

Environmental Justice 2017 Conference Keynote Conversations



Opening Address

Jakelin Troy, University of Sydney

Jakelin Troy is a Ngarigu woman from the Snowy Mountains of New South Wales, and Director of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research at The University of Sydney. Professor Troy's research and academic interests focus on languages, particularly endangered Aboriginal and 'contact languages', language education, linguistics, anthropology and visual arts. She has extensive experience developing curriculum for Australian schools, focusing on Australian language programs. She studied in Mexico and Japan, developing her interest those countries' art, culture and languages. Professor Troy is Editor in Chief of *ab-Original: Journal of Indigenous Studies and First Nations' and First Peoples' Cultures*.

Keynote Conversation #1: EJ Looking Back

David Schlosberg, Sydney Environment Institute

David Schlosberg is Professor of Environmental Politics in the Department of Government and International Relations at the University of Sydney, and Co-Director of the Sydney Environment Institute. He is known internationally for his work in environmental politics, environmental movements, and political theory – in particular the intersection of the three with his work on environmental justice. Professor Schlosberg's current research includes work on climate justice – in particular justice in climate adaptation strategies and policies, and the question of human obligations of justice to the nonhuman realm. He is also examining the sustainable practices of new environmental movement groups – in particular their attention to flows of power and goods in relation to food, energy, and sustainable fashion. And he continues with theoretical work at the interface of justice, democracy, and human/nonhuman relations in the Anthropocene.

Robert Bullard, Texas Southern University

Robert Bullard is Distinguished Professor of Urban Planning and Environmental Policy in the Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs at Texas Southern University in Houston, Texas. He is often described as the father of environmental justice. Professor Bullard received his Ph.D. degree from Iowa State University. He is the author of seventeen books that address sustainable development, environmental racism, urban land

use, industrial facility siting, community reinvestment, housing, transportation, climate justice, emergency response, smart growth, and regional equity. He has also published a number of works on environmental justice issues in communities of colour in the U.S. and globally.

His book, *Dumping in Dixie: Race, Class and Environmental Quality* (Westview Press, 2000), is a standard text in the environmental justice field. His most recent books include *Just Sustainabilities: Development in an Unequal World* (MIT Press, 2003), *Highway Robbery: Transportation Racism and New Routes to Equity* (South End Press, 2004), *The Quest for Environmental Justice: Human Rights and the Politics of Pollution* (Sierra Club Books, 2005), *Growing Smarter: Achieving Livable Communities, Environmental Justice, and Regional Equity* (MIT Press, 2007), and *The Black Metropolis in the Twenty-First Century: Race, Power, and the Politics of Place* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2007).

Nick Low, University of Melbourne

Organiser of the 1997 EJ conference at the University of Melbourne titled *Environmental Justice, Global Ethics for the 21st Century*.

Professor Nick Low is the author or editor of ten books, two of which have won national and international prizes. He is known for his contributions to the study of the politics of planning and transport, and for his international research on urban sustainability published in numerous international journal articles. He convened the 1997 conference at the University of Melbourne on Environmental Justice. His book (with Brendan

Gleeson) *Justice, Society and Nature* won the Harold and Margaret Sprout Prize of the International Studies Association 1998 for the best book published on ecological politics in that year. He won a major grant from the Volvo Foundations to create the Australasian Centre for Governance and Management of Urban Transport (GAMUT) which he directed from 2006 to 2011.

Petra Tschakert, University of Western Australia

My research activities and practice focus broadly on human-environment interactions and more specifically on rural livelihoods, environmental change, marginalization, social learning, and deliberate societal transformation. My academic training is in Geography, Applied Anthropology, and Arid Lands Resources Sciences. My main interest lies in the theoretical and empirical intersections of political ecology, environmental justice, complex systems science, and participatory research. It is the result of a long-term commitment to interdisciplinary scholarship and extended periods of field work and capacity building, particularly in West Africa. I seek to understand the strategies small-scale resource users, primarily subsistence farmers and miners, employ in adapting to environmental stresses, coping with socio-economic, political, and institutional exclusion, and dealing with intangible losses. I draw on participatory research (PR) as an epistemological framework that promotes critical engagement with marginalized communities (of space and practice). I have found that participatory mapping, diagramming, environmental theatre, and participatory video are wonderful albeit not uncontested tools to open up alternative routes for

'doing' geography. My ultimate goal is to expand people's opportunities for enhancing livelihood resilience.

**Keynote Conversation # 2:
EJ Looking Forward**

Gordon Walker, Lancaster University

My research interests have moved around over time but have centred on the social, spatial and normative dimensions of environment, sustainability and risk issues. I am currently focussing predominantly on questions of energy demand in my new role as Co-Director of the RCUK funded DEMAND Centre (Dynamics of Energy, Mobility and Demand). The DEMAND Centre takes a distinctive approach to end use energy demand, recognising that energy is not used for its own sake but as part of accomplishing social practices at home, at work and in moving around. I am specifically involved in projects within the Centre's research programme on how energy is related to notions of need, rights and justice; on the work of energy managers using energy management and control systems; on the dynamics of energy use in everyday life; and integration activities across the consortium of academic and non-academic partners.

Julian Agyeman, Tufts University

Julian Agyeman Ph.D. FRSA FRGS, Professor of Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning, has extensive experience in local government,

environmental and sustainability consulting and in the voluntary sector in the UK. A Fellow of the Royal Society of the Arts and the Royal Geographical Society, he holds a a Ph.D in Environmental Education/Urban Studies from the University of London, an M.A. in Conservation Policy from Middlesex University, UK, and a B.Sc (joint honours) in Geography and Botany from Durham University, UK.

As an ecologist/biogeographer turned critical urban studies and environmental social science scholar, he has both a science and social science background which helps frame his perspectives, research and scholarship. His focal research interest is in the nexus between environmental justice and sustainability and the possibility of "just sustainabilities". His publications which number over 160, include books, peer reviewed articles, book chapters, published conference presentations, reports, book reviews, newspaper articles and Op-Eds and articles in professional magazines and journals.

Alice Mah, University of Warwick

Alice holds a PhD in Sociology (London School of Economics), an MA in Political Economy (Carleton University, Ottawa), a BA (honours) in European and Russian Studies (Carleton University, Ottawa), and a BFA in Art History and Studio Art (Concordia University, Montreal). She has held postdoctoral positions as Senior Research Fellow in Sociology at Southampton University; Research Fellow at the International Research Centre 'Work and Human Lifecycle in Global History' at Humboldt University in

Berlin; and Research Fellow in Sociology at the University of Warwick.

Alice is the author of *Port Cities and Global Legacies* (2014, Palgrave Macmillan, 2016 in paperback). Her first book *Industrial Ruination, Community, and Place* (2012, University of Toronto Press) was winner of the 2013 *BSA Philip Abrams Memorial Prize*. This comparative ethnographic research explored lived experiences of industrial ruination in Niagara Falls, USA/Canada; Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK; and Ivanovo, Russia. Alice is also co-founder and co-editor of *Toxic News*, a quarterly e-magazine about toxics in everyday life.

Alice is Principal Investigator of the 5-year European Research Commission (ERC)-funded project on Expertise, Environmental Justice and the Global Petrochemical Industry (2015-2020). In 2016, she joined the Corporate Mapping Project network, a partnership of academic and community-based researchers and advisors, which maps how power and influence play out in the oil, gas and coal industries of BC, Alberta and Saskatchewan, funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (Canada).

David Pellow, University of California, Santa Barbara

Professor David N. Pellow is the Dehlsen Chair and Professor of Environmental Studies and Director of the Global Environmental Justice Project at the University of California, Santa Barbara where he teaches courses on environmental and social justice, race/class/gender and environmental conflict, human-animal conflicts, sustainability, and social

change movements that confront our socioenvironmental crises and social inequality. He has volunteered for and served on the Boards of Directors of several community-based, national, and international organizations that are dedicated to improving the living and working environments for people of color, immigrants, indigenous peoples, and working class communities, including the Global Action Research Center, the Center for Urban Transformation, the Santa Clara Center for Occupational Safety and Health, Global Response, Greenpeace USA, and International Rivers.

Keynote Conversation #3: EJ and Climate Governance

John Dryzek, University of Canberra

John Dryzek is Australian Research Council Laureate Fellow and Centenary Professor in the Centre for Deliberative Democracy and Global Governance, Institute for Governance and Policy Analysis. He works in democratic theory and practice and environmental politics. One of the instigators of the 'deliberative turn' in democratic theory, he has five books in this area with Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, and Polity. His environmental work ranges from green political philosophy to environmental discourses and movements to global climate governance, and he has published five books in this area with Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, and Basil Blackwell.

Robyn Eckersley, University of Melbourne

Robyn Eckersley is a Professor in Political Science in the School of Social and Political Sciences at the University of Melbourne and a member of the Academy of the Social Sciences of Australia. She has published widely in the fields of environmental politics, democratic theory and IR, with a special focus on the politics and governance of climate change. Her recent books include *Special Responsibilities: Global Problems and American Power* (2012, co-author); *Why Human Security Matters* (2012, co-editor) and *Globalization and the Environment* (2013) (co-author). She is currently editing *The Oxford Handbook on International Political Theory* with Chris Brown (LSE).

Maxine Burkett, University of Hawai'i, Mānoa

Maxine Burkett joined the William S. Richardson School of Law in 2009. She teaches Climate Change Law and Policy, Torts, Ocean and Coastal Law, and International Environmental Law. She has written extensively in diverse areas of climate law with a particular focus on climate justice, exploring the disparate impact of climate change on vulnerable communities in the United States and globally. Professor Burkett has presented her research on the law and policy of climate change throughout the United States and in West Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Caribbean. Her work has been cited in numerous news and policy outlets, including BBC Radio, the ABA Journal, the New York Times, and Nature Climate Change.

In 2010, Burkett served as the Wayne Morse Chair of Law and Politics at the Wayne Morse Center, University of Oregon, for the Center's "Climate

Ethics and Climate Equity” theme of inquiry. Other Wayne Morse Chairs include Charles Ogletree, Jr., Vandana Shiva, Barbara Ehrenreich, and Russ Feingold. Burkett is the youngest recipient of the Chair.

From 2009-2012, Professor Burkett also served as the inaugural Director of the Center for Island Climate Adaptation and Policy (ICAP). As the Director of ICAP, she led projects to address climate change policy and planning for island communities globally. She directed the completion of several adaptation related policy documents, outreach and education programs, and decision-maker support efforts for Hawai’i and other Pacific Island nations. Professor Burkett attended Williams College and Exeter College, Oxford University, and received her law degree from Boalt Hall School of Law at the University of California, Berkeley. She served as a law clerk for The Honorable Susan Illston of the United States District Court, Northern District of California. She was a White House intern and an Omidyar Fellow. She serves on the boards of Global Greengrants Fund and Kanu Hawai’i and is a member scholar for the Center for Progressive Reform. Prior to her appointment at the University of Hawai’i, Professor Burkett taught at the University of Colorado Law School.

Keynote Conversation # 4: EJ and Climate Governance

Rosemary Lyster, University of Sydney

Rosemary Lyster is the Professor of Climate and Environmental Law at Sydney Law School, The University of Sydney. In 2013, Rosemary was appointed a Herbert Smith Freehills Visiting Professor at Cambridge Law School and was a Visiting Scholar at Trinity College, Cambridge in 2009 and in 2014. In the area of Environmental Law, Rosemary specialises in Energy and Climate Law, Climate Disaster Law and Water Law. She has published four books with Cambridge University Press in the area of Energy and Climate Law the latest of which is Rosemary Lyster Climate Justice and Disaster Law (2015).

Chuks Okereke, University of Reading

Dr Chukwumerije Okereke is Associate Professor in Environment and Development at Department of Geography and Environmental Science, University of Reading. He is also the Co-Director of the University of Reading Leverhulme Doctoral Training Programme on Climate Ethics and Justice. Previously, he was a Senior Research Fellow and Head of Climate and Development Centre at the Smith School Enterprise and the Environment, University of Oxford. He remains a visiting fellow at the Smith School and Oxford University’s Environmental Change Institute (ECI). Chuks was a Lead Author on the IPCC AR5 Assessment Report on Equity and Sustainable Development. Between 2011 and 2013 he held a Leverhulme Fellowship on ‘the governance of low carbon development in Africa.’ He has been

engaged in teaching, research and consultancy activities focusing on climate politics and governance for over 15 years.

Dr Okereke was the Project Director of the Rwandan National Strategy for Green Growth project funded jointly by the Climate Development and Knowledge Network (CDKN) and DfID Rwanda. Dr Okereke was the Moderator of United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Climate Diplomacy Course (2008-2010) and an ad-hoc consultant to UN and the World Bank.

John Barnett, University of Melbourne

I am a political geographer whose research investigates social impacts and responses to environmental change. My research has helped explain the impacts of climate change on cultures, food security, migration, water security, and peace. I am particularly focused on adaptation solutions that contribute to social justice and peace. I have conducted fieldwork in several Pacific Island Countries, and in Australia, China and Timor-Leste. I am a Lead Author for the most recent IPCC Assessment Report, and I co-edit the journal Global Environmental Change.

Keynote Conversation #5: Multispecies Justice

David Pellow, University of California, Santa Barbara

Professor David N. Pellow is the Dehlsen Chair and Professor of Environmental Studies and Director of the Global Environmental Justice Project at the University of California, Santa Barbara where he teaches courses on environmental and social justice, race/class/gender and environmental conflict, human-animal conflicts, sustainability, and social change movements that confront our socioenvironmental crises and social inequality. He has volunteered for and served on the Boards of Directors of several community-based, national, and international organizations that are dedicated to improving the living and working environments for people of color, immigrants, indigenous peoples, and working class communities, including the Global Action Research Center, the Center for Urban Transformation, the Santa Clara Center for Occupational Safety and Health, Global Response, Greenpeace USA, and International Rivers.

Michelle Maloney, Australian Earth Laws Alliance

Michelle holds a Bachelor of Arts (Political Science and History) and Laws (Honours) from the Australian National University and a PhD in Law from Griffith University. She has 25 years' experience designing and managing climate change, sustainability and environmental justice projects in Australia, the United Kingdom and the USA, and this includes ten years working with indigenous colleagues in Central Queensland on a range of community development,

sustainability and cultural heritage projects. Michelle met and fell in love with Earth jurisprudence and Wild Law in 2009 and since 2011 has been working to promote the understanding and practical implementation of Earth centred law, governance and ethics in Australia through her work with AELA.

As Co-Founder and National Convenor of the Australian Earth Laws Alliance, Michelle manages the strategic direction and governance of the organisation, including the extensive partnerships and networks that AELA has with the legal, academic and environmental advocacy communities. Michelle also designs and manages AELA programs and events, including AELA's Rights of Nature Tribunals, and coordinates the work of more than 20 fantastic multi-disciplinary professional and student volunteers around Australia.

Dinesh Wadiwel, University of Sydney

Dinesh is a lecturer in human rights and socio-legal studies. He has previously taught in Sociology and Politics at the University of Western Sydney, Macquarie University and the University of Notre Dame Australia. Dinesh is convenor of The University of Sydney Human Animal Research Network (HARN).

Dinesh is author of the monograph *The War Against Animals* (Brill, 2015). He is also co-editor (with Matthew Chrulew) of the forthcoming volume *Foucault and Animals* (Brill 2016). Dinesh is currently working on a new monograph which explores the relationship between animals and capitalism. Dinesh

is also working on several projects related to the application of international torture obligations to the treatment of people with disability. Dinesh has 15 years experience working within the non government sector. Between 2002 and 2007 he was employed as Senior Policy Officer at the Council of Social Service of NSW (NCOSS). He has significant experience within the disability rights movement, and was a previous Executive Officer of National Ethnic Disability Alliance (NEDA), the national peak organization representing people from Non English Speaking Backgrounds with disability. Dinesh continues to collaborate with a number of multicultural organisations working towards rights for migrants and refugees with disability.

Keynote Conversation # 6: EJ Gender and Materiality

Astrida Neimanis, University of Sydney

Astrida Neimanis is a Lecturer in the Department of Gender and Cultural Studies at the University of Sydney. Her research is located at the intersection of feminist theory and environmental humanities, with a focus on water, weather and bodies. Her writing has appeared in places such as *Hypatia*, *Ethics & Environment*, *Feminist Review*, *Alphabet City*, and *Harvard Design Review*, and various edited collections and gallery spaces, in collaboration with other writers, artists and makers.

Her books include *Bodies of Water: Posthuman Feminist Phenomenology* (2017) and the co-edited collection, *Thinking with Water* (2013). Astrida is also Associate Editor of the journal *Environmental Humanities*. Her current project is investigating military and chemical legacies at the bottom of the sea.

Sherilyn MacGregor, The University of Manchester

Sherilyn MacGregor joined the SCI in October 2015 as Reader in Environmental Politics. From 2006 to 2014 she was Senior Lecturer in Environmental Politics at Keele University (2006-2014) and a Research Associate and Post-doctoral Fellow at Lancaster University from 2002-2006. She received a PhD from the Faculty of Environmental Studies at York University in Toronto in 2002.

Sherilyn has a research and teaching profile that is international and interdisciplinary. She has worked in universities in Canada, the USA, the UK, Germany, and France; her degrees are in gender studies, urban planning, and environmental studies. One of a small number of scholars in the UK specialising in the interdisciplinary field of gender and environmental politics, Sherilyn's research explores themes of environmental (un)sustainability, gender (in)equality, and theories and practices of citizenship. Her research is animated by critical questions about power relations, environmental and social justice, the gendered divisions of labour and responsibility, and strategies for eco-social transformation in affluent societies.

Her research has been published in a range of journals including *British Politics*, *Sociological*

Review, *Hypatia*, *Local Environment*, and *Energy Policy*. Recent books include *Environmental Movements around the World: Shades of Green in Politics and Culture* (co-edited with Timothy Doyle; 2014) and the fourth edition of *Environment and Politics* (co-authored by Timothy Doyle and Doug McEachern; 2015). She is currently sole editor of the *Routledge International Handbook on Gender and Environment* (to be published in 2016).

Lesley Head, University of Melbourne

I am a geographer whose research examines human-environment relations, both conceptual and material. That is, I want to understand how humans have physically changed earth's systems, how we think about our place in nature, and how these two things are connected. In recent years I have worked mostly in cultural geography, with projects on backyard gardens, wheat and invasive plants. This developed from my earlier interest in Aboriginal land use, ethnobotany and fire. I started my research career using palaeoecology and archaeology to study long term changes in the Australian landscape, and the interactions of prehistoric peoples with their environments. My current role is Head of the new School of Geography at the University of Melbourne. Our aim is to build a world-leading School in which both human and physical geography are strong and can collaborate to help meet pressing social and environmental challenges. I came to this position from many years at the University of Wollongong, where I was most recently ARC Australian Laureate Fellow and Director of the Australian Centre for Cultural Environmental Research (AUSCCER), and before that Head of the School of Earth &

Environmental Sciences. I still retain strong research links with AUSCCER. My main international collaborations are with colleagues in Sweden and Norway, established during my periods as King Carl XVI Gustaf Visiting Professor in Environmental Science, Kristianstad University (2005-06) and Visiting Professor, Department of Human and Economic Geography, University of Göteborg, Sweden (2012-14).

Keynote Conversation #7: EJ and Indigenous Cultures

Sarah Wiebe, University of Hawai'i, Mānoa

Dr. Sarah Marie Wiebe is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of Hawai'i, Mānoa where she focuses on environmental sustainability. She has published in journals including *Citizenship Studies* and *Studies in Social Justice*. Her book [Everyday Exposure: Indigenous Mobilization and Environmental Justice in Canada's Chemical Valley](#) (2016) with UBC Press won the [Charles Taylor Book Award](#) (2017) and examines policy responses to the impact of pollution on the Aamjiwnaang First Nation's environmental health. Alongside [Dr. Jennifer Lawrence](#) (Virginia Tech), she is the Co-Editor of [Biopolitical Disaster](#). At the intersections of environmental justice and citizen engagement, her teaching and research interests emphasize political ecology, participatory policy making and

deliberative dialogue. As a collaborative researcher and filmmaker, she worked with Indigenous communities on sustainability-themed films including [Indian Givers](#) and [To Fish as Formerly](#). She is currently collaborating with artists from Attawapiskat on a project entitled [Reimagining Attawapiskat](#) funded through a SSHRC Insight Development Grant. Sarah is also a Project Co-Director for the Seascape Indigenous Storytelling Studio, funded through a SSHRC Insight Grant with research partners from the University of Victoria, University of British Columbia and coastal Indigenous communities.

Kyle Powys Whyte (Michigan State University)

Kyle Powys Whyte holds the Timnick Chair in the Humanities at Michigan State University. He is Associate Professor of Philosophy and Community Sustainability, a faculty member of the Environmental Philosophy & Ethics graduate concentration, and a faculty affiliate of the American Indian Studies and Environmental Science & Policy programs. His primary research addresses moral and political issues concerning climate policy and Indigenous peoples and the ethics of cooperative relationships between Indigenous peoples and climate science organizations. He is an enrolled member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. His articles have appeared in journals such as *Climatic Change*, *Sustainability Science*, *Environmental Justice*, *Hypatia*, *Ecological Processes*, *Synthese*, *Human Ecology*, *Journal of Global Ethics*, *American Journal of Bioethics*, *Journal of Agricultural & Environmental Ethics*, *Ethics, Policy & Environment*, and *Ethics & the Environment*.

Seán Kerins, Australian National University

Seán's research interests include community-based management of natural resources, common property resources, common property resource institutions, political economy, wildlife utilisation and development.

Prior to coming to ANU's Centre For Aboriginal Economic Policy Research, Seán managed the Northern Land Council's Caring for Country Unit based in Darwin. Here, he worked with Aboriginal traditional land owner groups in the tropical savannas of the Northern Territory developing land and sea management plans, enterprises based on wildlife utilisation, brokering resources and training opportunities, community capacity building and lobbying.

Seán has experience in working on sea rights issues where he worked for 8 years as a senior policy advisor to Te Ohu Kai Moana (The Treaty of Waitangi Fisheries Commission) in New Zealand implementing the Treaty of Waitangi (Fisheries Claims) Settlement Act 1992. Seán's PhD research focussed on whaling in the Faroes (Northeast Atlantic) where he examined the development and performance of the Grindadráp (the 1000-year-old Faroese community-based whaling institution).

From 2007 to 2012 Seán worked on the '[People on Country - Healthy Landscapes and Indigenous Economic Futures](#)' research project. He is currently working on the [National Environmental Research Program, Northern Australia Hub](#).

Keynote Conversation # 8: Culture, Food and Health

Alana Mann, University of Sydney

Dr Alana Mann is Chair of the Department of Media and Communications in the Faculty of Arts and Social Science. Alana Mann joined the University of Sydney in 2007 after a professional career in the media and non-profit sectors. Her teaching and research focus on how ordinary citizens get voice in policy debates regarding wicked problems such as food security and climate change. Her book *Global Activism in Food Politics: Power Shift* was published in 2014.

Currently, Alana is involved in cross-disciplinary research projects concerning food systems with colleagues in the Sydney Environment Institute (SEI) and the Charles Perkins Centre. She is on a Faculty-wide project team exploring the crisis of 'post-truth' discourse, funded through the Sydney Research Excellence Initiative (SREI, 2017), and is co-PI on an Education Innovation project based in Glebe, the Social Justice Learning Lab. Her international collaborations include a comparative study of 'land-grabbing' with researchers in Brazil and South East Asia.

Alana regularly speaks about her research at public events such as Sydney Ideas, Raising the Bar and Outside the Square, and has been an invited speaker at events such as Food and Words.

Amita Baviskar, University of Delhi

Amita Baviskar is an associate professor of sociology at the Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi. Her research focuses on the cultural politics of environment and development. Her first book, *In the Belly of the River: Tribal Conflicts over Development in the Narmada Valley* (Oxford University Press), discussed the struggle for survival by Adivasis in central India against a large dam. Her subsequent work further explores the themes of resource rights, subaltern resistance, and cultural identity. More recently, she has focused on urban environmental politics, especially bourgeois environmentalism and spatial restructuring in the context of economic liberalization in Delhi. Her latest research examines changing food practices in western India in relation to the transformation of agrarian environments. Amita has taught at the University of Delhi and has been a visiting professor at Stanford, Sciences Po, Yale, and the University of California at Berkeley. She was awarded the 2005 Malcolm Adiseshiah Award for Distinguished Contributions to Development Studies and the 2010 Infosys Prize for the social sciences.

Viliamu Iese, University of the South Pacific

Samoan by birth, and Tuvaluan by citizenship, Vili provides his expertise in Disaster Risk Management and Food Security to the Climate Change Program. Viliamu has a MSc in Biology – Plant Genetics and Conservation from the University of the South Pacific, which was based on the characterization of the giant swamp taro (*Cyrtosperma chammisonis*) using genetic fingerprinting, morphological features and traditional knowledge of farmers in the Pacific.

**Keynote Conversation #9:
Just Transition**

Linda Conner, University of Sydney

Linda H. Connor is Professor of Anthropology at the University of Sydney. She has worked in several countries and continents as researcher and academic. Her current research focuses on comparative ethnographic studies of global warming and environmental change in Australia, India and Germany. She is part of a group undertaking an Australian Research Council funded project, *The Coal Rush and Beyond: A Comparative Study of Coal Reliance and Climate Change*.

Blair Palese, 350.org

Blair Palese is the CEO of 350.org in Australia. She has worked in Australia, the UK and US in senior management roles for the Antarctic Ocean Alliance, Greenpeace and The Body Shop, and as a consultant on a range of projects including the ACF, The Climate Group, Planet Ark, The Climate Institute, The Green Building Council of Australia, Climate Friendly, Ecos Corporation, the Building Sustainability Index (BASIX) and Sustainable Energy Development Authority (SEDA). She is on the board of Green Music Australia.

Brendan Sydes, Environmental Justice Australia

When Brendan joined what was then the Environmental Defenders Office (Victoria) as CEO in 2004, there was just one staff member: him. Since then he's overseen a transition to a legal fighting

force with fourteen staff members and a clear vision to be the environment's legal team. Brendan holds a University of Melbourne law degree and an MA in Environmental Science. He lectures in environmental law at Melbourne University and is President of Connecting Country, a landscape restoration initiative.

Brendan leads the team at Environmental Justice Australia, a not-for-profit legal practice dedicated to justice for people and the planet. Under Brendan's leadership, EJA has grown to become an effective force for change, contributing legal and strategic expertise to the environment movement and grassroots campaigns on issues ranging from air pollution to nature conservation and corporate accountability. With deep roots in the community legal centre movement since his university days and as a former chair of Victoria's Federation of Community Legal Centres, Brendan has a strong commitment to combining social justice and environmental advocacy.

Tom Reddington, Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA

Tom Reddington is APHEDA's organiser for Climate justice, Energy Democracy and the Philippines.

Keynote Conversation #10: Environmental Justice and Place

Petra Tschakert, University of Western Australia

My research activities and practice focus broadly on human-environment interactions and more specifically on rural livelihoods, environmental change, marginalization, social learning, and deliberate societal transformation. My academic training is in Geography, Applied Anthropology, and Arid Lands Resources Sciences. My main interest lies in the theoretical and empirical intersections of political ecology, environmental justice, complex systems science, and participatory research. It is the result of a long-term commitment to interdisciplinary scholarship and extended periods of field work and capacity building, particularly in West Africa. I seek to understand the strategies small-scale resource users, primarily subsistence farmers and miners, employ in adapting to environmental stresses, coping with socio-economic, political, and institutional exclusion, and dealing with intangible losses. I draw on participatory research (PR) as an epistemological framework that promotes critical engagement with marginalized communities (of space and practice). I have found that participatory mapping, diagramming, environmental theatre, and participatory video are wonderful albeit not uncontested tools to open up alternative routes for 'doing' geography. My ultimate goal is to expand people's opportunities for enhancing livelihood resilience.

Mike Campbell OAM (Community Activist)

Mike was a member of the broad Green Ban union team in the 1980's as secretary Central Coast Trades and Labour Council. He was Chairman of the CRIPS group that successfully prevented the establishment of two power station complexes on the NSW Central Coast in 1984-86. He is an executive member of the Australian Coal Alliance which kept Wallarah 2 power station at bay for 22 years. Mike was awarded the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for environmental activism.

George Woods, Lock the Gate

George is an activist and environmentalist from Muloobinba, Newcastle, in Awabakal country. She has been an environmental and climate advocate and activist for over fifteen years and has worked variously in paid and unpaid roles ranging from direct action confrontation and community outreach with the grassroots collective Rising Tide to lobbying Ministers and coordinating Australian advocacy at the international climate negotiations for Climate Action Network. She is currently NSW Coordinator for Lock the Gate Alliance.

Heidi Norman, University of Technology, Sydney

Heidi Norman is an Associate Professor in Social and Political Sciences in the School of Communication. She researches and publishes in the areas of NSW Aboriginal history and politics with a particular focus on land and its management and the Aboriginal administrative domain. Her most recent work is a study of Aboriginal Land rights in NSW (published in 2015). This work is a critical account of the interface between the Government's

construction of Aboriginal interests in land and the emerging governance of those land and interests by Aboriginal citizens through their land councils. Her new area of research is focused on Aboriginal people's interests in pursuing land management and cultural aspirations on their land, alongside imperatives to pursue economic development.

Robert Melchior FIGUEROA, Oregon OR University

Robert Melchior Figueroa philosophically introduced recognition justice and pedagogically the first formal philosophy course in Environmental Justice. Known for defending 'EJ' as a core of justice studies, he has included restorative justice, environmental colonialism, environmental identity and environmental heritage, as well as interspecies justice in EJ theory and practice. This has allowed his critical study of moral terrains and environmental colonialism in educational, environmental, economic, and political institutions. Noted in scholarship on climate refugees, indigenous, Latinx, resettlement communities, ecotourism, and identity struggles his institutional collaborations include NOAA, UNEP, NSF, NCAR, and the Australia National Museum.

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