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Vol V. August 2018

upcoming **EVENTS**

For those returning for the fall semester,
welcome back to campus!

Autumn weather is starting to creep in, as
campus activity is starting to ramp back
up. As we look towards Fall, keep an eye
on the latest happenings in energy and
climate research on campus.

September 12

[Global Climate Action Summit Begins](#)

October 7th

[BECC 2018 Begins](#)

in the **NEWS**

['Impossible to Ignore': Why Alaska is Crafting a
Plan to Fight Climate Change](#)

CIEE NEWS



BECC 2018: Building Bridges

We are glad to announce that the 12th Annual Behavior, Energy, & Climate Change (BECC) Conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill in Washington, DC from October 7th to October 10th.

The BECC Conference is the premier national event focused on understanding individual and organizational behavior and decision-making related to energy usage, greenhouse gas emissions, climate change, and sustainability. Currently BECC is associated with a growing set of allied conferences in Europe and Asia. BECC 2018 will build on the overwhelming success of previous BECC Conferences, at which over 700 participants discussed innovative policy and program strategies, shared important research findings, and engaged in building dynamic new networks and collaborations.

This year, the BECC conference's theme is Building Bridges, focusing on how to reach across the aisle and build a consensus on addressing climate change. Our keynote speaker will be George Marshall, an internationally known British environmentalist, researcher, and author of *Don't Even Think About It: Why Our Brains Are Wired to Ignore Climate Change*. His Oxford-based organization, the Climate Outreach and Information Network, specializes in increasing public engagement, bridging divides, and reaching new audiences around climate change issues.

around **CAMPUS**

Climate Video Series: How do biodiversity loss and social conflict affect human health?

Tactics for tackling issues of human trafficking often involve increased police action. Yet there is evidence that addressing environmental sustainability within an industry can have a larger impact than police action on decreasing human trafficking infractions. In Dr. Justin Brashares' Cal Future Forum lecture, he uses fisheries as an example of how increased environmental sustainability can lead to safer working practices. He explains how overfishing creates economic losses that drive fishermen to use forced labor, but sustainable practices can reverse this problem. In doing so, Dr. Brashares emphasizes the importance of environmental sustainability when solving problems of human health.

Dr. Brashares' research focuses on human consumption of wild animals and how conservation of natural habitats connects to human health. As an ecologist and wildlife biologist, he provides an interdisciplinary perspective on human relations to the environment, where economic and political systems affect the environment and the changing environment in turn impacts human culture. Through his work, Brashares makes the case that understanding the interplay between the environment, economics and cultural change lead to increased sustainability across the board. To learn more about Dr. Brashares' work, watch his video below.



From the Energy Institute at Haas: Should California Keep Its Oil in the Ground?

As a global leader in greenhouse emissions reductions, California is a role model for developing energy efficiency and renewable electricity plans. However, questions over whether California should keep its oil reserves in the ground or deliver them to the market prove to be as complex as its energy efficiency policies. In the Energy Institute at Haas' latest blog, Severin Borenstein weighs the potential gains and costs of a 'keep it in the ground' oil policy, and his arguments may surprise you! You can read the article [here](#), on the Energy Institute at Haas's blog.

upcoming EVENTS



The Global Climate Action Summit will take place from Wednesday, September 12th through Friday, September 14 in San Francisco. This summit is a unique gathering of political leaders, businesses, investors, and citizens that will both celebrate and work to accelerate climate action.

The summit aims to better address climate change issues, in an effort to uphold and improve upon the commitments of the Paris Agreement. At the Summit, non-party stakeholders and non-state actors will collaborate with governmental leaders, scientists, nonprofit organizations, and others as they work towards building a new era of global decarbonization and environmental sustainability. Their efforts will focus on five areas of interest: Healthy Energy Systems, Inclusive Economic Growth, Sustainable Communities, Land and Ocean Stewardship and Transformative Climate Investments.

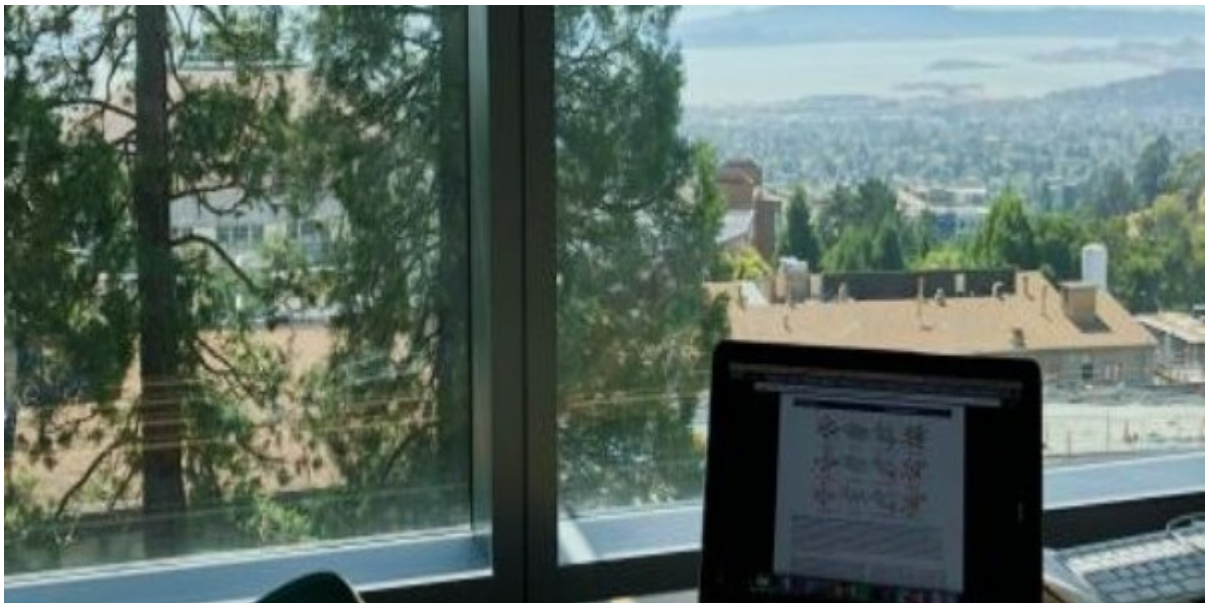
In-person attendance at the summit is by invite only. However, all those who are interested in attending the summit can virtually stream the event via social media platforms. In addition, numerous public events will be happening in conjunction with the summit, and all interested parties are encouraged to partake in them throughout the week.

Learn more about the Global Climate Action Summit [here](#).

monthly SPOTLIGHT

Looking Back at the Cal Energy Corps Program

This summer, CIEE— in partnership with the Center for Information Technology Research in the Interest of Society (CITRIS) and the Banatao Institute— provided thirteen Cal undergraduates an opportunity to engage in the design, development and delivery of sustainable energy and climate solutions through the [Cal Energy Corps \(CEC\)](#) internship program. Students tackled research topics spanning everything from water data analysis at Berkeley Lab to strategies for battery performance testing at Imprint Energy. They worked in research laboratories, start-ups, and nonprofits, gaining professional experience while helping to create technical solutions to pressing social issues.



Over the course of their internships, students were faced with various challenges as they began to dig deep into their research assignments. From building efficient batteries to synthesizing environmental data, the students had their hands full with work. Yet, with the hands-on mentorship and research independence the CEC program provides, participants were able to ease into their roles and learn how to overcome challenges they faced at their internships. At Imprint Energy, an Oakland-based company that builds rechargeable batteries, Priscilla Zhang described her own learning experience at the end of her internship:



“I came into Imprint Energy as a battery engineering intern. I wanted to learn more about batteries, become a better scientist and grow personally and professionally. Surprisingly, I was able to accomplish all of this by doing the same repetitive tedious task for four months. I was forced to learn more about battery performance since that was all I had done. I became more thorough and meticulous in my work as not to miss any information. I learned to be a better team player and learned to be a great worker.”

Bianca Champenois, much like Priscilla, found that her experience immensely changed her perspective on the learning process. Bianca’s travels took her to Tec de Monterrey in Mexico, where she worked on the development of power electronic devices for renewable energy integration. After her research internship, she reflected on her growth this summer:

“I learned how to solder (really, really well), and I learned clever soldering techniques and tricks. I learned how to strip wires with my teeth. I learned how to test circuits, and how to determine which parts of the circuit aren’t working. This might sound cheesy, but most importantly, I learned how to learn. I learned how to figure things out by reading the documentation, watching Youtube videos, and asking the right questions. I never would have discovered so many new places, dishes, songs, people, colors, etc. if I had stayed in Berkeley this summer. I want to thank all of my coworkers, teammates, roommates, and friends in Mexico for making these few months so special.”



Thanks Priscilla and Bianca, as well as our other CEC students, for their phenomenal work this summer! And of course, a huge thanks to our donors for helping to sustain the CEC program. If you’d like to support future Cal Energy Cohorts, please consider donating. In recent years we’ve had to scale back our international placements, but with further support we’ll be able to send Cal Energy Corps students to fantastic research experiences across the globe.

For more information on Cal Energy Corps, you can check out the most recent CEC participant blog posts [here](#). As the program wraps up, each student will be posting a final blog post summarizing their experiences and research findings, and we encourage you to give them a read once they're finished.

Donate to Cal Energy Corps



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