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**Vol XVI. March 2020**

As California responds to the current situation regarding COVID-19, some CIEE and CITRIS events and programs have been impacted or delayed. Though we are currently remote, we are still continuing our crucial work on energy efficiency and climate research. Read on for a few important notifications regarding date changes for research opportunities, as well as a research webinar you can enjoy from wherever you are.

## upcoming **EVENTS**

**March 30th**

[BECC Webinar "Nudging the commute: Applying behavioral insights to transportation demand management"](#)

**April 15th**

[BECC Call for Abstracts Close](#)

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## in the **NEWS**

[Coronavirus and Climate Change](#)

[A New Wave of Indies are Using Games to Explore Climate Change](#)

# CIEE NEWS

Innovate, Engage, Inspire



## **Updated CIEE Website**

The CIEE Website has recently undergone a major overhaul!

Our new site features a completely refreshed look, resources regarding both of our student-facing opportunities, and a living database on all CIEE projects, past and present.

Now more than ever, it's easy to explore the cutting edge work we do here at the California Institute for Energy & Environment. Please visit us on the web at [uc-ciee.org](http://uc-ciee.org).

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## **Call for Abstracts: BECC Conference 2020 Deadline Extended**

The [Behavior Energy and Climate Convention](#) (BECC) has extended its deadline to submit abstracts to Wednesday, April 15. Although the convention is still scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 6 - Wednesday, Dec. 9 in Washington, DC, we are considering delaying or moving to a virtual conference if necessary.

Mitigating climate change is more urgent than ever, and major leaps in systems and behaviors are needed to address this critical issue. For more than a decade, BECC has presented behavioral research on nudging people and organizations to make these changes. Now is the time to move from nudges to leaps.

BECC invites you to present your work, and is seeking innovative research and applied work from people and organizations working to create a sustainable future. Attend and learn more ways to encourage behavior change for energy and carbon savings, such as:

- Leveling up programs or moving them to more effective roles or platforms.
- Understanding why individuals and groups change.
- Making these transitions in fair and equitable ways.

Submit an abstract for a chance to present a poster, individual display, or group panel at the convention. If your work creates efficiency using behavioral principles or research, we encourage you to submit a presentation abstract instead. Your participation in BECC 2020 helps build an informed and empowered community at the nexus of energy, behavior, and climate - submit by April 15!

**Submit an individual abstract**

[Submit a panel abstract](#)

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**cal energy corps**

**Thank you Art Rosenfeld and Cal Energy Corps  
Applicants!**

We at CIEE wanted to take a second to thank everyone who applied or who helped circulate our call for applications for our two student research opportunities this year. We have an incredible group of applicants, and we are now beginning the selection process. We are still planning to announce the Art Rosenfeld Award recipient on April 17th, with the Cal Energy Corps 2020 cohort to be announced sometime soon after.



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**CALL FOR PROPOSALS:**

**CITRIS 2020  
SEED FUNDING**

## CITRIS 2020 Seed Funding: Deadline Extended

The CITRIS Seed Funding Program invites Principal Investigators at UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UC Davis Health, UC Merced, and UC Santa Cruz to apply for seed funding that advances CITRIS and the Banatao Institute's research thrusts, strengthens UC campus connections, and drives novel technology applications.

**New Application Deadline:** Thursday, September 10th, 2020 at 5:00 PM (PDT) via the application portal: [https://citrissmapply.org/prog/2020\\_citriss\\_seed\\_funding/](https://citrissmapply.org/prog/2020_citriss_seed_funding/)

**More information:** To download the RFP, view detailed areas of interest, eligibility, requirements, and FAQs, please visit the 2020 CITRIS Seed Funding webpage: <https://citriss-uc.org/core-seed-funding/>

Contact [seeds@citriss-uc.org](mailto:seeds@citriss-uc.org) with questions.

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A banner with a dark purple background featuring abstract, overlapping circular shapes in lighter shades of purple. The text "UPCOMING EVENTS" is centered in a large, white, sans-serif font.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **BECC Webinar: "Nudging the commute: Applying behavioral insights to transportation demand management"**

BECC will be hosting another free webinar on Monday, March 30 from 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM PDT!

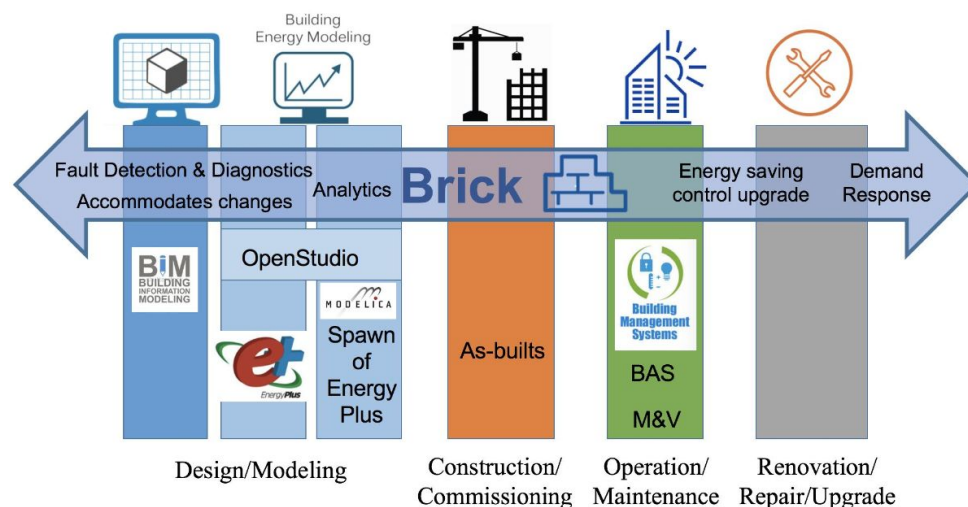
The next major innovation for transformation demand management (TDM) is behavioral science, which applies both economics and psychology to understand – and change – how

people make decisions. Researchers and TDM practitioners are increasingly using behavioral science findings to change how people commute.

In this webinar, you'll hear from Ashley Whillans, PhD, assistant professor of business administration at Harvard Business School and one of North America's leading researchers, about what behavioral science can tell us about why people drive, and why it's so hard to change their behavior. You will also learn about the latest wave of research coming from cities and public agencies that looks at how evidence based "nudges" can get people out of their cars and onto bikes, buses, and walking shoes. The shared industry agenda and upcoming partnerships among researchers and practitioners for the BECC will also be discussed.

If you would like to tune in, registration is free, and can be done so [here](#).

# monthly SPOTLIGHT



## Brick: Portable Analytics, Modeling & Controls in Buildings

For this month's spotlight, we'd like to highlight the work that CIEE's Dr. Therese Pepper is undertaking alongside Paul Raftery, Researcher at the Center for the Built Environment

at UC Berkeley, Gabe Fierro, a graduate student of Computer Science at UC Berkeley, Marco Pritoni and Michael Wetter, both researchers at Lawrence Berkeley National Lab, as well as Young M. Lee, JCI Distinguished Fellow and Director of Artificial Intelligence Product Development at Johnson Controls—the Brick project.

This project aims to develop a nascent open-source common data model, Brick, into a demonstrated and tested tool that, through the implementation of advanced algorithms and analysis, can enable the scaling of major energy savings, improved building performance, and grid responsiveness across commercial buildings at low cost.

Research teams at UC Berkeley and LBNL are working with Johnson Controls International to (1) expand the Brick schema, (2) develop tools and translators for adding information to Brick models, (3) develop an open-source building analytics platform, (4) develop and test open-source building analytics and controls applications on multiple buildings, and (5) develop a technology transition plan.

As far as the potential impact of the project goes, Brick can enable synergies among Building Information Modeling (BIM), Building Energy Modeling (BEM), Building Automation Systems (BAS), sensors, and controls by instilling a universal schema that these disparate tools can all use. Thus, efforts in building a BIM can translate easily into a BEM in design, and into BAS for improved operation for new buildings. Extracting data from BAS in existing buildings can inform BEM and feed into analytics for improved performance and manipulating energy demand to follow supply.

Critical success factors include 1) extending the Brick schema to include a greater number of buildings and systems, 2) publishing an open-source library of portable analytics, modeling, and controls used by multiple buildings, 3) evaluating potential for energy savings through analysis and control applications in multiple buildings, and 4) expanding the adoption of Brick by more organizations.

If you'd like to learn more about the Brick project, you can explore its [project page](#) on our new website.



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