

The Second Annual

LATINXS AND THE ENVIRONMENT SUMMIT: DESIGNING OUR FUTURE

**BRIDGING ACADEMIA, PUBLIC
POLICY, AND COMMUNITIES**

**APRIL 27TH, 2019
WURSTER HALL**

Organized by the University of California
Berkeley, College of Natural Resources
and The Chicana Latinx Student Development
Office

Berkeley
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

College of
Natural Resources



REGISTRATION

8:00 AM-9:00AM

WELCOME

9:00 AM-9:30 AM

Oscar Dubón, Jr., *Vice Chancellor of Equity and Inclusion, University of California Berkeley*

David Ackerly, *Dean, College of Natural Resources, University of California Berkeley*

Lupe Gallegos-Diaz, *MSW, Director Chicanx Latinx Student Development and Community Affairs, University of California, Berkeley*

Federico Castillo, *PhD, Environmental Science, Policy & Management, University of California, Berkeley*



9:30-10:30 AM

Panel 1: Climate Change - What is in the future for the Latinx community in California and beyond?

Valeri Vasquez, *University of California, Berkeley*

Martha Camacho Rodriguez, *Director, CA Central Basin Municipal Water District Division 1 Board of Directors*

Kristen Torres Pawling, *Sustainability Program Director, Los Angeles County Chief Sustainability Office*

Moderator: Federico Castillo, *PhD, Environmental Science, Policy & Management, University of California, Berkeley*

Latinxs are disproportionately vulnerable to climate related threats due to where they reside, their occupations, and the financial challenges they may face. More than 60 percent of U.S. Latinxs live in California, Florida, Texas, and New York, where severe heat, air pollution, and flooding pose even greater risks compared to other states. In the last few years, Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and María hit Latinx communities especially hard and some communities are still coping with the effects today. Latinxs communities in the Central and Imperial Valleys experience chronic water shortages and the negative impact of deficient water quality on a regular basis. Latinxs are overwhelmingly united in favor of taking action on climate, therefore we have the perfect opportunity to propel forward with solutions that are equitable and benefit not only the Latinx community but also society in general. This panel will discuss the impacts and opportunities that Latinx communities must make in order to address issues related to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Workshop 1: Leveraging Power

Xavier Morales, *PhD., MRP, Executive Director, The Praxis Project*



10:30-10:40 AM

Break

10:40-11:40 AM

Panel 2: Urban and Rural Planning - Reimagining the blueprint for the future

Daniel Rodriguez, PhD. *Professor of City and Regional Planning, UC Berkeley*

Erika Uribe, *Founder and Creative Director, incommon llc*

Emilio Cruz, *Director Strategic Pursuits, Carollo Engineers*

Moderator: Guillermo Rodriguez, *State Director, The Trust for Public Land*

Latinxs are increasingly relocating to and living in larger urban areas. With this trend comes a need to ensure our cities are healthy, people friendly and equitable places to live. From air quality challenges to transportation, and a lack of access to open space, cities need to adapt to improve Latinx quality of life. This panel will address how those conditions impact the Latinx community and what are actions that could help to mitigate the impact of those conditions. In addition, the panel will discuss the gentrification of established urban Latinx communities.

Workshop 2: Navigating Graduate School

Aidee Guzman, *University of California, Berkeley*

Arturo Fernandez, *University of California Berkeley*



11:45 AM-1:00 PM

A Conversation with Ana Alvarez,
Deputy General Manager, East Bay Regional Park District
Moderator: Adrianna Quintero, *Director of Strategic Partnerships, Energy Foundation*



This year we are happy to coordinate with the College of Natural Resources as the keynote speaker for the Summit is also the Horace B. Albright Lecture in Conservation. The College of Natural Resources and Latinx and the Environment welcome Ana Alvarez, Deputy Regional Manager of the East Bay Regional Park District. Bienvenida!

1:00 PM-2:00 PM

Lunch



2:00 PM-3:15 PM

Panel 3: Environmental Justice - Understanding the crisis to build solutions

Yana Garcia, *Assistant Secretary of Environmental Justice and Tribal Affairs CalEPA*

Alvaro Sanchez, *Environmental Equity Director, the Greenlining Institute*

Deniss Martinez, *University of California, Davis and Health Policy Research Scholar, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation*

Moderator: Esperanza Vielma, *Board Member, Environmental Justice Coalition for Water*

The Latinx community has long been resourceful and conscious about our Madre Tierra, Mother Earth. This panel aims on building an understanding of environmental justice in terms of class, race, socioeconomic status and how those identity markers relate to the occupation, usage and pollution of land, water, and air. The panel will question the systemic and currently pressing issues that have historically marginalized and oppressed low-income communities, in which in turn elevated risk of experiencing environmental hazards (i.e., food insecurity, pervasive contamination, and waterborne and airborne illnesses). Panelists will discuss the reach of Latinx communities presently engaging in the environmental justice movement as it intersects issues of environmental sustainability and social justice.



3:15 PM-3:25 PM

Break

3:25 PM-4:40 PM

Panel 4: Health and the Environment - Collective action for healthier communities

Xavier Morales, PhD., MRP, Executive Director, The Praxis Project
David Gonzalez, PhD Candidate in Environment and Resources, Stanford University

Ana María Mora, MD, PhD, Associate Professor, Central American Institute for Studies on Toxic Substances (IRET) at Universidad Nacional in Costa Rica

Moderator: Stefano M. Bertozzi MD, PhD, Dean Emeritus Professor, School of Public Health, UC Berkeley

Evaluating the health status and needs of the Latinx community is crucial in order to develop health policies and implement programs to address social determinants of health, health services, risk factors, and health disparities, as these factors shape the principal causes of morbidity and mortality. Cancer is the primary cause of mortality amongst Latinxs, followed by cardiovascular diseases and unintentional injuries. And although the Affordable Care Act has improved access to care, other limitations in healthcare exist, such as a shortage of Latinx health care providers, a lack Latinx focused health programs, poor health literacy, limited cultural sensitivity and uninsured/underinsured status. This panel will explore current actions and policies that address preventable chronic diseases and conditions, particularly those related and resulting from environmental factors. The panel will also discuss policies that could bring about improvements in health outcomes resulting from changes in environmental conditions.

4:40-5:10 PM

Closing

Lupe Gallegos-Diaz, MSW, Director Chicanx Latinx Student Development and Community Affairs, University of California, Berkeley

Federico Castillo, PhD, Environmental Science, Policy & Management, University of California, Berkeley



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