

MEDIA ADVISORY

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February 23, 2022 — The Washington Oregon Cascadia Higher Education Sustainability Conference (WOHESC) will take place Wednesday, March 2nd – Friday, March 4th now in an online virtual format, available from any location. Higher education institutions from the Cascadia region will join forces to inspire change, facilitate action, and promote collaboration around sustainability and environmental justice.

The 2022 conference theme **The Path Forward to an Equitable and Regenerative Economy** will take a closer look at fair, equitable and sustainable economies, and rebuilding with a clean, green careers-driven approach. With goals for a sustainable future economically, environmentally and socially, we aim to examine what roles universities play in building and sustaining robust local economies and the complexity of “recovery” through providing actionable content with a vision for an equitable and sustainable future. Leaders and students in higher education will share current work and future vision for an equitable and regenerative economy.

2022 Conference Program Features:

- Keynote - **Every Job is a Climate Job** with **Elizabeth Bagley, Director of Programs at SEI**
- Plenary - **Imagining A Just Future: Writers on the World We Want to Build** with authors **Mat Johnson ('Pym and Professor')** **Annalee Newitz (Techsploitation.com and 'Four Lost Cities: A Secret History of the Urban Age')** and **Marina Psaros ('The Atlas of Disappearing Places')**
- Keynote - **The Opportunity and Imperative for Academic Institutions in Redesigning Capitalism** with **Jessica Yinka Thomas, President and Board Chair, B Academics;** Director, Business Sustainability Collaborative and Assistant Professor, North Carolina State University
- Plenary - **Youth Activism for Climate Justice and Indigenous Ways of Knowing**, in which young Indigenous leaders in climate action speak on how Indigenous ways of knowing or TEK (traditional ecological knowledge) is foundational to the youth climate uprising.
- Closing Workshop - **Synthesis and Action Planning**, with sustainability leaders from Central Washington University, Western Washington University, and Whatcom Community College.

Notable Speakers:

- D'Andre Fisher | AVP of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, North Seattle College
- Jonathan Arakawa | Co-Vice President, National Congress of American Indians Youth Commission
- Joao Vilca Soto | Chief Executive Officer, Ruta Verde
- Kathryn Cornforth | Director of Community Engagement and Leadership Education Center, University of Washington
- Maiya Martinez | Earth Ambassador, United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY)
- Maria Spiliotpoulou | Manager of Student Learning and Leadership, Simon Fraser University
- Melissa Nelson | Professor of Indigenous Sustainability, Arizona State University
- Monica Stenzel | Sustainability Center Director, Spokane Falls Community College
- Rebecca Walker | Sustainability Manager, Southern Oregon University
- Sadie Olsen (Lhaq'temish name Kwastlmut) | Co-Founder, Whiteswan Environmental

Press Passes, Interview Requests, and Photos: Please contact Noel Sandberg at noel@wohesc.org.

Conference Details

Washington Oregon Cascadia Higher Education Sustainability Conference (WOHESC)

March 2-4, 2022

Location: Virtual/online - available from any location via laptop or mobile device

Schedule and Speaker Line-Up: <http://wohesc.org/program>

Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased online at <http://wohesc.org/registration> or by phone at 206.459.0595.

About Washington Oregon Cascadia Higher Education Sustainability Conference (WOHESC)

The Washington Oregon Cascadia Higher Education Sustainability Conference (WOHESC) was created and organized by B Corporation Social Enterprises, Inc. and is an event dedicated to inspiring change, facilitating action, and promoting collaboration related to sustainability within the Cascadia region's higher education institutions. Keynotes, plenaries, workshops, and networking opportunities will empower participants to advance environmental performance at their own institutions of higher education. More information at <http://wohesc.org/>.

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