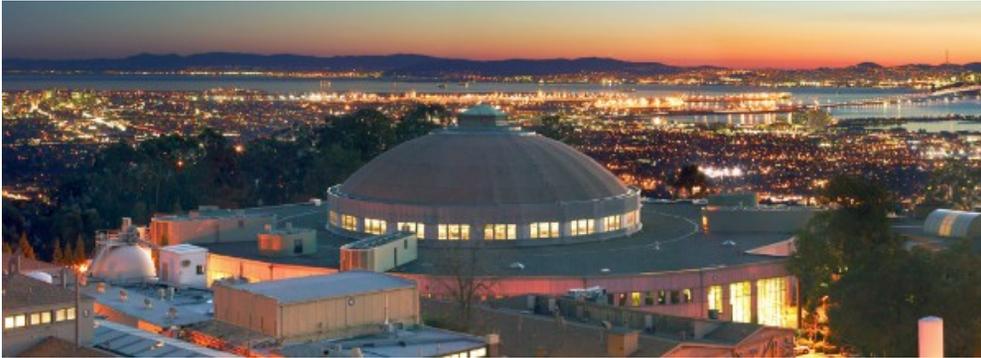


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Vol XXI. September 2020

Time is flying-- Classes have started, our Cal Energy Corps program has ended for this year, and through it all we at CIEE have been staying busy. Read on for webinar announcements, updates from the BECC conference, a recap of our Cal EC symposium, and more.

Upcoming Events

Wednesdays in September
[CITRIS Research Exchange](#)

September 30
[BECC Webinar](#)

In the News

[In a First, Renewable Energy is Poised to Eclipse Coal in US](#)

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





BECC 2020 Virtual Conference: Early Bird Registration ends September 30th

It's your last chance to register for this year's BECC conference at a discounted rate!

The Behavior, Energy and Climate Change (BECC) 2020 conference will now be 100% virtual! Taking place on **December 7th through the 10th**, the virtual conference will have panel discussions, plenaries, networking time, workshops, and solutions sessions, with all sessions recorded and available on-demand.

Now in its 14th year, the Behavior Energy and Climate Change conference brings together social scientists, practitioners, utilities, academics, governments, businesses, and non-profits to share and disseminate best practices and research to encourage behavior change for energy and carbon reduction. Come present your work and learn from others about innovative methods, practices and technologies, how to evaluate these programs, understand why individuals and groups change, and make these transitions in fair and equitable ways.

This year, BECC is honored to bring economist and bestselling author Juliet B. Schor as the 2020 keynote speaker. A sociology professor at Boston College, Dr. Schor has studied trends in working time, consumerism, the relationship between work and family, women's issues and economic inequality, and concerns about climate change in the environment. In her talk, she will report on a decade of research on the "sharing economy," including both the large, corporate platforms and smaller community initiatives, and their implications for energy and climate.

Registration is now open! Join BECC 2020 and connect with speakers, friends, and new potential business contacts – there will be many chances to network, such as free yoga classes before each conference day, fun online activities, and a film clip festival. Registration at the Early Bird price of \$195 is available through Wednesday, September 30th.

[Register Here](#)

CITRIS 2020 Seed Funding

The CITRIS Core 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.

- \$40,000 to \$60,000 per 12-month project
- Six proposal categories for impact through innovation

Previously funded projects have attracted more than \$60 million in follow-on support from federal, state, industrial, and private sources including the NSF, NIH, DOE, Intel, Microsoft, Mellon Foundation, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Need help making cross-campus connections? Please complete the Seed Funding [Team Formation Support form](#) to receive help locating a co-PI.

Please refer to our [Info Session Presentation](#) for more information.

Berkeley GrizzlyCorps

CLEE Announces GrizzlyCorps Program

Long-time CIEE partner and fellow ECRN member organization Center for Law, Energy & Environment (CLEE) recently launched a new internship program for recent college graduates: the GrizzlyCorps Program.

GrizzlyCorps is building an AmeriCorps program that will send recent college graduates to farm and forest communities in California to work on regenerative agriculture and forest/fire resilience, building farm, forest, and community resilience, promoting education, volunteerism, and community engagement. GrizzlyCorps is being developed by Project Climate at UC Berkeley's Center for Law, Energy, and Environment in partnership with the State of California through California Volunteers.

Each year, GrizzlyCorps will send 20 Members/Fellows to placement partners (including Cooperative Extension field sites) in forest and farm communities throughout the state for 11 months to help build community resilience and respond to climate change. During their service year, GrizzlyCorps members will work on projects that promote regenerative agriculture, forest/fire resilience, and carbon sequestration, while building long-term resilience.

To learn more about the program, including information on how to apply, please visit their [website](#).

Upcoming Events



behavior, energy & climate change

BECC Webinar: Who Benefits? Moving Towards a Narrative of Equal Access to the Environment we Seek to Preserve

On Wednesday, September 30th, the Behavior Energy and Climate Change conference will be hosting another entry in their long-running webinar series!

Join the Kresge Foundation's Dr. Jalonnie White-Newsome and University of Arizona Assistant Professor and Founder of Natives Outdoors Dr. Len Necefer as we unpack this important conversation at the intersection of environmental and racial justice. Our conversation will be moderated by Sherard Robbins, Founder and CEO of Visceral Change.

Most of our conversations at the intersection of energy, climate, and communities of color focus on mitigating the disproportionate burdens placed on these communities. However, this approach continues to normalize the negative impacts on marginalized communities rather than forcing us to ask who benefits from the clean energy transition?

Reducing global temperatures and protecting the natural world are imperative, yet environmental stewardship must ensure that communities of color can take part in its benefits. National parks were acquired through the removal of Native American populations and acquisition of their lands, and the preservation of public parks and outdoor spaces continues to be policed through structures of white supremacy and privilege—routinely denying people of color access to these lands. Who gets to thrive on the lands we seek to preserve? What are we missing when we focus our conversations solely on the most polluted environments?

Communities of color are routinely denied access to our most pristine natural environments. How can they be equal leaders in the fight for climate justice when their personal safety continues to be threatened in the spaces we aim to protect?

[Register for Free](#)

US Department of Energy Solar Decathlon Applications Open, Close on October 15th

The U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon® is a collegiate competition, comprising 10 contests, that challenges student teams to design and build highly efficient and innovative buildings powered by renewable energy. The combined competition features two tracks, the Design Challenge and the Build Challenge. The annual [Design Challenge](#) spans one or two academic semesters and inspires students to design residential or commercial building solutions that are evaluated for how well they meet the nation's demand for energy-efficient, innovative, cost-effective, and resilient buildings.

The biennial [Build Challenge](#) spans two years and inspires students to design and build cutting-edge and highly-efficient residential houses that are displayed locally in their communities. The 2021 Design Challenge [team application](#) is due on October 20, 2020 at 5 p.m. EDT; all teams who apply are accepted as participants. The next edition of the Build Challenge will kick off in 2021, with the release of the competition Rules, and conclude in 2023. If you are interested in learning more about the 2023 Build Challenge, send an email to the Solar Decathlon Organizers at SDbuild@nrel.gov and they'll pass along important updates and announcements about the competition.



CITRIS Research Exchange

The CITRIS Research Exchange returns for the Fall Semester with a webinar on Wednesday, September 30th!

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.

This webinar is titled "Data, Global Challenges, and Planetary Management," and will feature speaker Sol Hsiang, a professor at the Goldman School of Public Policy here at Berkeley. We encourage you to attend, and you can see the full schedule of Research Exchange webinars [here](#).

Monthly Spotlight



Cal Energy Corps Symposium Recap

With our Cal Energy Corps Symposium last Friday, this year's 10th Anniversary program is well and truly finished. Despite unforeseeable circumstances, our team was able to come together and provide 12 undergraduate students incredible remote summer internships, at a time when many other internship programs on campus were either truncated or cancelled altogether. A hearty congratulations to our Cal Energy Corps students for everything that they've accomplished over the past summer, as well as special thanks to our host organizations and the Office for the Vice Chancellor for Research for their continued support of the program.

For their final projects, our cohort put together formal research abstracts (available to read on their [blogs](#)), which they adapted into short videos summarizing the work they accomplished over the summer. These videos were presented live at our 2020 Virtual Symposium to their mentors, friends, and other members of our campus community. Topics ranged from "Physics-Guided Neural Networks for Ground Water Level Predictions" to "Developing Carbon Capture and Storage while Upholding Environmental Justice," and following the presentations, our Cal Energy Corps students made themselves available for live Q&A sessions.

If you'd like to catch up on any of our Cal Energy Corps students' presentations, the slide decks for all of them will be uploaded to our website in the coming days. With that, we bid a fond farewell to our 2020 cohort and our 10th anniversary program, and look ahead to applications opening early next year for our 2021 cohort!



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