the day, there will be live music performances varying from rock to rap, various dance performances, hands-on games and activities, prizes, and much more!

The International Festivals and Events Association (IFEA) is the premiere association supporting and enabling festival and event professionals worldwide. In 2014, California State University, Chico became the first school in the world to establish an IFEA Student Chapter. Together, our goal is to build the largest network of future professionals interested in the event management industry by connecting students with the leading industry professionals and events around the world.

Contact the IFEA student organizers via email at ifeastudent@gmail.com

Pre-Conference Community Garden Reception

Cultivating Community North Valley and GRUB Ed

Humboldt Gardens: 2161 Humboldt Road, Chico (see map)

Cultivating Community North Valley and GRUB Ed invites you to a pre-conference gathering to visit a demonstration of our projects at Humboldt Gardens, Wednesday, March 23 from 4–6 p.m. The presentation includes a cooking demonstration and samples with the Edible Pedal Bike Kitchen, our mobile cooking unit used for on-site preparation of garden and farmers market specialty crops. We will showcase the Humboldt Community Garden and offer information on the other 22 community gardens supported by GRUB Ed which attendees are welcome to visit throughout the conference.

For those interested in a group bike ride, we will meet on the street side of the BMU at 3:15 p.m. for a departure at 3:30 p.m. to ride out to the gardens. Pedicabs can also be arranged for transportation. Otherwise, see map below for getting out there individually. For questions, please contact Lee Altier at 530-636-2525.
Higher-Ed Greenie Displays and Voting

Projects will be on display from 9–11 a.m.
Winners will be announced at the awards ceremony from 11–11:30 a.m.

Join us in the BMU Auditorium for the annual Greenie displays and voting. This year focuses on North State colleges and universities with sustainability projects that are innovative, environmentally spectacular, and that address environmental concerns. Through our Greenie Awards, we will recognize student groups in their successful efforts of working toward a sustainable future. Visit their displays in the BMU Auditorium between 9–11 a.m. Thursday to vote for the best. Only registered participants in attendance are able to vote. Winners will be announced between 11–11:30 a.m. in the BMU Auditorium.

Local Lunch Buffet

Join us for a local and organic lunch buffet in the BMU Auditorium during the featured events. Purchase your lunch ticket in advance when registering for just $13.

Thursday's Menu (All gluten-free): Mary's chicken cacciatore or eggplant cacciatore (vegan option), Sutter dinner roll made with organic flour, organic quinoa, seasonal veggies, seasonal organic salad with a variety of dressings on the side, and beverage.

Farmacology: Total Health From the Ground Up

See page 11 for presentation details.

Daphne Miller, MD, is a family physician, writer, and associate professor in the Department of Family Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco. In 2000, she founded WholefamilyMD, San Francisco’s first integrative primary care practice, where she provides care for patients across the lifespan. Part clinician, part ecologist, and part anthropologist, Miller approaches medicine with the idea that opportunities for health and healing are found not only in the medical system but in such unexpected places as home kitchens, school gardens, community organizations, spiritual centers, farms, and nature trails. Throughout her career, her teaching, writing, and advocacy work has reflected this perspective.

Book signing to follow

In her latest book, Farmacology: Total Health From the Ground Up, Miller discovers how learning from sustainable farmers can make her a better doctor.
SPECIAL EVENTS

THURSDAY 4–5 PM

The Global Freshwater Challenge: New Solutions for a Thirsty World

See page 14 for presentation details.

Sandra Postel directs the Global Water Policy Project and lectures, writes, and consults on global water issues. In 2010, she was appointed Freshwater Fellow of the National Geographic Society. Sandra is cocreator of Change the Course, the national freshwater conservation and restoration campaign being piloted in the Colorado River Basin.

Sandra is the author of several acclaimed books, including the award-winning Last Oasis, which appears in eight languages and was the basis for a PBS documentary. The recipient of several honorary degrees, Sandra has been named a Pew Scholar in Conservation and the Environment and one of the “Scientific American 50.”

THURSDAY 5:30–9 PM

Private Speaker Reception

RSVP via email to twts@csuchico.edu or by phone 530-898-3333 before the deadline of 2/29/16.

We cordially invite all of our speakers to a private hosted reception in their honor to thank them all for participating in this important, annual event. Light appetizers and spirits will be served and entertainment will be provided. Due to space limitations, we ask that only our speakers and conference organizers attend.

FRIDAY 9–11:30 AM

K–12 Greenie Displays and Voting

Projects will be on display from 9–11 a.m.

Winners will be announced at the awards ceremony from 11–11:30 a.m.

Join us in the BMU Auditorium for the annual Greenie displays and voting. Our K–12 categories will include nominated projects from three categories; K–6, 7–8, and 9–12 grades. Student groups will show their sustainability projects that are innovative, environmentally spectacular, and that address environmental concerns. Through our Greenie Awards, we will recognize student groups in their successful efforts of working toward a sustainable future. Visit their displays in the BMU Auditorium between 9–11 a.m. Thursday to vote for the best. Only registered participants in attendance are able to vote. Winners will be announced between 11–11:30 a.m. in the BMU Auditorium.

FRIDAY 11:30 AM–1 PM

Local Lunch Buffet

Join us for a local and organic lunch buffet in the Bell Memorial Union Auditorium during the featured events. Purchase your lunch ticket in advance when registering for just $13.

Friday’s Menu: Niman Ranch sliced BBQ top round (gluten-free) or Szechwan marinated tofu (vegan option, not gluten-free), Sutter dinner roll made with organic flour, with Cannellini bean and kale salad, crisp broccoli salad with house vinaigrette, and beverage.
Featured Film: *Symphony of the Soil*

*With introduction and Q&A by Deborah Koons Garcia, director/producer/writer*

*Symphony of the Soil* is a 104-minute documentary feature film that explores the complexity and mystery of soil. Filmed on four continents and sharing the voices of some of the world’s most esteemed soil scientists, farmers, and activists, the film portrays soil as a protagonist of our planetary story. Using a captivating mix of art and science, the film shows that soil is a complex living organism, the foundation of life on earth. Yet most people are soil-blind and “treat soil like dirt.” Through the knowledge and wisdom revealed in this film, we can come to respect, even revere, this miraculous substance, and appreciate that treating the soil right can help solve some of our most pressing environmental problems. In addition to the feature film, there are several short films, *Sonatas of the Soil*, that delve deeply into soil-related topics, and several short clips, *Grace Notes*, that are available to stream on the film’s website.

Deborah Koons Garcia

*Director/Producer/Writer*

*Photo credit: Laurent Alfieri*

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**CSU, Chico Campus Sustainability Walking Tour**

*Fletcher Alexander, the Institute for Sustainable Development at CSU, Chico*

This walking tour of campus will highlight sustainability efforts from water conservation and alternative transportation initiatives to waste diversion efforts and sustainability programming in the Associated Students, University Housing, and more! Join us and learn about sustainability on the CSU, Chico campus from the folks who work on it every day!

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**Eat the View: The Fight for Edible Landscapes**

*See page 19 for presentation details.*

As an international and domestic advocate for sustainable food sources, Roger Doiron has established a name for himself as a freelance writer and public speaker, specializing in local gardening and sustainable food systems. His works have been published in the *Chicago Tribune*, the *International Herald Tribune*, the *New York Times*, and the *Washington Post*; he even began a petition to replant a kitchen garden at the White House which gathered over 100,000 signatures and international media coverage. Doiron’s work on the White House campaign also earned him the Heart of Green award, the Garden Crusader Award, recognition as one of the country’s top five “Green Game Changers” by the readers and editors of *The Huffington Post* and one of the “10 Most Inspiring People in Sustainable Food” by the editors of *Fast Company* magazine.

Roger Doiron

*Founder and Director of Kitchen Gardens International (KGI)*
Assessment of Governance and Roles Under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act  
*Vickie Newlin, Butte County*

This discussion will present the findings of the Butte County Assessment regarding Groundwater Sustainability Agencies and Governance under the Groundwater Sustainability Act of 2014.

Farm to Seniors: Improving the Vitality of Specialty Crop Farmers and Senior Adults  
*Stacy Carlson and Amie Patrick, Department of Nutrition and Food Sciences at CSU, Chico*

Incorporating specialty crop produce to the Senior Nutrition Program (SNP), which provides daily hot meals to senior adults, has not been tried. This presentation highlights a project that partners local farmers with the SNP and discusses methods used to increase use of fresh fruits and vegetables and the results of work to-date.

Why We Haven’t Addressed Climate Change and What to Do About It  
*John Schaefer, Citizens' Climate Lobby*

Policies to address climate change have been ineffective. Citizens' Climate Lobby advocates effective legislation to assess a steadily rising fee on fossil fuel with revenues returned to families. Experience and analysis show that “carbon fee and dividend” will expand the economy, increase employment, and reduce carbon dioxide emissions.

Integrate Sustainability: A Suite of Curricular Modules for Sustainability Pathway courses to Engage Students in Societal Issues  
*Rachel Teasdale and Colleen Hatfield, Integrate Sustainability at CSU, Chico*

The Integrate Sustainability project is a collective effort to incorporate new curriculum to the Sustainability Pathway that focuses students on societal issues related to sustainability themes, including climate change, soil resources, environmental justice, and water. Faculty have incorporated new curriculum and are measuring student learning.

Out of Sight, Out of Mind  
*Ariana Famoso, CSU, East Bay*

This is a series of informational sessions educating the residents at CSU, East Bay about current issues involving sustainability. To accomplish this, I am working on establishing a relationship with the on-campus offices to make PSA bulletin boards and presenting power points that will be accessible to the residents.

High School Sustainability Stories  
*Alyson Wylie and Amie Porras, Center for Nutrition and Activity Promotion at CSU, Chico*

Learn strategies to connect and engage youth in advocating for change in their environment. Using community mapping and food access activities, we train students to speak up about their school and community. Our team from the CSU, Chico Center for Healthy Communities will share the projects in which they are currently involved with three different local high schools.

“Real” Sustainable Behavior  
*Fred Klammt, WinSol.org*

Everyone claims to be sustainable, but few are. What does it mean to do real sustainable things in everyday life? How does one change embedded, unconscious behavioral patterns we learned as children? Come here and learn about little things you can do for meaningful, sustainable impacts.

Higher-Ed Greenie Displays and Voting  
*Projects will be on display from 9–11 a.m.  
Winners will be announced at the awards ceremony from 11–11:30 a.m.*

Join us in the BMU Auditorium for the annual Greenie displays and voting. This year focuses on North State colleges and universities with sustainability projects that are innovative, environmentally spectacular, and that address environmental concerns. Through our Greenie Awards, we will recognize student groups in their successful efforts of working toward a sustainable future. Visit their displays in the BMU Auditorium between 9-11 a.m. Thursday to vote for the best. Only registered participants in attendance are able to vote.
A Sense of Place
Fletcher Alexander, the Institute for Sustainable Development at CSU, Chico and Colleen Hatfield, Biological Sciences Department at CSU, Chico

As part of the CSU Campus as a Living Lab Initiative, CSU, Chico received funding to integrate campus building-level utility meters into an innovative online utility management platform and redesign curriculum in four courses within our GE Sustainability Pathway to focus on data analysis and building occupant engagement for conservation.

Water Action Planning: A Strategic Approach to Water Conservation
Austin Eriksson, CSU, Northridge

The onset and worsening of the California drought has resulted in more stringent water reduction mandates. This presentation will touch on all of the above as well as discuss how CSU, Northridge developed a strategic plan to achieve the conservation goals while maintaining a pleasant campus environment.

Campaign Nonviolence: Building a Sustainable Future of Peace
Chris Nelson, Chico Peace and Justice Center

Campaign Nonviolence seeks to end war, poverty, and the climate crisis. This presentation will explore the roots and strategies of non-violence and discuss how the issues that face our world are connected and how we can take action together.

Outdoor Education for All: Explore! Experience! Expand!
Tony Catalano and Nathaniel Millard, Outdoor Education for All!

OEFA! values stewardship of nature, culture, inclusiveness, commitment, partnership, health and wellness, and kids! Come see how we weave those values together into a sustainable and practical tapestry of experiences.

Environment Celebration Institute: Demonstrating a Smarter Way to Farm Fruits and Vegetables
Blake Irwin and Ben Samuelson, Environment Celebration Institute, Inc.

Come learn our approach here at ECI with Dr. Elaine Ingham and Dr. Carole Rollins, coaching us to make the best compost for our crops, grow the most nutrient-dense food, heat our greenhouses through winter using compost piles, and produce the best fruit from our 150 year old trees.

STARS: A Student Approach at CSU, East Bay
Teresa Gamber and Jennifer Scarbrough, CSU, East Bay

At California State University, East Bay, students are taking the lead to complete the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS). In this presentation, Jennifer Scarbrough and Teresa Gamber will share their approach to STARS, including collecting data, overcoming challenges, and making recommendations on how to improve campus sustainability efforts.

How to Start an Ecovillage
Christian Stalberg and Fred Klammt, Community Incubator

Today, ecovillages represent some of the best solutions we have for correcting human habitation living at cross purposes with the natural world, addressing sectors such as housing, energy, transportation, food, water, and human behavior. Come learn about the requirements necessary for a successful ecovillage from someone who has started one.

Step Up and Power Down—Engaging Communities to take Simple Actions Toward Energy Savings
Safia Dworjach and Leanna Huynh, City of San Jose

This presentation will introduce an example of energy efficiency awareness and engagement campaign, Step Up and Power Down, to help local businesses take simple actions to reduce energy waste. It shows how simple actions contribute toward building smarter cities and businesses.

Today’s Plant-Based Whole Foods School Garden-Kitchen Program
Richard Hirshen and Michelle Yezbick, Sherwood Montessori Charter School

Chef Richie will be sharing his passion and knowledge of growing food in a school garden that is cooked in the school’s kitchen. Learn how to build and run your own school garden and kitchen program. Director Michelle will discuss how this program is at the core of the Montessori Method.
Environmental Mitigation and Restoration at CSU, Channel Islands
Coleen Barsley, CSU, Channel Islands

Habitat mitigation and tree planting help to restore and improve local environment for students, campus faculty and staff, community, farmers, and wildlife. Trees planted not only beautify the campus, but they will provide additional shade cover, help alleviate heat islands, improve air quality, and provide additional habitats for local wildlife.

Floodplain Ecology Institutes for Educators: A Model of Interagency Collaboration
Anne Stephens, CSU, Chico

Floodplain Ecology Institutes for Educators are four-day institutes designed to increase teachers’ knowledge and awareness of floodplain ecosystems, and provide them with the tools to educate their students about their relationship to their watershed. Join us to learn how you can be involved as a participant or partner!

A Fresh Look at Food Security
Alicia Bedore and Judy Hamamoto, Center for Healthy Communities, CSU, Chico

We will discuss the importance of CalFresh and the economic, social, and environmental factors of the program and its impact on local communities. We will debunk myths and provide correct, non-biased information about this program. Information will be provided on the advantages of using benefits locally to create sustainable environments.

Passive House—For Any Building, Any Climate—Is Changing the World
Susan Rainier, Eagle Consult

Susan will be presenting Passive House, representing today’s highest energy standard, with the promise of reducing the energy consumption of buildings by up to 80 percent while providing superior comfort and air quality—all at minimal additional upfront cost. Passive House puts true zero energy buildings within reach economically.

The Grassroots Media Adventures of “The Respectful Revolution”: Lots of Love, Little Money, and Plenty of Ideas
Gerard Ungerman and Stacey Wear, The Respectful Revolution

Gerard Ungerman and Stacey Wear set out to document positive action and inspire change with an ambitious video project: “Respectful Revolution.” They started here in Chico with a fairly simple idea, and now find themselves, four years later, developing a TV show from the comfort of their own garage. Grassroots? You better believe it!
**Solar Energy Alternatives: Embedding Solar Education One Device at a Time**  
*Maria Elena Anguiano and John Dahlgren, and MESA Students, Butte-Glenn Community College District*

Interns will present on the applied research and education in solar energy applications by the MESA program. The SEA team will participate in a solar energy alternative challenge requiring the use of teamwork, research, and design development to create a product that offers an energy solution utilizing solar energy.

**Establishing a Farmers Market on Your Campus**  
*Emerolina Cantu and Soheil Tabatabai, CSU, Fullerton*

CSU, Fullerton Associated Students want to share the steps they took in order to establish a Farmers Market. We will discuss the campus stakeholders that made this possible, the difficulties in getting started, and the importance in providing the campus community with healthy, organic, and locally harvested food options.

**Slicing the Water Conservation Pie**  
*Coleen Barsley, CSU, Channel Islands*

CSU, Channel Islands, has made great progress in water conservation over the last few years. When the governor declared mandated reduction goals, they were challenged with reducing an additional 32 percent in 2016 versus 2013 usage. CSU, Channel Islands will share the measures—small and large—taken to help reach this goal.

**Solar System Performance and Energy Savings**  
*Lalanya Rothenberger, Chico Unified School District and Russell Driver, ARC Alternatives*

CUSD has installed 2.5 MW of solar capacity since 2010. This presentation describes the systems installed by the district, highlighting their expected performance and estimated financial savings, and comparing these baselines to actual experience. The presentation will cover best practices for operating and maintaining solar PV systems for optimal performance.

**Finding Uses for Waste Glycerol From Biodiesel Production**  
*Dr. Lisa Ott, Center for Water and the Environment, and Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, CSU, Chico*

Glycerol is a significant byproduct of biodiesel synthesis. Dr. Ott and students research biological and chemical methods to utilize this glycerol. Using bacteria, we aim to convert the glycerol into a biodegradable polymer. Using a chemical process, we investigate the use of glycerol as a component in deep eutectic solvents.

**Student Activists: SCOOP**  
*Samantha Smith and Kelsey Koll, SCOOP interns at CSU, Chico and the Institute for Sustainable Development*

This presentation will consist of a brief overview of SCOOP history, the evolution of the consultation process, and the effect we have on the work environment.

**Solar Energy: Campus Solar Charging Station**  
*Salam Ali and Erik Marquis, CSU, Chico Mechanical Engineering Department*

To date, no solar charging station entity exists for charging electronic devices on campus. This project is intended to fulfill a technological need and an educational objective in the area of sustainable energy. This project is funded by Chico State’s Sustainability Fund Allocation Committee.

**Project REGen (Rice hulls as Energy Generation): Achieving Sustainability With the Use of Rice Hulls Through Gasification and Bio-Char Production**  
*Maria Elena Anguiano and REGen Interns, Butte College MESA Program*

Interns present on the progress of an applied research project at Butte College by the MESA program. Currently, they are completing research focused on the pyrolysis of rice hulls, as well as the production of biochar. They will discuss research findings and practical applications of this technology.
Sustainability and Citizenship

Fletcher Alexander, the Institute for Sustainable Development, and Nathaniel Millard, First Year Experience Program, CSU, Chico

At CSU, Chico, we’ve developed a series of complementary programs in partnership across campus in a holistic approach to educating and engaging our first-year students who present a unique opportunity to foster awareness and ownership in the developing personal identity of emerging citizens in sustainability and resilience principles and practice.

Droughts and Surface Water Sales: An Investigation of Spatial Data on Rice Farms in California

Anita Chaudhry and Dean Fairbanks, Center for Water and the Environment, CSU, Chico

Farmers with senior water rights are an important source of water supply in drought years; Results of research on land-fallowing decisions of rice farmers in Butte County, CA are presented and implications for California’s water management policy in dry periods is discussed.

Mapping the Way to a Sustainable Future

Nova Pierce, CSU, East Bay

This presentation will discuss how using G.I.S. to create a map of the University campus will help educate students and faculty about the environment, and to promote a sustainable lifestyle to the campus community and the world beyond.

The Circle of Sustainability

Jenny Lowrey and Jason Romer, From the Ground Up

From the Ground Up is an organization that promotes sustainability by cultivating community gardens. Their gardens are not only a source of produce for access challenged populations, but they are also outdoor classrooms for life skills training ranging from food production and preparation to nutrition, exercise, economics and environmental science.

Compassion Workshop: Improving Our World From Within

Ippolito Caradonna, Abbas Mohammed and Shayan Mehdi, Compassion Crew at UC Davis

Our workshop focuses on repurposing our daily interactions onto a foundation of compassion. Being more aware of your body and mind, the better you can take care of each other and the world. Discover how our knowledge of self and our relationships with others empowers the globe, one heart at a time.

The Grassroots Healthcare Revolution

Mojohito Tchudi and Susan Tchudi, Everything Herbal at TurkeyTail Farm

This session describes “grassroots healthcare”, a system of health that is local and sustainable. We’ll describe the global and local benefits of plant-based medicine: affordable healthcare, ecological restoration, economic uplift, and preservation of culture via ethnobotanical traditions, and present attendees with ideas about getting started growing culinary and medicinal herbs.

On the Wrong Track: A Short Documentary on the Oil Trains in Feather River Canyon

Paul W. Rea and Adrian Roberts, Adrian Roberts and Associates

Additional panelists include Robyn DiFalco, Executive Director Butte Environmental Council; Dave Garcia, Sierra Club; and Michael Weissenborn, Adrian Roberts and Associates.

Residents are registering alarm about crude-oil trains running through the Feather River Canyon, a route known for rockslides and train wrecks. Speakers in the film (public officials, water experts, environmental activists, and victims of wrecks) regard these “bomb trains” as catastrophes waiting to happen. (Film runs 14 minutes).

Waste Management in the 21st Century: A Deeper Look Into How Waste is Managed

Austin Eriksson and Karina Ward, CSU, Northridge

While all CSU’s are mandated to meet a 50 percent diversion goal by 2016 and 80 percent by 2020, getting there is a different story. This presentation will focus on how the integration of technology, identifying waste stream contents, and getting partners on board can help you achieve your diversion goals.


Rebekah Casey, GRID Alternatives North Valley

This talk will provide an overview of California policies that have made solar power for low-income communities possible, and an introduction to GRID Alternatives and their triple-bottom-line model that is setting the standard for solar policies across the nation.
Part I—Alternative Transportation Group at Chico State

Marco Machuca, Chance Watts and Samuel Wolfson, *Alternative Transportation at Chico State*

This presentation is an exploration of possible solutions to current issues plaguing the biking community, as well as some of our past and current projects to help address some of these issues.

PART II—Perceptions of Safety in the South Campus Neighborhood: Results of a Walking Street Audit

LaDona Knigge, *Department of Geography at CSU, Chico*

Working with interns at CSU, Chico as part of a Student Learning Fee Grant, LaDona and her Sustainable Planning class will present the story map they created outlining their research.

Soul Sustainability: Emotional and Spiritual Resources for Navigating a Planet in Decline

Carolyn Baker, PhD, Retired, and Peter Melton

This workshop will offer tools for managing our emotions in the midst of unprecedented loss and uncertainty in our ecosystems. How do we find meaning and purpose as the chemistry of the Earth as well as our own psyches are dramatically altered? Who do we want to be in this time of crisis and what gifts do we possess that the planet desperately needs?

Fermentation: Cultivating Health and Preserving Tradition

Grace Kerfoot, CSU, Chico

This discussion will include results from a recently conducted research survey on home fermentation practices of over 200 individuals. Attendees will learn about some traditional fermentation practices that are now gaining popularity within the community and will be invited to enjoy some common and uncommon fermented foods.

What is Stormwater?

Timmarie Hamill, The Stream Team

We will explore where and how stormwater is transported and ways to treat it before polluted water finds its way into our creeks and streams. Our citizen-monitoring program will be explained in order to understand better the importance of citizen involvement in our community.

Sandra Postel, director of the Global Water Policy Project

*The Global Freshwater Challenge: New Solutions for a Thirsty World*

Around the world, signs of water trouble abound. Rivers are running dry, lakes are shrinking, and groundwater is being depleted. Climate disruption is altering the global water cycle. From Australia to Brazil to California, severe droughts have forced curtailments of water use. The question arises: Can we meet our future water needs while at the same time sustaining the ecosystems that support our economies and the planet’s web of life? The answer is yes, but requires that we do two things: shrink our human water footprint and restore water to depleted rivers and ecosystems. Change the Course, a national freshwater restoration initiative, is building a movement to do just that.

Private Speaker Reception

RSVP via email to twts@csuchico.edu or by phone -530-898-3333 before the deadline of 2/29/16

We cordially invite all of our speakers to a private hosted reception in their honor to thank them all for participating in this important, annual event. Light appetizers and spirits will be served and entertainment will be provided. Due to space limitations, we ask that only our speakers and conference organizers attend.

*With live entertainment by The Brothers Reed*

The Reed brothers have finally united to create music together after twelve years of being 3,000 miles apart. Phil finally moved to the beautiful Pacific Northwest and joined forces with Aaron in a project named Buckle Rash. Playing around with their not-so-high-energy solo creations, they developed something on the side.

We hope you enjoy the show!
Sustainable Insulation Building Systems (SIBS)
Maria Elena (Nena) Anguiano and MESA program students, Butte-Glenn Community College

MESA interns are continuing an innovative, award-winning project at Butte College: Sustainable Building Insulation Systems. The SIBS project is a continuation of the EPA P3 grant-supported research and development Rice Hulls Alternative Building in the utilization of bio-mass agricultural waste materials in an energy efficient building insulation which sequester carbon.

Sustainability Knowledge Assessment at California State University, Northridge
Kiana Lucero, CSU, Northridge

A sustainability knowledge questionnaire was employed at CSU, Northridge to assess the baseline knowledge of the general student population and the effectiveness of our sustainability programs. Results from the surveys will be presented, assessing knowledge among students by discipline, gender, and year in school, and the effectiveness of program elements.

The Pope and Overpopulation: the Perplexing Silence of the Encyclical Laudato Si’
Peter Hess, Theology for a Sustainable Future

In Laudato Si’, Pope Francis identifies climate change as one of the greatest environmental threats today. But he ignores the crucial factor of human overpopulation. For religious traditions to be taken seriously, they must pay careful attention to overpopulation as well to pollution and overconsumption.

Storm Runoff Mitigation by Biofiltration
Dr. Sandrine Matiasek and EPA P3 student team

Students involved in an Environmental Protection Agency People, Planet, and Prosperity grant investigated key design criteria for developing efficient and sustainable biofiltration systems to slow down urban storm runoff and mitigate the adverse effects of its contaminants. This assessment informed biofiltration design guidance for communities considering this pollution prevention method.

Voices for the Future: The Moral Call to Conscience on Climate Change
Meagan Fischer, Advocacy Corps

While rigorous science hasn’t proven convincing enough for some politicians, faith communities are providing a moral foundation for climate action and a shared future. In fall 2015, a Republican congressional representative introduced a climate resolution that could be a small, but significant, step in addressing our common climate fate together.

What Is Biodynamics? Why Is It the Most Sustainable Farming System in the World?
Delmar McComb, BDANC (Biodynamic Association of Northern California), and Luke Frey, Frey Vineyards

Biodynamics is a holistic form of agriculture developed out of a series of lectures given in 1924 by Rudolf Steiner. Its ultimate goal is to make each farm a healthy, self-sustaining ecosystem. Learn the differences between organic and biodynamic and how it offers a truly sustainable vision for the future.

Forging Collaboration
Susan Tchudi and Stephen Tchudi, Environmental Coalition of Butte County

Presenters will present the history and current work of the Environmental Coalition of Butte County, a collaboration of over 30 local groups working on environmental issues. We'll describe the work of these groups and engage attendees of the session in talking about ideas for collaboration in solving our community’s problems.

Gooseneck Takeover
Jacqueline Ortiz, CSU, Eastbay

Gooseneck Takeover involves adding goosenecks to water fountains in every building at CSU, East Bay. This will provide students, staff, and faculty with an easy way to refill reusable bottles and, in turn, help to decrease the amount of plastic bottle waste on campus.

K–12 Greenie Displays and Voting
Projects will be on display from 9–11 a.m.
Winners will be announced at the awards ceremony from 11–11:30 a.m.

Join us in the BMU Auditorium for the annual Greenie displays and voting. Our K–12 categories will include nominated projects from three categories; K–6, 7–8, 9–12 grades. Student groups will show their sustainability projects that are innovative, environmentally spectacular, and that address environmental concerns. Through our Greenie Awards, we will recognize student groups in their successful efforts of working toward a sustainable future. Visit their displays in the BMU Auditorium between 9–11 a.m. Thursday to vote for the best. Only registered participants in attendance are able to vote. Winners will be announced between 11–11:30 a.m. in the BMU Auditorium. Copies of Grow-Cook-Eat will be available for purchase during the K–12 Greenie project presentations from 9–11 a.m. on Friday, March 24, in the BMU Auditorium. All proceeds are used to support their school project.
The Informal Geography of Chico: The Spaces Between Buildings
Kiaya Sabolovic and Victoria Birdseye, with professor Mark Stemen, Department of Geography, CSU, Chico

In 2015, students in Chico State’s GEOG 506 class designed a Tiny House Village and worked with Chico’s Community Development Department to negotiate the uncharted territory in local land-use planning. During the session, students will present their findings on what is possible for Tiny Houses in Chico.

Sharing Solar Through Education
Hugo Gregoire, CSU, East Bay

With global human energy consumption increasing every year, it is easy to forget the source from which our energy is derived. Educating students with hands-on practice can inspire them to embody the responsibilities of global citizenship and help countries that are living in energy poverty.

Making Cycling Irresistible
David Eaton, CSU, Chico Department of Anthropology

We first explore revolutions in urban cycling in international case studies from the likes of Groningen, Copenhagen, Seville, Curitiba, and Bogotá. Then, drawing on Blue’s Bikenomics, Mapes’ Pedaling Revolution, and Pucher & Buehler’s City Cycling, we study success in the US and ask how it could be achieved in Chico.

Developing a Food Secure Butte County
Lee Altier, CSU, Chico College of Agriculture, and Deanna Reed, Enloe Medical Center

Local food has immense importance for the quality of life in Butte County. Working to ensure that everyone in the county has access to adequate amounts of fresh vegetables and fruits is a cooperative effort by numerous groups. This forum will discuss the implementation of healthy and secure food systems.

Developing an Alternative Model to Mushroom Farming
Kevin Foley, Premier Mushrooms

This panel will discuss the fundamentals of mushroom farming and then take a deeper dive into several of Premier Mushroom’s sustainability initiatives.

Water Wars II
Taylor Wetzel and Kody Linville, Environmental Advocates at the Community Legal Information Center, CSU, Chico, and Jim Brobeck, AquAlliance

Water is a necessary resource for human survival that is dwindling in California. CLIC’s Environmental Advocates will discuss water policy issues related to the drought California currently faces. This talk will seek audience feedback about the state’s current and future actions to conserve water.

Distributed Energy in California: The Stone Edge Farm MicroGrid Project
Ryan Stoltenberg, Wooster Energy Engineering

On a campus of 15 acres, we will internally connect seven metered services together as an isolated electrical grid. In order to accomplish this, we must integrate various forms of distributed generation and storage with real-time monitoring and control. In this presentation, we will discuss this process.

The Service Model: Changing the Landscape of School Food
Hayley Baumgartner and Emily Koller, FoodCorps

FoodCorps is a nationwide team of leaders that connects kids to real food and helps them to grow up healthy. By placing motivated leaders in limited-resource communities for a year of public service, we teach kids about healthy food, and where it comes from and bring quality food into schools.

Navigating a Complex World: A Case for Resilience Education
James Pushnik, the Institute for Sustainable Development, and Colleen Hatfield, Department of Biological Sciences at CSU, Chico

This talk will address the need to educate future citizens for uncertainties presented by climate change. Using ecological examples, we'll explore the need to educate for resilience.

Watersheds as a Planning Unit
Lindsay Wood, Butte Environmental Council

This presentation will explore local watersheds of Butte County—Big Chico Creek, Butte Creek, and the Feather River, all of which flow into the Sacramento River. Historically, these tributaries have supported abundant populations of Chinook salmon. We will explore salmon as an indicator species, the current condition of the watersheds, and potential solutions.
The Autism Spectrum Food Activity Lab
Veronica VanCleave and Paul Hunt, Autism Spectrum Food Activity Lab, CSU, Chico Department of Kinesiology

This presentation highlights the development and success of the Autism Spectrum Food Activity Lab, an interdisciplinary project between the nutrition and kinesiology departments at CSU, Chico. Lab activities aim to promote positive attitudes toward food, and increase self-confidence in regard to making food choices and preparing foods to eat.

Igniting a Spark: Challenges and Successes in Inspiring Energy Efficiency
Bailey Hall, City of Sunnyvale

Energy efficiency is critical in mitigating the effects of climate change, but there are substantial barriers in influencing people’s behavior to change. Grassroots outreach strategies (along with subsequent successes and shortcomings) will be discussed through the lens of local government, but intended for any environmentalist looking to make an impact.

Environmental Stressors in Aquatic and Riparian Ecosystems
Amanda Banet and Kristen Kaczynski, Center for Water and the Environment at CSU, Chico

This session will showcase research from Dr. Amanda I. Banet and Dr. Kristen Kaczynski, two new faculty members in the College of Natural Sciences at Chico State. Both researchers are ecologists that study the influence of habitat degradation on aquatic (Banet) and riparian (Kaczynski) ecosystems.

Natural Awareness-Based Relations
Adam Moes, acupuncture and herbs

This introduction will offer an overview and specific techniques that will allow you to discover ever greater places of peacefulness and calm within yourself; as well as ways of enjoying your own thoughts and emotions to create and maintain healthier, happier relationships.

Local Lunch Buffet
Fee: $13
BMU 100 Auditorium

Join us for a local and organic lunch buffet in the Bell Memorial Union Auditorium during the featured events. Purchase your lunch ticket in advance when registering for just $13.

Friday’s Menu: Niman Ranch sliced BBQ top round (gluten-free) or Szechwan marinated tofu (vegan option, not gluten-free), Sutter dinner roll made with organic flour, with cannellini bean and kale salad, crisp broccoli salad with house vinaigrette, and beverage.

Featured Film: Symphony of the Soil
With introductions and Q&A by Deborah Koons Garcia, Director/Producer/Writer

Symphony of the Soil is a 104-minute documentary feature film that explores the complexity and mystery of soil. Filmed on four continents and sharing the voices of some of the world’s most esteemed soil scientists, farmers, and activists, the film portrays soil as a protagonist of our planetary story. Using a captivating mix of art and science, the film shows that soil is a complex living organism, the foundation of life on earth. Yet most people are soil-blind and “treat soil like dirt.” Through the knowledge and wisdom revealed in this film, we can come to respect, even revere, this miraculous substance and appreciate that treating the soil right can help solve some of our most pressing environmental problems. In addition to the feature film, there are several short films, Sonatas of the Soil, that delve deeply into soil-related topics, and several short clips, Grace Notes, that are available to stream on the film’s website.

CSU, Chico Campus Sustainability Walking Tour
Fletcher Alexander, the Institute for Sustainable Development at CSU, Chico

This walking tour of campus will highlight sustainability efforts from water conservation and alternative transportation initiatives to waste diversion efforts and sustainability programming in the Associated Students, University Housing, and more. Join us and learn about sustainability on the CSU, Chico campus!

Meet at the north entrance of the BMU.
PART I—Integrating Technology Within Garden Lessons to Promote Sustainability and Improve Learning Outcomes
Andrew Shensky and Estenia Garci Hernandez, U-ACRE, CSU, Fullerton

Integrating technology into school garden lesson plans is a topic that has received little attention. However, results from our pilot study suggest that technology in the garden can help to improve educational outcomes while potentially promoting sustainability among students. This presentation will discuss these implementations.

Part II—Do Different Hatchery Conditions Affect Age Specific Survivorship in Tilapia (Oreochromis niloticus)?
Sandra Contreras Soto, U-ZCRE, CSU, Fullerton

This presentation focuses on community-based research between U-ACRE at CSU, Fullerton, and Chef Navidi of Future Foods Farms. Using a tilapia hatchery created by Chef Navidi, we are studying age specific survivorship across different hatchery conditions to aid in creating an aquaculture model that is sustainable and productive.

Sustainable Management of Groundwater Storage—Why Is It Different Than Surface Water Storage?
Steffen Mehl and Jeffrey C. Davids, Center for Water and the Environment, CSU, Chico

California’s Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) focuses on transitioning the state toward sustainable use of its groundwater resources. However, compared to surface water storage, sustainable management of groundwater storage will require new management frameworks. Failure to manage groundwater storage can lead to long-term undesirable impacts.

Where Are We on the Way to Sustainability in 2016?
Stephen Feher, Sustainable Community Development Institute

This presentation will review progress toward sustainability after 2015, an important milestone year on the way to sustainability. Focusing on sea-level rise, it concludes with an optimistic view of what we can do to assure a sustainable future overcoming potential dangers, most importantly sea-level rise.

Dam Removal and Rewilding of the Sacramento Valley
Jesse Dizard, Center for Water and the Environment, CSU, Chico

Dam removal for threatened species restoration is not only feasible, it is happening. This presentation describes dam removal work on a tributary to the Sacramento River.

Growing with Faith: Starting a Community Garden Using a Jesuit Context
Carrie Herrman, Gonzaga University

This presentation, through using the example of the student-led campus garden at Gonzaga University, aims to illustrate how one can utilize the mission statement or ideal of their institution to enact sustainability initiatives.

Resilience, Resistance, and Right Relationship
Pamela Spoto and Sara McCurry, Shasta College

As educators, we want to help students and the community think about their relationship to their fundamental needs like shelter, food, and clothing. Pamela Spoto will relate a personal journey and model of resistance to these systems in terms of food, health, and medicine.

21st Century Trains: Replacement for Heavy Trucks
Richard McDonald, Retired

This presentation will cover 60-mph trains and tube trains as ideas to reduce the use of diesel trucks in interstate and metropolitan commerce. 60-mph trains would move goods between cities at an average speed of 60 mph. Tube trains would move pallets of goods from distribution centers to end users 24/7 using robotics.

Chico State’s Institute for Sustainable Development, South Campus Neighborhood Project

This spring semester, Chico State has launched a new partnership with the City of Chico focused on sustainability and the south campus neighborhood. In an interdisciplinary approach to addressing real community sustainability issues in the classroom, the Institute for Sustainable Development has coordinated nine faculty across six departments and three colleges to focus their academic expertise and students in at least one course on a different component of the neighborhood. In this first phase of a three-phase partnership, we’re exploring existing conditions related to circulation, infrastructure, public safety, the urban forest, sense of place, stakeholder involvement, and other community facets to lay the groundwork for development of a comprehensive neighborhood improvement plan.
Roger Doiron, Founder and Director of Kitchen Gardens International (KGI)

Eat the View: The Fight for Edible Landscapes

Sometimes, the best solution to a big problem is not a single, big one, but many little ones. In his globe-trotting presentation entitled “Eat the View,” Roger Doiron tells the story of how millions of people are taking on big, international problems like diet-related disease, climate change, and social injustice by growing small, edible gardens. Doiron focuses his spotlight in particular on an inspiring group of change-makers who’ve taken risks and encountered opposition in their efforts to promote gardens and healthy foods. Despite some high-profile victories for food gardens over the past five years, Doiron points out that the fight for more edible landscapes is still in its early stages. More resources and leadership will be needed for the food garden movement to grow and realize its full potential. Offering a message of hope and empowerment, Doiron invites his audience to become the next generation of garden groundbreakers.

Environmental Coalition Community Gathering

Held at The Women’s Club
Sponsored by the Butte Environmental Council (BEC) and the Environmental Coalition of Butte County

The Environmental Coalition of Butte County invites all conference participants to a community gathering on Friday following the last keynote. This reception brings together local environmental organizations and their supporters for a night of conversation and celebration. There will be free appetizers and adult beverages for sale. All from the local environmental community are encouraged to attend.

The Women’s Club is located at 592 E Third Street, and is within walking distance from the campus. For more information about the event, contact BEC at 530-891-6424 or visit the BEC website at becnet.org.

Thank you to our community sponsors for the past ten years of support and collaboration on this Nationally Recognized, student-run conference!

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And of course, thank you to all of the speakers who participate each year to share their knowledge, experiences, time, and expertise to make this conference what it has become!
Conference registration and most all of the conference events occur in the Bell Memorial Union at the corner of West Second and Hazel streets. Guest parking tickets may be purchased using Visa and MasterCard only at permit dispensers in each lot. Please see our website for specific dispenser locations within each lot and available parking maps.

Please do not park in any stall posted Reserved (R1 or R2). Parking lots are enforced from 7:30 a.m.–10 p.m. Permits must be clearly displayed on the dash of your vehicle.

Additional parking is available in City of Chico lots adjacent to the University at the corner of Second and Salem Streets, and in the City of Chico Parking Structure at the corner of Fourth and Broadway Streets.

California State University, Chico has adopted a policy of nondiscrimination and encourages all people to participate in our programs and activities. At University sponsored events, CSU, Chico will provide reasonable accommodations to members of the general public with disabilities unless doing so would create an undue hardship as described by law or cause a fundamental alteration of the program, activity, or service. Please contact 530-898-3333 with accommodation concerns in advance, or visit the registration table for further assistance. For more information, please visit our Accessibility Resource Center website at www.csuchico.edu/arc/.