

PWPA Los Angeles Newsletter: Thank You for Supporting the Environmental Stewardship Conference

Joshua Holmes
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Dear,

We hope you are doing well.

Thank you once again for your generous support of PWPA Los Angeles.

Because of you, we were able to successfully host our June 26 conference, "Environmental Stewardship through Interdisciplinary Dialogue: In Search of Shared Strategies."

The conference brought together distinguished scholars, sustainability professionals, university representatives, and students to explore how science, education, ethics, and human values can work together to address today's environmental challenges. The discussions were inspiring and reinforced the importance of educating the next generation of environmental leaders.

We are happy to share the attached newsletter highlighting the conference presentations, panel discussion, and key insights from the event.

As the next step, PWPA Los Angeles is developing an interdisciplinary online course, Environmental Stewardship through Science and Ethics, to help bring these ideas into university classrooms and strengthen collaboration between faculty, students, and communities. We are excited to continue building this educational initiative, and your support has helped make this vision possible.

If you would like to watch a specific presentation or panel discussion, simply click the "Watch" button in the newsletter.

To watch the complete conference recording, please click here:
youtu.be/ylw8Ez0QAH0?si=u-FrGWL2uOczBLp

Thank you again for believing in PWPA Los Angeles and for investing in this important mission. We are deeply grateful for your partnership and look forward to sharing more updates as this work continues.

With sincere appreciation,
PWPA Los Angeles

Environmental Stewardship through Interdisciplinary Dialogue - In Search of Shared Strategies -



Conference Overview



How can science, education, and human values come together to create a sustainable future?

The June 26 PWPA Los Angeles conference brought over 100 participants together, distinguished scholars, sustainability campus leaders, and university students for an interdisciplinary dialogue.



Part 1

Presentations from leading scholars on environmental challenges, innovations, and the values needed for lasting solutions.



Part 2

Panel Discussion with campus sustainability leaders on cultivating environmental stewardship through higher education.

Part 1 Perspectives Shaping the Future



Dr. David Blehman
California State University,
Los Angeles



"Eco Car Innovation Challenge: Driving Future"

- Showcased 30+ years of EcoCar Innovation at Cal State LA.
- Highlighted the power of Interdisciplinary teams across multiple majors
- Hands on projects build students as real-world skills and leadership

KEY TAKEAWAY

"The most important product is not the technology, it is building students into stewardship leaders."

Watch



Dr. Rattan Lal
Ohio State University



"Improving Global Food System Resilience Against Geopolitical Conflicts Under Changing Climate and Polluting Soil"

- Conflicts and war devastate food systems, ecosystems, and communities.
- Soil degradation and climate change threaten food security.
- Urgent need to strengthen soil-peace nexus by guiding bridges across nations.

KEY TAKEAWAY

"World Peace is a scientific necessity for sustainability and future well-beings."

Watch



Prof. Alison Wakelin
Widener University

"To Love the Land, a Duty of Care"

- The universe is a living, interconnected reality – not an inert machine.
- Quantum physics and new discoveries challenges the mechanical worldview.
- Emerging perspective of consciousness guiding the matter thought revolution

KEY TAKEAWAY

"What if consciousness is not produced by the brain- but is fundamental to reality?"

Watch



Dr. Christopher Laszlo
Case Western Reserve University

"Spiritual Advantage in Business, How Connectness Shapes Leadership, Ethics, and Enduring Value Creation"

- Successful global business leaders share a common practice: fostering connectedness.
- Expand awareness of impacts and responsibility
- Cultivating human consciousness is essential to addressing environmental and societal challenges.

KEY TAKEAWAY

"As machines become better as machines, how do humans become better as humans?"

Watch

Q&A Highlights

Q: Are rocks alive? — Dr. Cliff Davidson (Syracuse University)

Prof. Wakelin: Expanded the idea of "alive" by introducing the concept of agential materials, suggesting that matter possesses inherent agency, autonomy, and the capacity to participate in the unfolding of reality, rather than existing as passive objects.

Dr. Keepin (Satyana Institute): Added that research suggests human consciousness is connected with planetary cycles, supporting the view of a living, interconnected cosmos.

Q: How does connectedness influence leadership? — Dr. Thomas Selover (PWPA International)

Dr. Laszlo: Connected leaders embrace a stakeholder approach, making decisions through collaboration and broader responsibility rather than focusing solely on shareholder value.

Explore more! Watch

Part 2 Panel Discussion



Panelists (L→R):

Moderator: Professor Grace Apiafi – Pasadena City College

Professor Emily Fernandez – Co-chair of Sustainability Standing Committee, Pasadena City College

Ms. Tamara Wallace – Facilities Energy & Resilience Manager, Cal State Fullerton

Dr. David Blekhman – Founding Technical Director for the Hydrogen Research and Fueling Facility, Cal State Los Angeles

Dr. Adrian Quijada – Director of Land Grant Office of Sustainability, Tohono O'odham Community College

Representatives from California universities joined an engaging dialogue explaining:



Enviromental Stewardship

Integrating ethics, values, and shifting human consciousness into environmental action.



Education for Impact

Designing learning experiences that inspire stewardship beyond the classroom.

The discussion concluded that while technology is indispensable, lasting environmental stewardship also requires cultivating responsibility, ethical leadership, and a deeper awareness of our interconnectedness, shifting our consciousness

Watch

This vision has inspired PWPA Los Angeles to develop a new educational initiative.

From Dialogue to Action

PWPA Los Angeles Interdisciplinary Online Course

Please Join Us

- **Developing the Environmental Stewardship Online Course**
- **Building University Partnerships**
- **Advancing Interdisciplinary Education**



Environmental
Science



Engineering



Artificial
Intelligence



Public Policy



Business



Ethics and
Leadership

Watch the Intro Video of PWPA LA's Online Course !

Watch

Our Vision



Raise Awareness
of Environmental
Challenges



Identify the Root
Cause Behind
Environmental
Challenges



Integrate Science,
Ethics, and
Spiritual Values



Cultivate Ethical
Leadership and
Responsibility



Build a Sustainable
Peaceful Future for
All