



LA Urban Center Rooted in Research

Building Bridges In Green Spaces Through Technology & Research

Spring Partners Meeting

May 12, 2021 | 1PM- 3:30PM

[**Click here to RSVP**](#)

VIVEK SHANDAS

LA'S URBAN FOREST EQUITY VISITING SCHOLAR

Los Angeles Urban Forest Equity Assessment & Guidebook

A renowned expert on the intersections of public health, equity and green infrastructure, Dr. Shandas has served as LA's Urban Forest Equity Visiting Scholar since July 2020. With funding provided by Tree People and Accelerate Resilience LA, City Plants and the LA Urban Center have been working with Dr. Shandas and "LA Urban Forest Equity Collective" to examine and address the inequitable distribution of LA's urban forest. Dr. Shandas will debut his findings and final report, making GIS-informed recommendations and identifying policy shifts needed to achieve tree equity goals in LA's Green New Deal and beyond.



2020 - 2021 LA URBAN CENTER FELLOWS



COREY BASSETT

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Urban Forest Management & Ecosystem Services

Corinne (Corey) Bassett is a second year PhD Student at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, BC. Her work experience in urban forestry and arboriculture in Southern California, Hawaii, and Pennsylvania, led her to her current research focus on the intersection of urban forest management objectives and actions, and ecosystem services. As an LAUC Fellow, she jumpstarted her doctoral research on the connection between site-level actions and ecosystem service objectives. She will present an initial version of a conceptual framework and findings from a survey of LA urban forestry practitioners. This research aims to ultimately aid practitioners in decision-making.



CHRISTIAN BENITEZ

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES

Using Remote Sensing Data to Characterize Bird Habitat in an Urban Ecosystem

Christian is a second-year master's student in the Wood lab of Avian Ecology and Conservation at the California State University of Los Angeles. As an LA Urban Center Science Fellow, he aims to test the utility of using remote sensing data (e.g., LiDAR) to characterize bird habitat and predict bird community patterns within the Los Angeles urban forest. This will contribute to ongoing efforts in wildlife and urban forest management throughout Los Angeles.



STEPHANIE PIPER

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, RIVERSIDE

Nitrogen Pollution Within a City: Traffic versus Tree Canopy

Stephanie is a PhD Candidate in the UCR Department of Botany and Plant Sciences. She is an urban landscape ecologist who focuses on the role plants play in how air pollution travels through cities. She earned her BS and MS at Tulane University in New Orleans where she studied how the urban forest had changed since Hurricane Katrina. At UCR, she also serves as a Co-Chair of Science to Policy and works to improve community science and engagement in Riverside and the Coachella Valley. Stephanie will present her work on how air pollution within the city of Riverside varies with differences in traffic patterns and tree canopy cover.