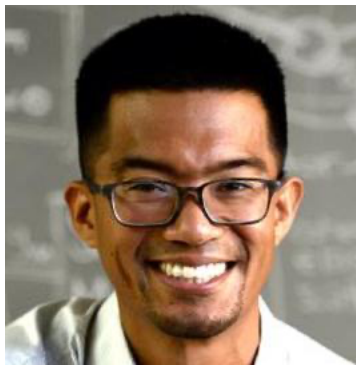


NEWSLETTER

February 2024 Edition (9)

Access previous editions: <https://sciencetechstudies.ucr.edu/news>

Initiative Activity Summary: Collaborative Fundraising



Flip Tanedo

Associate Professor
UCR Particle Theory

The UCR STS Steering Committee is preparing to apply for an NSF STS conference grant (Solicitation 22-629) to host a national conference on addressing climate change through transdisciplinary efforts that break out of the ivory tower. We envision the event as a two-way kickoff of our STS efforts: First, it is a coming out party to introduce the UCR STS initiative to practitioners across the country. We want our colleagues from established STS programs to learn from us what science and technology studies looks like in a modern, minority-serving, land-grant university. Secondly, the conference will be a way for us to learn from those colleagues as we refine our vision for STS at UCR.

We selected the theme of the **human impact of climate change** because of the existing UCR efforts that can benefit from one another under the umbrella of STS. These include the agricultural adaptation and the science of climate change in CNAS, the incorporation of indigenous knowledge and justice for marginalized communities at the front-line of climate change, the role of climate change in community health through the School of

Med, and the role of humanistic study to convert technical knowledge into cross-community actions.

We have begun to reach out to partners, including the new Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity, colleagues in Botany & Plant Sciences, a UCR alumnus working as natural resources specialist for Intertribal Agriculture Council, as well as colleagues in departments directly involved in climate science. We are looking for UCR STS members who are able to contribute writing and time towards organizing this event or who have suggestions for colleagues with whom we should connect. Please contact flip.tanedo@ucr.edu. Our goal is to complete the grant application by mid July and, if successful, host the conference in 2025.

Submitted by: Flip Tanedo, February 2024

Featured Conferences:



Join Us for the 2024 National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, 801 Mount Vernon Place, N.W., Room 146A-B, Washington, D. C. 20001.

April 16-18, 2024

[REGISTRATION](#)

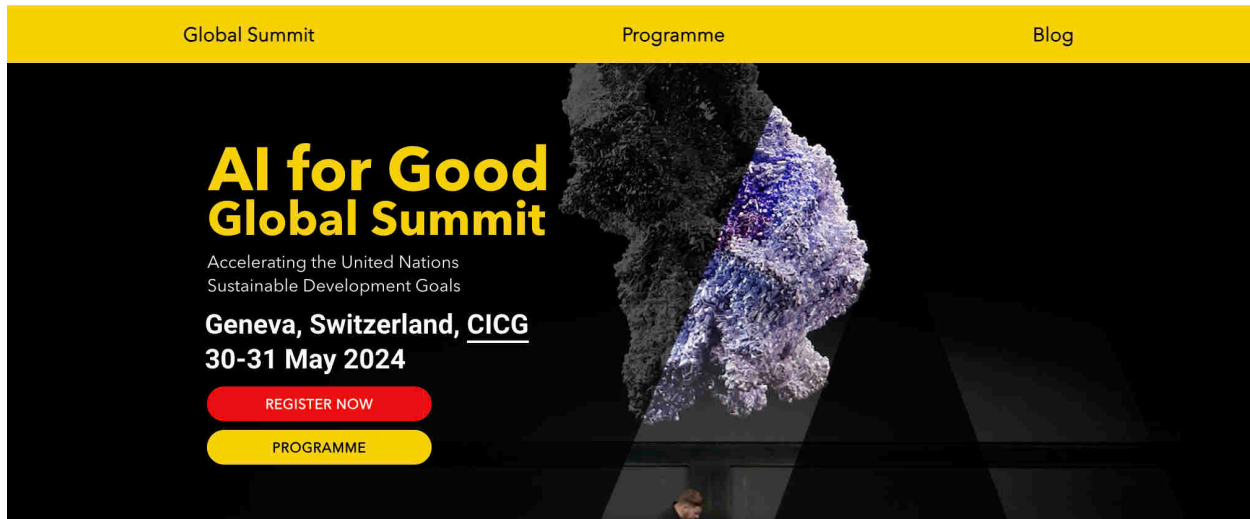
About

The National Environmental Justice Conference, Inc. (NEJC) a Non-Profit Organization, through its annual National Environmental Justice Conference

and Training Program, brings together community members, academia, the private sector and state and local officials, as well as Federal and State government representatives to examine the state of environmental justice (EJ) and share best practices. The overall conference theme is “Enhancing Communities Through Capacity Building and Technical Assistance.” The Board of Directors of NEJC, an independent, volunteer group of EJ business leaders and community leaders, along with the U.S. Department of Energy’s and US Department of Agriculture’s EJ Programs initiated this conference over fifteen (15) years ago. We have been joined since that time by several members of the Interagency Working Group on Environment Justice as sponsors and planners. The previous EJ conferences have been quite successful, with between 400–500 registrants annually, including federal government employees, state and local government officials, and tribal officials. The conferences have explored an array of topics including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Health Disparities, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) reviews, Climate Justice, and Chemical Facility Safety and Security.

Since 2011, due to the sponsorship of some Federal agency partners and the private sector, the conference has been able to make attending the conference free of charge to all Federal, State and local government employees; grassroots and tribal community members; and faith-based organizations, academia and youth. Since 2012, the conferences have conducted training segments that focus on EJ training, grant writing, technical assistance and more. The NEJC’s agenda provides workshops, panel discussions, Q&A segments, training opportunities, as well as networking lunches and receptions. It explores a plethora of topics including the growing presence of youth in EJ and the future of the EJ movement; incorporating EJ into the NEPA Process, increasing the use of film, storytelling and social media, and the use of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to address EJ. It focuses on interactive and innovative ways to enhance communities and provides ways for improved productivity and efficiency. The NEJC, through this annual conference, continues to produce an array of networking opportunities among Federal and State employees and stakeholders, students, faculty, community, business and other government leaders and includes EJ presentations from international participants.

The 2024 National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program will be held April 16–18, 2024 in Washington, D.C. in conjunction with Race Forward’s “Sustaining Racial Equity Across the Federal Government” Training Program for Federal Civil Servants. Leaders from various sectors will engage in 3 days of free exchange of ideas and approaches to achieving environmental justice. These interactive training sessions will feature voices of experience, research, discussions, and thought-provoking dialogue. The program format will feature the needs and challenges of communities, governments, municipalities, tribes, faith-based organizations, and others with an interest in environmental justice. It will highlight programs and collaborations that work, as well as initiatives that have not proven successful. Program speakers will feature representatives from Federal and state agencies, local governments, tribes, community groups, business and industry, public interest groups, academia, and other entities. This interactive forum will give conference participants the opportunity to network with a variety of interests from diverse quarters. All conference participants will realize informative and productive resources that can support their individual program goals and objectives. Conference participants will also see examples of approaches that produce positive results through innovation and collaboration. All in all, the conference will prove beneficial and informative to participants.



[URL: https://aiforgood.itu.int/summit24/](https://aiforgood.itu.int/summit24/)

ABOUT

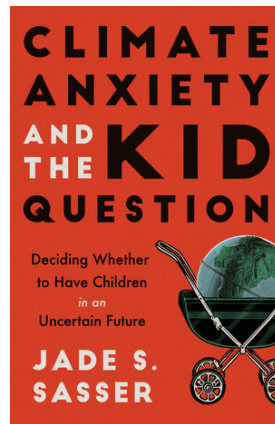
AI for Good is a year-round digital platform where AI innovators and problem owners learn, build and connect to identify practical AI solutions to advance the UN SDGs.

We have less than 10 years to solve the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). AI holds great promise by capitalizing on the unprecedented quantities of data now being generated on sentiment behaviour, human health, commerce, communications, migration and more.

The goal of AI for Good is to identify practical applications of AI to advance the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and scale those solutions for global impact. It's the leading action-oriented, global & inclusive United Nations platform on AI.

AI for Good is organized by ITU in partnership with 40 UN Sister Agencies and co-convened with Switzerland.

Featured book or article:



Jade Sasser
UCR Associate Professor
Gender & Sexuality Studies

URL: <https://www.ucpress.edu/book/9780520393820/climate-anxiety-and-the-kid-question>

The first book-length exploration of climate-driven reproductive anxiety that places race and social justice at the center.

Eco-anxiety. Climate guilt. Pre-traumatic stress disorder. Solastalgia. The study of environmental emotions and related mental health impacts is a rapidly growing field, but most researchers overlook a closely related concern: reproductive anxiety. *Climate Anxiety and the Kid Question* is the first comprehensive study of how environmental emotions influence whether, when, and why people today decide to become parents—or not.

Jade S. Sasser argues that we can and should continue to create the families we desire, but that doing so equitably will require deep commitments to social, reproductive, and climate justice. *Climate Anxiety and the Kid Question* presents original research, drawing from in-depth interviews and national survey results that analyze the role of race in environmental emotions and the reproductive plans young people are making as a result. Sasser concludes that climate emotions and climate justice are inseparable, and that culturally appropriate mental and emotional health services are a necessary component to ensure climate justice for vulnerable communities.

Submitted by: Linda Jean Hall, February 2024