



Thursday, Oct. 26
West LA College
9000 Overland Ave
Culver City, CA 90230

Climate Careers Conference

Registration and Breakfast	8:30 a.m. - 9 a.m.
Opening Remarks	9 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
Keynote Speaker	9:30 a.m. - 10:20 a.m.
Panel: Trends and Projections	10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
Panel: A Just Transition	11:15 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Climate Internships Database	12 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Lunch, Exhibits, and Booths	12:30 p.m. - 2 p.m.
Breakout Sessions	2 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Spaces are limited. Register today:
<https://day3climatepaloozawlac.eventbrite.com/>

For questions, please email: CAClimateCenter@wlaac.edu or
visit www.wlaac.edu/academics/climate-center



Meet Our Keynote Speaker

Dr. Robert Fofrich

Dr. Robert Fofrich is an Earth System Scientist and a UC President's Postdoctoral Fellow at UCLA's Institute of the Environment and Sustainability and is also an alum of West LA College.

His research centers on the intersection of global society and environmental change, primarily focusing on attribution, mitigation, and adaptation. He obtained his bachelor's and Ph.D. in Earth System Science from the University of California, Irvine, specializing in the impact of energy systems on climate change mitigation and the agricultural consequences of surpassing international climate targets.

During his undergraduate at West and UCI, Robert held positions at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory Center for Climate Sciences and the Center for Environmental Biology at UC Irvine, where he researched wildfires and ecological restoration, respectively.



Panel #1: Blue and Green Jobs by the Numbers

Discussion: Trends, projections, and skills needed to meet market demands

Moderator: Su Jin Jez, PhD, CEO, California Competes

Panelists:

Luke Meyer, Centers of Excellence for Labor Market Research
CA Community Colleges, Economic, and Workforce Development Program

Chris Olvera, Supervisor, Outreach & Education
Unit Building Standards Office, California Energy Commission

Kelly LoBianco, Director
LA County Department of Economic Opportunity

Panel #2: A Just Transition

Discussion: Work-based learning opportunities in the equity, environmental justice, and blue and green jobs sectors

Moderator: Ali Frazzini, Policy Advisor, LA County Chief Sustainability Office

Panelists:

Tiffany Miller, Dean, Apprenticeships
West LA College

Geraldine Contreras-Jaimerina, Sr. Manager, Business-Education Partnerships
Youth Engagement Team, UniteLA

Stella Ursua, Sr. Programs and Partnerships Manager
Grid Alternatives

Anthony Borunda, Sr. Program Coordinator, Green Paths Careers
Emerald Cities Collaborative

John Harriel, Board Executive, IBEW Local Union 11
Electrical Construction Industry

Unveiling of the Climate Internships Database

with Jo Tavares, Director of the California Center for Climate Change Education at WLAC, Mareta Zuniga, Internship Coordinator for BuildLACCD, Andrea Rodriguez-Blanco, WLAC Career Center Director and college students.



Breakout Sessions Topics



- **The Blue Economy.** *Facilitated by Meridith Brooks, Senior Programs and Grants Manager, AltaSea. Room: MSA 003.*
- **Food Science and Alternative Proteins.** *Facilitated by Amy Huang, Associate Director of Scientific Ecosystems, Good Food Institute. Room: MSA 005.*
- **Natural Resources Management and Policy.** *Facilitated by Jenyffer Vasquez, Water Policy & Resources Analyst II West Basin Municipal Water District. Room: MSA 006.*
- **Decarbonizing the Transportation Sector.** *Facilitated by Jess Guerra, Director of the Transportation Workforce Institute at LA Trade Technical College. Room: MSA 102.*
- **Assessing Capacity for DEIA & Community Benefit Requirements in Climate Funding.** *Facilitated by Brett Zeuner Program Manager, Community Impact - Foundation for California Community Colleges. Room: MSA 104.*
- **Environmentally and Socially Responsible Buildings.** *Facilitated by Robert Zardeneta, Director of Workforce USGBC-LA. Room: MSA 105.*
- **Increasing Energy Efficiency with HVACs and Heat Pumps.** *Facilitated by Sergio Couder, Technical Instructor at Mitsubishi Electric Heating & Cooling. Room MSA 109.*
- **All Future Careers are Climate Careers: Students Success Means Teaching Climate Literacy Across Disciplines.** *Facilitated by Prof. George Leddy, Sustainable Environment Institute (SEI). Room: MSA 202.*
- **Certificates in Sustainability and Climate Action: the Conservation Studies Program at WLAC Example.** *Facilitated by Emily Cobar and Stacey Vigallon, the Nature Nexus Institute/ WLAC instructors. Room: MSA 203.*

Hosted by the California Center for Climate Change Education at West LA College
Special acknowledgment to our planning partners:

- Los Angeles Regional Consortium (LARC)
- California Competes
- LA Business Council
- AltaSea
- UniteLA
- Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC)
- LA County Department of Economic Opportunity
- Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator (LACI)
- U.S. Green Building Council - Los Angeles (USGBC- LA)

