

*Enhancing Communities Through Capacity
Building and Technical Assistance*

AGENDA

Education, Learning and Cooperation in a Diverse World

DAY 1—WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2019

***FIRST FULL DAY OF THE 2019 NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE CONFERENCE
AND TRAINING PROGRAM***

YOUTH/EMERGING LEADERS SUMMIT

**Washington Marriott at Metro Center
Grand Ballroom Salons A-D
775 12th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005**

7:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Registration

Exhibit Hall Open

8:00 a.m.—8:30 a.m.

Welcome/Opening Remarks

**Conference Facilitator
Ms. Carolyn Sawyer
Communications Strategist
Tom Sawyer Company**

**Benjamin F. Wilson, Esq.
Chairman
Beveridge & Diamond, P.C.,
Chairman, Board of Directors
National Environmental Justice Conference, Inc.**

**Dr. Melinda Downing
Environmental Justice Program Manager
U.S. Department of Energy**

8:30 a.m.—9:30 a.m.

**Panel: *C.A.M.E.O: An Environmental Justice Outreach Program
Created for Minority Students by Minority Students***

**Clarence T. Brown
MES Program Manager**

Pre-College University

Cydney Christian
Temple University/Hampton University
MES Scholar
C.A.M.E.O Founder

Janelle Layton
Hampton University
C.A.M.E.O Manager

9:30 a.m.—10:30 a.m.

Panel: 5 Unique Paths, 1 Common Goal of Justice for the Environment: Paths of Students to Preserve the Environment and Make a Communal Difference

Clarence T. Brown
MES Program Manager
Pre-College University

Indigo Rockmore
Student, Chemistry/Environmental Engineering
University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

Cydney Christian
Student, Environmental Engineering
Temple University

Tyquan Davis
Student (MBA), AgriBusiness
South Carolina State University

Dana Freeman
Student, Political Science
Temple University

Autumn Staggers
Student, Art (Education)
South Carolina State University

Brandon Galloway
Student, Civil Engineering
South Carolina State University

10:30 a.m.—11:45 a.m.

Presentations

The Environmental Climate on Campus: The Demand for Environmental Justice Education at High Research Universities

Oscar Eduardo de Paz
Doctoral Candidate in Energy and Environmental Policy

Alanna Wallace
Master of Energy and Environmental Policy Candidate

University of Delaware
Joseph R. Biden Jr. School of Public Policy & Administration
The Center for Energy and Environment Policy

How Meaningful, Community-Identified Service-Learning Projects are Possible in Large Undergraduate Courses

Deanna Lloyd
Instructor & Experiential Education Coordinator
Sustainability Double-Degree Program, Crop and Soil Science
Department/Department of Horticulture, Oregon State University

Sustainable Development and Environmental Justice: Connecting Students to Global Issues

Wendy E. Sellers, PhD, MSW, MA
Associate Professor, Department of Social Work
Winthrop University

Sierra Davis
BSW Candidate and McNair Scholar
Winthrop University

11:45 a.m.—12:15 p.m.

Break

12:15 p.m.—1:15 p.m.

Lunch

Luncheon Speaker: *Will You Be My Mentor? Finding and Maintaining an Effective Mentor-Mentee Relationship*

Dr. Britt Rios-Ellis

**Founding Dean, College of Health Sciences and Human Services
California State University Monterey Bay
Founding Director (former), Center for Latino Community
Health, Evaluation, and Leadership Training, Seaside, CA**

**1:15 p.m.—1:30 p.m.
1:30 p.m.—3:00 p.m.**

Break

Educate, Motivate, Innovate Panel: Building the Next Generation of Environmental Justice Leaders (The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice’s “Educate, Motivate and Innovate (EMI) Environmental Justice Initiative”)

**Joanna Mounce Stancil
EMI Co-Chair
USDA Forest Service**

Modified Health Impact Assessments (HIA) for Two Environmental Justice Communities in New Orleans, Louisiana and Mobile, Alabama

**Ms. Joey Batts
Student, Chemistry
Tennessee State University**

Foster Beelief’s Educational Outreach Program

**Sade Shofidiya
Graduate Student, Masters Business Administration
Savannah State University**

Two Community Health Impact Assessment - Hurricane Harvey Impacts

**Aaliyah Shannon
Student, Health Science/Public Health
Tennessee State University**

3:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

Student Poster Exhibits and Presentations:

Modified Health Impact Assessments (HIA) for Two Environmental Justice Communities in New Orleans, Louisiana and Mobile, Alabama

**Joey Batts
Student, Chemistry
Tennessee State University**

Modified Health Impact Assessments (HIA) for

*Two Environmental Justice Communities in
Pensacola, Florida and Houston, Texas*

Aaliyah Shannon
Student, Health Science/ Public Health
Tennessee State University

*Hydrolyzed Chitin Extracted from Seafood Shell Waste as a
Biocompatible Sorbent in Reversible Carbon Dioxide Sequestration*

Katherine Lipsius
Student, Department of Natural Sciences
University of Maryland Eastern Shore

Environmental Preservation on UMTRCA Title 1 and Title 2 Sites

Indigo Rockmore
Student, Environmental Engineering
University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

Making the Self-Healing Polymer Elastomers Malleable

Janna Muhammad
Student, Department of Chemistry
Fort Valley State University

*Synthesis and Characterization of TC/Sb Composite Anode for Na-
Ion Batteries*

Kia M. Jackson
Oak Ridge National Laboratory
Pre-College University
(Contributors: M. Parans Paranthaman,
Charl Jafta, Samuel F. Evans)

*Review of Detrimental Effects of Carbon Monoxides in Different
Communities*

Divinefavour Oladipo
Student, Biology
Allen University

*Comparison of ¹³⁷Cs uptake by *Juncus effusus* and *Brasenia
schreberi* in aquatic habitats on the SRS*

Trevaris J. Brown

**Student, Biology
Allen University**

*Heavy Metals in Sediments Collected from Savannah River Estuary
in Savannah, Georgia*

*Composition of Trace Elements in Influent, Biosolids and Effluent
from Nine Wastewater Treatment Plants in Savannah, Georgia*

**Jaya Grant
Tiffany Davis
Markelle Fuller
Frances Arthur
Students, Department of Marine and Environmental Sciences
Savannah State University**

*Planning, Power and Penalty: Environmental Justice Intersections
and Gaps During The Flint Water Crisis*

**Jerel Ezell, MPH, MA
Department of Sociology
University of Chicago
Contributors (Kristen Schilt, PhD, Anna Mueller, PhD)**

DAY 2—THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2019

***SECOND FULL DAY OF THE 2019 NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
CONFERENCE AND TRAINING PROGRAM***

**Washington Marriott at Metro Center
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Washington, DC 20005**

8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Exhibit Hall Open

**Conference Facilitator
Ms. Carolyn Sawyer
Communications Strategist
Tom Sawyer Company**

8:00 a.m.—9:45 a.m.

**Panel: *The College Underserved Community Partnership Program
(CUPP) - Building Community Success through Collaboration***

Michael W. Burns, Moderator
Senior Advisor to the Regional Administrator, EPA Region 4
National Program Manager, CUPP

*Addressing Southern Industrial Blight with a Redevelopment Plan
for a Mixed-Use Project at the Historic Pendleton Oil Mill Site*

Shelley Smith Pelliccione
Alumnus, Clemson University

Dr. Robert Benedict
Director, Master of Real Estate Development Program
Clemson University

Addressing the Needs of Youth via an Empowerment Program

Connie Walton, PhD
Professor of Chemistry & Director of Sponsored Programs
Grambling State University

Elise Reed
Assistant Professor of Social Work
Grambling State University

*Developing a comprehensive economic development strategy for
Clarkston, Ga, considered “the most diverse square mile in
America; the Ellis Island of the South”*

Raquel Penalver Bartolome
Helen Strickland
Tanner White
Timothy Wright
Students, J. Mack Robinson School of Business
Georgia State University

*Transforming Communities Through Partnerships; the E- STEAM
Lab: Quest Project to engage urban youth and families in the
exploration of the natural world*

Dr. Donnie Hale, Ed.D
Florida International University

Margarette Mahotiere, PhD
Family and Community Engagement Manager
Jesse J. McCrary, Jr. Elementary School, Miami, FL

9:45 a.m.—10:45 a.m.

Panel: *Capacity Building and Nuclear Weapons Production Cleanup: Perspectives on Tribal and State Engagement with the U.S. Department of Energy*

Mindy Bridges

**Senior Policy Specialist, U. S. Department of Energy State and Tribal Government Working Group (STGWG) Coordinator
National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)**

Dino Chavarria

STGWG Tribal Issues Co-Chair

Director, Santa Clara Pueblo Office of Environmental Affairs

Debbie Duren

STGWG State Co-Convener

Natural Resource Trustee Program Manager

Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation

Brandt Albert Petrusek

Director of Tribal Affairs

Office of Environmental Management (DOE-EM)

U. S. Department of Energy

10:45 a.m.--11:15 a.m.

Presentation: *USDA Forest Service Hires Tribal Members to Identify Traditional Cultural Properties and Sacred Places*

Nanebah Nez Lyndon

Navajo Nation

Tribal Liaison, Tonto National Forest

USDA Forest Service

LeRoy Shingoitewa

Hopi

Field Director, Tribal Monitor Program

USDA Forest Service

Jacob Henry

White Mountain Apache Tribe

Tribal Monitor

11:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Presentation: *Engaging Tribal Communities in Forest Restoration through Timber Program Development*

Mike Lyndon

Tribal Relations Program Manager, Kaibab National Forest

USDA Forest Service

Steve Swatling
Forester, Kaibab National Forest
USDA Forest Service

11:45 a.m.—12:15 p.m. **Introduction of Keynote Speaker**

Dr. Melinda Downing
Environmental Justice Program Manager
U.S. Department of Energy

Keynote Speaker
The Honorable James E. Clyburn
Majority Whip (Democrat, 6th District, South Carolina)

12:15 pm – 12:45 p.m. **Break**

12:45 p.m. --1:45 p.m. **Lunch**

Introduction of Luncheon Speaker

Dr. Melinda Downing
Environmental Justice Program Manager
U.S. Department of Energy

Luncheon Speaker
Peter O'Konski
Deputy Director, Office of Legacy Management
U.S. Department of Energy

1:45 p.m.—2:15 p.m. **Break**

2:15 p.m.—3:15 p.m. **Panel: *Area Wide Planning for Brownfields***

Scott Wilson Badenoch Jr., Esq.
MDR, Co-Director, BRIGHT
Visiting Attorney, Environmental Law Institute
Don Edwards
Chief Executive Officer & Principal
Justice & Sustainability Associates

Frank McLaughlin
Brownfields Project Manager
Office of Brownfield Reuse
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

**Kate O'Brien
Principal
Catalyst Collaboratives LLC**

3:15 p.m.—4:30 p.m.

Presentations:

Building Federal Agency Capacity to Address Environmental Justice: the Case of Hazardous Fuels Management on National Forests

**Mark D. O. Adams, PhD
Geographer
USDA Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station**

**Susan Charnley, PhD
Research Social Scientist
USDA Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station
*Energy Justice in Affordable Housing***

**Patrice Brooks,
Low-Income Programs Manager
District of Columbia Sustainable Energy Utility (DCSEU)**

Advancing Energy Affordability Nationally Through Efficient Solutions

**Ariel Drehobl
Senior Research Analyst
American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE)**

4:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

Break

4:45 p.m. --6:00 p.m.

Screening: *The 2018 Bronze Telly Award-winning documentary film "Sea Change"* and Presentation: *The Impact of Climate Change on Human Health and the Environment*

**Dr. David Rivers
Professor, Medical University of South Carolina and Director,
Public Information and Community Outreach (PICO)
Charleston, SC**

**Oluwole Ariyo, PhD
Principal Investigator, Environmental Justice Institute
Allen University
Columbia, SC**

Dr. Mildred McClain
Co-Founder and Executive Director
Harambee House/Citizens for Environmental Justice
Savannah, GA
Board Member, National Environmental Justice Conference, Inc.

Mr. Albert A. George, II
Director of Conservation
South Carolina Aquarium
Charleston, SC

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Networking Reception

DAY 2–THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2019
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING PROGRAMS

London Room I

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Environmental Justice From a Civil Rights Perspective

This workshop reviews the broad aspects of environmental justice initiatives within USDA Rural Development. Participants will learn more about the role that the Civil Rights Office plays in environmental justice for USDA Rural Development programs and services. Lastly, this workshop highlights the programs of USDA Rural Development that promote environmental justice, reduce the burdens and increase the benefits to improve the quality of life in Rural America.

Dr. Sharese C. Paylor
Acting Civil Rights Director
Civil Rights Office
USDA Rural Development

London Room I

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Engaging and Empowering Citizen Scientists: Practical Advice about Planning and Implementing Environmental Projects

This workshop will provide an introduction to, and hands-on experience with, practical tools for (i) designing, carrying out and participating in citizen science projects, (ii) identifying relevant laws and regulations, and (iii) understanding standards regarding data collection, analysis, and quality.

There is a growing need for environmental citizen science in light of cuts in federal environmental enforcement and pressures on state and local budgets. Environmental citizen science can be defined as a grassroots initiative in which ordinary citizens, sometimes in collaboration with professional scientists or non-profit organizations, collect, generate, and distribute information for purposes ranging from educating communities and regulators about environmental and public health issues to enforcing laws. To support community-based environmental citizen science, the Emmett Environmental Law and Policy Clinic at Harvard Law School created “A Manual for Citizen Scientists Starting or Participating in Data Collection and Environmental Monitoring Projects.” In its workshop, the Clinic will introduce the Manual to offer practical suggestions for how to design and carry out an effective, community-based, environmentally-focused citizen science project. The workshop will include participatory case studies, in which attendees will have an opportunity to apply the guidance and tools in the Manual to hypothetical scenarios.

The Clinic expects that this interactive workshop will allow participants to assess different approaches to citizen science, analyze its role in promoting environmental justice, and receive informative resources that they can share and use outside the conference. The Clinic also hopes to receive feedback from attendees about ways to improve the manual, which is available online at <https://citizenscienceguide.com>.

Aladdine Joroff
Staff Attorney and Lecturer
Harvard Law School, Emmett Environmental Law & Policy Clinic

London Room II

9:00 a.m. -10:30 a.m.

Workshop on Environmental Justice and NEPA Methods

The purpose of the workshop is to increase understanding of opportunities to advance consideration of environmental justice in the NEPA review process. The specific focus is the community’s understanding of the interconnection between Environmental Justice (EJ) and the National Environmental Policy Act by utilizing two tools of the NEPA Committee of the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG). These tools are “Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews” (Promising Practices Report) and “Community Guide to Environmental Justice and NEPA Methods (Community Guide),” a companion document to the Promises Practices Report. Specifically, the workshop will consist of two parts: 1) panel presentation by federal Department NEPA practitioners that provides an overview on opportunities to address environmental justice and information on how to apply the

principles of EJ during the NEPA process and 2) Interactive Exercise on how to apply this information to an infrastructure, energy, or disaster relief project. The workshop is designed to foster collaboration among the Federal family and the public. Ultimately, the workshop will give participants a better knowledge of what practices Federal agencies use to evaluate environmental impacts to minority and low-income populations and how they can be a more effective advocate for their communities with these agencies as they make decisions.

Denise Freeman
Co-chair, NEPA Committee of the IWG on EJ
Senior Advisor (Detail)ee)
Environmental Justice Program
Office of Legacy Management
U.S. Department of Energy

Suzi Ruhl, JD, MPH
Immediate Past Co-chair, NEPA Committee of the IWG on EJ
Senior Counsel, Office of Environmental Justice
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Stanley Buzzelle
Co-chair, Goods Movement Committee of the IWG on EJ
Attorney Advisor, Office of Environmental Justice
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Harold Peaks
Member, NEPA Committee of the IWG on EJ
Team Leader, Office of Project Development and Environmental Review
Federal Highway Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation

Ted Boling
Member, Leadership Team, NEPA Committee of the IWG on EJ
Associate Director for the National Environmental Policy Act
Council on Environmental Quality

Dennis Randolph
Member, National Environmental Justice Advisory Committee
Public Works Director, City of Grandview, MO

London Room II

10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Developing Environmental Health Literacy: Interactive, Problem- Based Science Kits for Diverse Audiences

This session will describe the community-based process and challenges of developing environmental health science kits for diverse community audiences. All participants will be given the opportunity to go through two science kits and experience their utility. The session will address the advantages of this interactive approach to learning and how it can be used to achieve health equity.

Lubna Ahmed
Director of Environmental Health
WE ACT for Environmental Justice

Kerene Tayloe
Director of Federal Legislative Affairs
WE ACT for Environmental Justice

London Room II

2:00 p.m.—3:30 p.m.

Strengthening communities by leveraging federal dollars, utilizing next generation learning, and participating in innovative community-based learning opportunities through the 1890 Land Grant Universities Environmental Justice Academy Pilot

Participants in this session will learn about the innovative, intentional 1890 Land Grant Universities' Environmental Justice Academy. The Academy was designed to cultivate the skills of agricultural and environmental college students so they may successfully support local communities in addressing their environmental challenges and accomplishing their environmental improvement goals. The EJ Academy was built to promote career readiness and professional development for the next generation of environmental leaders.

Beatra Wilson
National Program Manager, Urban & Community Forestry
USDA Forest Service

Khrystle Bullock
Program Specialist, Fire & Aviation Management
USDA Forest Service

Sheryl Good
Environmental Justice Academy Program Manager
Office of Environmental Justice and Sustainability
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4

De'Etra Young, PhD
Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist, College of Agriculture
Department of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
Tennessee State University

London Room II

4:00 p.m.—5:30 p.m.

Near-port Community Engagement: Showcasing New Tools, Partnerships, and Environmental Justice Achievements in Four U.S. Cities

Ports play a vital role in the U.S. economy and in sustaining local and regional economies with seaports supporting about 23 million U.S. jobs and 26% of the U.S. Gross Domestic Product. With over 95 percent of the cargo entering the U.S. arriving by ship, businesses and consumers rely on the goods and services that ports provide. However, port operations and associated freight transport activities also impact the quality of life for near-port communities. In the U.S. there are approximately 39 million people who live near ports and can be exposed to pollutants that can harm their health – especially diesel emissions from equipment that powers port operations and related goods movement activities. Achieving the shared vision for health and prosperity for people living and working near ports requires ongoing stakeholder engagement, innovation, capacity building and collaborative problem-solving.

In completing its first ever Near-port Community Capacity Building Pilot Project Opportunity in 2018, EPA provided technical assistance to community and port stakeholders in various locations across the country. Case studies which chronicle partnership development, specialized training, tours, outcomes, and lessons from the pilot projects will be presented in this workshop. Session highlights include:

- *Learn how community stakeholders and port officials are developing a community benefits agreement with plans to approach gentrification concerns of near-port communities that prioritize investment/improvement without displacement of the current residents;*
- *Learn about a landmark agreement to provide financial support to community stakeholders for effective engagement with local port and planning officials;*
- *Learn about successes in building cultural competence and how integrating EJ and equitable development considerations are transforming organizations;*
- *Learn how to build a coalition and develop an air quality action plan;*
- *Learn how to navigate EPA’s pioneering capacity building toolkit consisting of:*
 - *Ports Primer for Communities*
 - *Community Action Roadmap*
 - *Environmental Justice Primer for Ports*

Vernice Miller-Travis

Senior Advisor for Environmental Justice & Equitable Development

Skeo

Board Member, National Environmental Justice Conference, Inc.

Sabrina Johnson

Senior Policy Analyst, Office of Transportation & Air Quality

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Sarah Malpass
Associate Planner
Skeo

Elizabeth Leavitt
Senior Director, Environment and Sustainability
Port of Seattle

Grand Ballroom Salon E

8:30 a.m. — 10:00 a.m.

(Re)Defining Documents: Understanding the Enduring and Evolving Legacy of “The Principles of Environmental Justice”

This session will provide a round-table discussion reconsidering the seventeen principles that were produced by the First National People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit held in Washington DC in 1991. It will also be utilizing the revisions that were made to ‘The Principles of Environmental Justice’ in 2002, in which three “core values” were added alongside the seventeen principles. Although the principles are almost 30 years old, they still offer crucial insight into the nature and practice of building environmentally healthy communities and securing political, economic, and cultural liberation. “The Principles of Environmental Justice” is not just a static document, nor was the First National People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit just an event; rather they inspire a “living testimony” that should be embodied by all stakeholders within the environmental justice field.

The leaders of this roundtable discussion are all undergraduate students studying environmental justice at Salisbury University. Each student has done an extensive analysis of a particular principle of environmental justice. They have analyzed the principles’ significance in the environmental justice field as well as their application in environmental justice advocacy, education, and policy. The session leaders will each share the findings of his or her individual research and discuss emergent themes, gaps, inconsistencies, and the promises of reconsidering these classic texts of the environmental justice movement in our contemporary moment when environmental justice conflicts are spreading to new places and spaces.

Sofia Carrasco
Student, Environmental Studies and Communications
Salisbury University

Nicole Hammond
Student, Biology Major and Environmental Studies Minor
Salisbury University

Megan Hensel
Student, Environmental Studies Major and a Biology Minor

Salisbury University

Sam Hunter

Student, Environmental Studies and Outdoor Education and Leadership.

Salisbury University

Cassady Koch

Public Relations and Strategic Communication and Environmental Studies

Salisbury University

Ryan Schrader

Environmental Studies and Philosophy

Salisbury University

Shane Hall, PhD

Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies

Salisbury University

Grand Ballroom Salon E

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Deleterious Effects of Improper Disposal of Household Hazardous Waste

Domestic wastes are daily generated without proper disposal in different communities. Some of these wastes are often left to decompose just in the open space; thereby contributing to the release and build-up of awful odor in the environment, as the wastes decompose. This has been reported as one of the major sources of Nitrogen oxide gas, which often impair health status of people in the environment. Some leftovers of household products are also known to catch fire. In addition, they have the potential to react, or explode under certain circumstances. Improper disposal of products, such as paints, oils, cleaners, pesticides and batteries can as well contribute to the reason behind water hardness. The products of decomposition of these substances eventually drained down the waterbed and consequently make water undrinkable. This workshop is intended to educate and advise on safe management practices of Household Hazardous Wastes (HHW). Proven practices on how to reduce HHW and effective regulation in different communities will also be discussed.

Oluwole Ariyo, PhD

Principal Investigator, Environmental Justice Institute

Allen University

Allen University Environmental Justice Institute Interns

Grand Ballroom Salon E

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Collaborative Conservation Through Engagement of Communities and Partnerships

This workshop is designed to showcase collaborative initiatives and activities through partnerships using conservation practices which contributes to successful environmental incentives and effects for landowners and communities. Program experts and local landowners will explain in detail the benefits of using reliable conservation practices while expanding environmental justice goals and efforts that have transformed individuals, communities and the environment.

Ronald A. Harris
Director, Outreach and Partnerships Division
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Shawn C. Anderson
Emergency Watershed Protection Program Coordinator
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Reverend Dr. Heber Brown, III
Black Church Food Security Network
Baltimore, MD

Barry A. Hamilton
National Tribal Relations Liaison Officer
National Tribal Environmental Adaptation Coordinator
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Michael A. Wilson, Ph.D.
Senior Scientist, Climate Change
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Grand Ballroom Salon E

4:00 p.m.—5:30 p.m.

Leveraging the Health Benefits of Nature and the Practice of Forest Therapy to Empower Resilience and Environmental Stewardship in Diverse Communities

Research has shown the immense physical, mental, social and emotional health benefits that nature provides. However, low access to green space and increased chronic disease exacerbates health disparities in underserved communities. The USDA Forest Service, through non-traditional partnerships and collaboration, is connecting providers, patients and families within diverse communities to the health benefits of nature. The Health and Nature Navigators pilot program trains culturally and linguistically relevant guides to educate the medical community

through the park prescription movement (with Park Rx America). It also empowers diverse community members to be environmental justice leaders through conservation education, environmental stewardship, the connection between forest health and human health and citizen science (with Corazon Latino). The growing forest therapy movement, started by the Association of Nature and Forest Therapy Guides and Programs, promotes culture repair through sensory invitations to allow individuals to connect to themselves, each other, and the more than human world. These initiatives seek to empower and build capacity for present and future generations of environmental stewards by connecting diverse communities to nature and the environment through the lens of health benefits in nature and through partnerships, community engagement, and knowledge and technical assistance provided by the Forest Service. There will be an opportunity to participate in forest therapy invitations during the panel discussion.

Farjana Islam
Health and Nature Navigator Program Coordinator
USDA Forest Service through Greening Youth Foundation

Tamberly Conway, PhD
Partnerships, Diversity and Inclusion Specialist, Conservation Education
USDA Forest Service

Dr. Stacy Stryer
Park Rx America

M. Amos Clifford, MA
Founder and Director
Association of Nature & Forest Therapy Guides and Programs

Felipe Benitez
Executive Director, Corazon Latino

DAY 3–FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 2019

***THIRD FULL DAY OF THE 2019 NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
CONFERENCE AND TRAINING PROGRAM***

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**Conference Facilitator
Ms. Carolyn Sawyer
Communications Strategist
Tom Sawyer Company**

8:00 a.m.—9:30 a.m.

Panel: *Federal Interagency and Interfaith Collaboration on Addressing the Needs of Vulnerable and Underserved Communities: A Coal Town Looks to the Future*

**Danny E. Gogal
Senior Environmental Protection Specialist
Office of Environmental Justice
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency**

**Joanna Mounce Stancil
Senior Advisor for State and Private Forestry
USDA Forest Service**

**Jennifer Seidel
Community Liaison
City of Shamokin, PA**

**Kathy Jeremiah
Director
Franciscan Center - Anthracite Region for Progress
Shamokin, PA**

**Friar Michael Lasky, OFM Conv.
Justice, Peace, & Integrity of Creation Office
Franciscan Friars Conventual**

9:30 a.m.—10:15 a.m.

Presentation: *Building Opportunity and Awareness Through Watershed Restoration*

**Emily Rice
Environmental Protection Specialist
District of Columbia Department of Energy and Environment**

**Will Avila
Founder, Changing Perceptions
CEO & Founder, Clean Decisions**

Graham McLaughlin
Chairman, Board of Directors
Changing Perceptions

Andrea Hyera
Environmental Protection Specialist
District of Columbia Department of Energy and Environment

William Ferrell
Changing Perceptions

10:15 a.m.—11:00 a.m. **Presentation: *Capacity Building Efforts on Environmental Justice and Public Involvement at the Federal Highway Administration***

Fleming El-Amin
Community Planner
Federal Highway Administration

Jody McCullough
Community Planner
Federal Highway Administration

11:00 a.m.—11:45 a.m. **Panel: *Creating the Next Generation of Green Professionals***

Sheryl Dove
Strategy and Green Workforce Development Manager
District of Columbia Sustainable Energy Utility (DCSEU)

Joshua Brown
HVAC Professional

Madison Johnson
Engineering Student

Richard Quaofio
Energy Engineer

Illai Kenney
Sustainability Futurist

11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. **Break**

12:15 p.m.—1:15 p.m. **Lunch**

Luncheon Speaker:

Melissa A. Lavinson
Senior Vice President
Governmental and External Affairs
Exelon/PEPCO Holdings

1:15 p.m.—1:30 p.m.

Presentation of Awards
Dr. Melinda Downing
Environmental Justice Program Manager
U.S. Department of Energy

1:30 p.m.—1:45 p.m.

Break

1:45 p.m.—2:30 p.m.

Presentation: *Small Business Contractors for High-level Maintenance: Lessons Learned from Community-based Contracting*

Tim Dolan
Data & Project Management Specialist
Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh

Anna Archer
Project Manager
Grounded Strategies

Andre Young
Land Technician
Chatman Properties

Robin Young
Managing Director
Chatman Properties

2:30 p.m.—3:15 p.m.

Presentation: *Building a Climate Justice Movement for Communities: LEAD the Coast, an Example of Utilizing a Co-Designed Leadership Growth Model to Build Capacity for Communities to Adapt to Climate Change*

Rachelle Sanderson
Coastal Community Resilience Program Manager
Foundation for Louisiana

Darilyn Demolle Turner
Executive Director
Zion Travelers Cooperative Center

Bette Billiot
Administrative Assistant to Principal Chief of the

United Houma Nation

Angela Chalk
Executive Director, Healthy Community Services

Sharon Foret
Co-Director, Bayou Interfaith Shared Community Organizing

3:15 p.m.—3:45 p.m.

Presentation: *Half Century Progress of Environmental Justice in the United States and its implications to Fracking and Community Impacts*

Qingmin Meng
Associate Professor, Department of Geosciences
Mississippi State University

3:45 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Closing Remarks

Kim Lambert
Environmental Justice Coordinator
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Dr. Melinda Downing
Environmental Justice Program Manager
U.S. Department of Energy

Timothy Fields, Jr.
Senior Vice President, MDB, Inc.
Vice-Chairman, Board of Directors
National Environmental Justice
Conference, Inc.

DAY 3–FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 2019

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING PROGRAMS

London Rooms I and II

8:00 a.m. — 10:30 a.m.

Grant Writing and Technical Assistance

Part 1. *Ready, Set: Give Me Your Money, What's In A Name? and Do We Really Want To Do This? Terms and Techniques of Grant Writing*

Part 2. *Go: How Do We Do It? and How Much Do We Need? Developing a Proposal and Budget*

Part 3. *Where Is The Money? Finding Available Grant Funding Agencies*

Ms. Deborah N. Blacknall, Grants Administrator and Assistant Officer, Office of Sponsored Programs, South Carolina State University, Orangeburg, SC

Ms. Gwendolyn F. Mitchell Ulmer, Grant Administrator, Office of Sponsored Programs, South Carolina State University, Orangeburg, SC

London Rooms I and II

10:45 a.m.—12:15 p.m.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 Training

This session aims to provide participants with (1) an overview of Title VI; (2) its application to environmental justice scenarios; and (3) information on how to file a complaint with a Federal agency and how such complaints are processed.

Title VI Committee

Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice

London Rooms I and II

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Community Participation in Resolving Conflicts: Appreciative Inquiry and Title VI Mediation

Conflict resolution processes, such as mediation and Appreciative Inquiry, promote the environmental justice principles of community participation and self-determination. Through engagement in these practices, community members are involved in planning for their futures and shaping agreements that affect their communities. In this session participants will learn how these practices may support environmental justice and will engage in discussion and critical analysis of case studies that illustrate each process.

Gina Cerasani, PhD
Conflict Resolution Specialist
Conflict Prevention and Resolution Center
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Sheryl Good
Environmental Justice Academy Program Manager
Office of Environmental Justice and Sustainability
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4

Grand Ballroom Salon E

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

**Enhancing Equitability of Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery Processes:
Connecting Communities to Local Emergency Planning**

This workshop will lead an interactive dialogue exploring opportunities for addressing equity in emergency preparedness. Better planning and preparedness can improve emergency response, in turn saving lives and reducing property losses and environmental impacts during emergencies. This session will examine opportunities for community advocates to see whether their community has been left out of local comprehensive emergency plans for both natural disasters and other emergencies.

Victoria Robinson
Office of Environmental Justice
Stakeholder Engagement
US Environmental Protection Agency

Leland Edgecomb, AIA, ASLA, AICP/CNU
President, The Edgecombe Group
Hyattsville, MD

Grand Ballroom Salon E

10:45 a.m.—12:00 Noon

**Building Capacity with Native Americans and Alaska Natives to Handle Hazardous Materials
and Respond to Emergencies**

Understanding the Need for Training: Tribal nations across the U.S. are self-governing entities, operating their own solid and hazardous waste programs, utility systems, and law enforcement agencies. However, many tribal communities are located in rural and remote areas with underdeveloped infrastructure and high rates of poverty, thereby lacking the means to provide adequate training in environmental or occupational health and safety compared to other parts of the country. Additionally, many tribal communities face unique hazards due to local

contaminated sites and hazardous conditions from oil and natural gas exploration, as well as meth lab sites.

Through the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences Worker Training Program (NIEHS WTP) partnerships with its grantees and tribal nations, organizations and entities, NIEHS are providing training to help tribal communities overcome these challenges. During the 2017 program year, WTP grantees trained more than 1,500 Native Americans and Alaska Natives, delivering more than 60 courses and nearly 13,000 contact hours.

This session will describe the nature of the partnerships, how training was organized and conducted, and the impact of the training and lessons learned as described in the NIEHS WTP Report(https://www.niehs.nih.gov/careers/assets/docs/wtp_success_story_native_americans_alaska_natives_508.pdf).

For example, the Alabama Fire College Workplace Safety Training (AFC WST) by working with the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society and United South and Eastern Tribes (USET) trains tribal members across the country by developing specialized training materials for a courses such as safe practices, laws, and regulations for meth lab cleanup.

In Washington and the Pacific Northwest, a focused effort on Improving Tribal Capacity for various hazardous waste cleanup efforts has been successful through the Western Region Universities Consortium (WRUC) funded out of the University of California Los Angeles, and their consortium members, the University of Washington (UW). Through a long-standing collaboration at UW, they conduct hazardous waste operations training via multiple courses with the Tulip Tribe TERO Vocational program, the only tribal pre-apprenticeship training program in the nation.

Sharon D. Beard
NIEHS Worker Training Program

Michael Dunn
Program Manager
UW/WRUC Consortium

Lynne Bansemer
Coordinator
Tulip Tribal Employment Rights Office/Vocational Training Center

Roy Stover
AFC WST

Harrell French
United South and Eastern Tribes

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