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**Vol XXII. November 2020**

2020 is nearly behind us, but there's still plenty to report at CIEE. Read on for information on how to host Cal Energy Corps interns, nominations for the Women in Technology Symposium's Athena Awards, CIEE's participation in the 2020 EPIC Symposium, and more.

## Upcoming Events

**November 12th**

[CITRIS Research Exchange](#)

[BECC Webinar](#)

## In the News

[A Field Guide to the Election and Climate Change](#)

[Another Reason to Cut Down on Plastics](#)





# cal energy corps

## Host a Cal Energy Corps Intern for Summer 2021

Interested in hosting a Cal Energy Corps intern? Complete the form linked below!

The Cal Energy Corps is an undergraduate summer internship program engaging top UC Berkeley undergraduate students in the design, development and delivery of sustainable energy and climate solutions. All placements are challenging, full-time assignments with leading organizations in the private and public sector, enabling students to gain professional experience working on the technical solutions of social issues in a cohesive learning environment. We welcome new partnerships with leading energy and climate organizations to host our students.

As a Cal Energy Corps host, you will:

- work with the best and brightest of UC Berkeley on your energy and climate projects.
- have access to an impressive network of researchers, students, and other hosts involved in energy and climate issues.
- receive an invitation to the annual Cal Energy Corps Symposium at the end of the student's internship.

Please get in touch with us if your organization is interested in hosting a student by filling out the [Host Intent Form](#), or email us at [calenergycorps@berkeley.edu](mailto:calenergycorps@berkeley.edu) if there are any questions you'd like to follow up with.

For more information, visit <https://calenergycorps.berkeley.edu/host>.

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Host an Internship

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

WOMEN IN TECH INITIATIVE

# ATHENA AWARDS

### CATEGORIES:

- ◆ Executive Leadership
- ◆ Academic Leadership
- ◆ Early Career
- ◆ Next Generation Engagement

SUBMIT NOMINATIONS BY NOV 6, 2020  
[witi.berkeley.edu/athena-awards](http://witi.berkeley.edu/athena-awards)



Berkeley  
Engineering

## WITI@UC Athena Awards Nominations

Women in Tech Initiative Athena Awards is accepting nominations until Friday, Nov. 6. The awards will be according to the following four categories:

- Executive Leadership (individual)
- Academic Leadership (individual)
- Early Career (individual)
- Next Generation Engagement (organization)

Feel free to nominate any leaders who embody, encourage, and promote the inclusion of women in technology while inspiring others to pursue technical careers through outstanding contributions, service, and membership to foster inclusion in science and technical fields.

Athena Award Winners will be presented at the annual Women in Tech Symposium on Friday, March 12, 2021.

Nominate



## ACTIVATE Will Bring Telehealth Services To Vulnerable, At-Risk Residents of California's Central Valley

Researchers at CITRIS and the University of California are launching the program Accountability, Coordination, and Telehealth in the Valley to Achieve Transformation and Equity (ACTIVATE), a pilot initiative to bring telehealth services to underserved residents in

Merced County, California who are vulnerable to the worst outcomes of the COVID-19 pandemic. The project is co-led by Dr. David Lindeman, Director of CITRIS Health, and Dr. Katherine Kim, Associate Professor at the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing and the School of Medicine at the University of California, Davis.

California's rural Central Valley faces some of the worst health disparities in the state and country. The goal of the pilot program is not just to provide the technology needed for telehealth and remote health monitoring, but also to ensure that patients are empowered to use it and see greater health outcomes as a result. To that end, program participants will receive health education and training in digital literacy as well as software and hardware (phones, tablets, and other remote monitoring equipment) needed to connect with health care providers and monitor chronic health conditions. Ultimately, ACTIVATE aims to demonstrate that telehealth has the power to serve rural and vulnerable communities, and encourage telehealth solutions as cost-effective means of enhancing community-based health systems.

To learn more about the program, please visit their [website](#).

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## Upcoming Events



### **BECC Webinar: Fusing Facts and Feelings to Motivate Action on Climate Change**

On Thursday, Nov. 12, the Behavior Energy and Climate Change conference will be hosting another entry in their long-running webinar series!

Join Shahzeen Attari, Associate Professor at the O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs of Indiana University Bloomington, in her talk about how the solutions to climate change rest on science, technology, political will, and public support. This session will be moderated by ACEEE's Director of the Behavior & Human Dimensions Program Reuven Sussman.

In this talk, she will discuss efforts from her lab over the past decade that aim to address problems related to human behavior, resource use, and climate change. Using

methods that have strong links to environmental and cognitive science, they have investigated questions ranging from how people think about how much energy different appliances use, how to correct misperceptions using expert heuristics, what energy mix people want to use in 2050, and some factors that shape the credibility of climate communicators.

Shahzeen Attari's research focuses on people's judgments and decisions about climate change and resource use. Some of her research has investigated how people think about energy and water use, how people conceptualize water systems, and how the carbon footprint of climate communicators affects their audience's policy support. Among other projects, she is currently studying how to use stories to fuse facts and feelings to motivate action on climate change.

[Register for Free](#)

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## **CITRIS Research Exchange**

The CITRIS Research Exchange will be continuing with two more sessions in November 2020!

Free and open to the public, the CITRIS Research Exchange offers fresh perspectives on information technology and society from distinguished academic, industry, and civic leaders. Each seminar takes place on Wednesdays from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm via Zoom.

The last two sessions are about the fight against COVID-19. The first will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 4 by Oren Etzioni, Chief Executive Officer at the Allen Institute for AI. The second will be presented by two or three principal investigators from the CITRIS COVID-19 Response Seed Award winners. We encourage you to attend.

[Register here](#)

# Monthly Spotlight



## **Dr. Therese Pepper Speaks at EPIC Plenary Panel: Transforming California's Underserved Communities into Technology-Advanced Clean Energy Communities**

On October 19th through the 21st, the California Energy Commission (CEC) held their annual Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) Symposium virtually. California has set an aggressive timeline to fully decarbonize its energy sector by 2045 while also taking steps to improve the resiliency of the electricity system to extreme weather events. In the state's transition to a low-carbon economy, California's leaders have made equity a policy priority. Innovation in key energy technologies, policies, and tools will be essential to meet 21st century demands and ensure a more resilient, equitable, and decarbonized electrical system that services customer and climate needs. At the EPIC Symposium, the CEC showcases some of the ways California is working to transform our state's energy future through the Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC).

As part of the programming on offer, one of the EPIC plenary panels featured CIEE's own Dr. Therese Pepper as a speaker! In 2016, the California Energy Commission held its first design-build competition to challenge multi-disciplinary teams to come up with replicable and scalable approaches for Advanced Energy Communities, particularly in underserved communities. Four teams were selected for the build-phase, and one such project was CIEE's EcoBlock project, helmed by Drs. Therese Pepper and Sascha von Meier. Representing the EcoBlock project, Therese discussed how we're approaching retrofitting an entire Oakland city block to run on 100 percent renewable energy on its own local microgrid.

"Start organizing yourself, and get local support," Therese remarked, when asked how other projects could follow in EcoBlock's footsteps. "There are a lot of people who are very supportive at these different levels that can help."

If you'd like to catch up on not only this [panel](#) but the rest of the programming that the EPIC Symposium had to offer, it is all still available on their [website](#), and registration is free.



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