

2021 MEMBER MEETING



Global Council for Science
and the Environment



2021 CAPSTONE SYMPOSIUM

Science and Levers of Change

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2021
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM ET**

ABOUT THE GLOBAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The Global Council for Science and the Environment (GCSE) is a nongovernmental organization established in 1990 that advances the use of science to inform environmental decision-making. The work of GCSE spans boundaries between science and decision-making to strengthen the impact of durable solutions to environmental challenges. GCSE engages scientists, educators, policymakers, business leaders, and officials at all levels of government. GCSE was formerly the National Council for Science and the Environment (NCSE).



Members



Programs



Research



Events

ABOUT GCSE MEMBERSHIP

GCSE Members are part of an international community of influential leaders across scientific and academic societies, government at all levels, and the private sector.

GCSE works with a core community of universities to provide concrete opportunities to engage with decision-makers and learn about science policy through immersive experiences. The GCSE community collaborates on scholarship and synthesis and works to prepare the next generation of environmental leaders for the workforce of the future.



ABOUT THE THEME: SCIENCE AND LEVERS OF CHANGE

The focus of the symposium will be on the various levers of change, how science supports those levers (ranging from finance to policy and decision making to innovation, etc.) and accelerates the changes needed to effectively address and solve complex environmental challenges like climate change, biodiversity loss, and so on. We are specifically eager to highlight the range of work taking place across the GCSE community including Communities of Practice, Learning Collaboratives, and program initiatives, and to encourage further engagement by our global member community.



SYMPOSIUM AGENDA

3:00 PM ET - Welcome and Year In Review

- Michelle Wyman, Executive Director, Global Council for Science and the Environment
- Valerie Luzadis, Ph.D., Chair, Global Council for Science and the Environment Board of Directors, Professor, The State University of New York, ESF

3:15 PM ET - Opening Speaker

- “Multiple Meanings of Science: Why it Matters”
 - Dr. Gillian Marcelle, CEO and Founder, Resilience Capital Ventures LLC

3:30 PM ET - GCSE Programs Exchange

- Educators for Energy Transformation Community of Practice
 - Valentini Pappa, Ph.D., Adjunct Professor, Texas A&M University
- Sustainability Education Community of Practice
 - Katja Brundiers, Ph.D., Senior Global Futures Scholar and Assistant Clinical Professor, Arizona State University
 - Jordan King, Ph.D. Student, Arizona State University, Graduate Student Fellow, GCSE
- The Great Reset in Academic and Research Institutions Learning Collaborative
 - Michelle Wyman, Executive Director, Global Council for Science and the Environment
 - Stephane Raud, Attaché for Science and Technology, Embassy of France in the United States, Washington, DC
- Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Knowledge Systems Learning Collaborative
 - Valerie Luzadis, Ph.D., Chair, Global Council for Science and the Environment Board of Directors, Professor, The State University of New York, ESF

SYMPOSIUM AGENDA

- Resilience Learning Collaborative
 - Elizabeth Wentz, Ph.D., Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate College, Arizona State University
- GCSE Applied Solutions
 - Pam Mendelson, Director of Programs and Membership, Global Council for Science and the Environment
- EnvironMentors
 - Christopher Blaszczyk-Boxe, Ph.D., Associate Research Professor, The Pennsylvania State University
- Global Youth Science Partnership
 - Kathleen (Katie) Parrish, Program Associate, Global Council for Science and the Environment
- UNEP GCSE Science Diplomacy Program
 - Pierre Boileau, Head of the Global Assessment Unit, United Nations Environment Programme

4:05 PM ET - GCSE 2022 Virtual Conference

- Aisha Ali, Communications and Events Manager, Global Council for Science and the Environment
- Shelley Kossak, Senior Advisor for University Relations, Global Council for Science and the Environment

4:15 PM ET - Q & A and Discussion

- Moderated by **Frank Sesno**, Vice Chair, GCSE Board of Directors; Director of Strategic Initiatives, George Washington University; Founder, Planet Forward

4:50 PM ET - Closing Remarks

- Michelle Wyman, Executive Director, Global Council for Science and the Environment

4:55 PM ET - Word Cloud Reveal

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Michelle Wyman, Executive Director, Global Council for Science and the Environment

Michelle Wyman serves as the executive director of the Global Council for Science and the Environment. She has worked on clean energy, climate, and environmental policy with all levels of government for over two decades, developing strategic and tactical solutions to implement energy, climate, and sustainability strategies and solutions. Before joining GCSE, she served as the director of intergovernmental affairs at the U.S. Department of Energy. She led the Governors' Accord for a Clean Energy Future, Applied Solutions-Local Governments Building a Clean Economy, and ICLEI USA, nonprofits that engage directly with state and local governments.

Valerie Luzadis, Ph.D., Chair, Global Council for Science and the Environment Board of Directors; Professor, The State University of New York, ESF

Valerie Luzadis, Ph.D., is the chair of the GCSE Board of Directors. She is a professor of Social-Ecological Systems and Ecological Economics at the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF), a public, doctoral granting institution in upstate New York. Luzadis has also served as Interim Provost and as the first Executive Vice President of ESF and held several other leadership roles in the institution. Her teaching and research focus on systems approaches to social-ecological foundations for conservation and sustainability. Luzadis' scholarly work also includes the study and practice of collaborative interdisciplinary science and efforts to bring science into policy.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Gillian Marcelle, Ph.D., CEO and Founder, Resilience Capital Ventures LLC

Gillian Marcelle, PhD leads Resilience Capital Ventures LLC, a boutique capital advisory practice specializing in blended finance. She has a proven track record in attracting investment and focuses on telecoms, fintech, renewable energy and regenerative agriculture. Her specialty is the design and implementation of blended finance strategies that often involve partnerships, ecosystem strengthening and designing architectures for transformational change. Dr Marcelle includes among her clients and partners: MPC Capital AG, Marin Agricultural Land Trust (MALT), AfriBio and the Clinton Foundation. She serves on the Advisory Board of Marketspace USA, and has guided numerous ventures in the role of Senior Advisor.

Valentini Pappa, Ph.D., Adjunct Professor, Texas A&M University

Valentini Pappa is an adjunct professor in the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering at Texas A&M University. Her research interests include agro-environmental science, carbon sequestration, water, energy management, and climate change focusing on greenhouse gas measurements and mitigation in agricultural systems. She works to make significant contributions in the environmental sector by combining existing knowledge to improve methodologies and data analysis, by examining key legumes and arable crops under different farming systems.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Katja Brundiers, PhD., Senior Global Futures Scholar and Assistant Clinical Professor, Arizona State University

In sustainability education, Katja Brundiers' research and teaching relates to whole-person and project-based educational approaches, professional skills development, and collaborative methods supporting knowledge co-creation among students and practitioners. In this trajectory, she draws on her past experiences as community-university liaison for the School of Sustainability at Arizona State University, as head of seed-sustainability at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, and her work as a sustainability consultant to the University of British Columbia (Canada) and member of the UNESCO Committee on Education for Sustainable Development. As a second line of work, Katja focuses on disasters as opportunities for change towards sustainability.

Jordan King, Ph.D. Student, Arizona State University, Graduate Student Fellow, GCSE

Jordan King is pursuing a Ph.D. in sustainability at Arizona State University. He is also a graduate student fellow working on sustainability education with GCSE. Prior to attending Arizona State University, Jordan has worked on projects focusing on environmental literacy in higher education, sustainable food systems and community outreach in Peru, and meaningful outdoor experiences for youth. He holds a BA in History from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh and a MS in Environmental Education from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Stephane Raud, Attaché for Science and Technology, Embassy of France in the United States, Washington, DC

Stéphane Raud joined the French Embassy in Washington as Scientific attaché in Septembre 2018. He was General Director delegate for the Institute of Research for Development (IRD) and was then in charge of technology transfer, industrial partnership, capacity building, training, European collaborations, scientific and technology culture and communication. Previously, Stéphane Raud has been the Director of the technologies transfer department of IRD and also president of CVT Valorisation-Sud, an inter-institutional organization dedicated to technology transfer, in relation with developing countries. Starting in 2004, he also represented the French Ministry of Research as “Regional delegate for science and technology” (DRRT), in charge of the south east part of France, based in Marseille.

Elizabeth Wentz, Ph.D., Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate College, Arizona State University

Elizabeth Wentz is the Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate College and a professor in the School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning at Arizona State University. She leads ASU ADVANCE, to become a higher education leader in inclusion and diversity at all levels of the university, from undergraduates to academic leadership. She is the Director and PI of the Knowledge Exchange for Resilience, an ASU initiative to support Maricopa County, Arizona by sharing knowledge, catalyzing discovery, and exchanging responses to challenges together, in order to build community resilience.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Pam Mendelson, Director of Programs and Membership, Global Council for Science and the Environment

Pam Mendelson is the director of programs and membership at the Global Council for Science and the Environment (GCSE). Previously, Pam was the US Department of Energy lead for the Remote Alaska Communities Energy Efficiency (RACEE) Competition, an advisor to the National Community Solar Partnership Program, and on efforts to bring resources needed to implement successful and sustainable clean energy projects in low to moderate income communities. Previously, Ms. Mendelson led national implementation of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant, a \$3.2B Recovery Act program that achieved \$5.2 billion of total cumulative savings on energy bills among residential, public institutional, and commercial sectors.

Christopher Blaszcak-Boxe, Ph.D., Associate Research Professor, The Pennsylvania State University

Dr. Christopher Blaszcak-Boxe is an associate research professor in the Department of Geosciences & Institute of Computational Data Sciences at The Pennsylvania State University. He is also a co-lead for the Global Council for Science and the Environment EnvironMentors program. Previously, he was an assistant professor of Environmental Science and Chemistry at Medgar Evers College of the City of University of New York's Department of Physical Environmental and Computer Sciences. Dr. Blaszcak-Boxe served as a NASA Postdoctoral Fellow for nine years and completed his postdoctoral matriculation as a Caltech/JPL Postdoctoral Fellow before working at NASA-JPL as a research scientist in the Earth and Space Science Division.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Kathleen (Katie) Parrish, Program Associate, Global Council for Science and the Environment

Kathleen (Katie) Parrish is a program associate at GCSE. In this role, she runs the Global Youth Science Partnership. Previously, she was the communications advisor for GCSE and the administrative coordinator for the Energy Foundation in New Jersey, where she supported a diverse coalition working to promote clean energy and transportation in NJ. At Rutgers University, Katie led research regarding the impacts of microplastic pollution in the Raritan River, published her work, and presented it internationally. As founder and president of the Rutgers Sustainability Coalition, she brought together nearly 20 student organizations that successfully advocated for a university-wide climate action plan and an office to implement it.

Pierre Boileau, Head- Global Assessment Unit, United nations Environment Programme

Pierre Boileau is currently the Head of the Global Environment Outlook programme at UN Environment. In this role, he has led his team to complete 6 regional environmental assessments, published in May, 2016, and the global assessment for the sixth Global Environment Outlook. As part of the sixth Global Environment Outlook, Pierre's team works closely with more than 160 experts and authors to produce the analysis contained in the publication. Previously, Pierre was the Head of the International Energy Agency's Non-member country energy statistics section, where he led a team of statisticians that produce IEA's global energy data publications.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Aisha Ali, Communications and Events Manager, Global Council for Science and the Environment

Aisha Ali is the communications and events manager at GCSE. Before joining the GCSE team, Aisha was an event director in Bend, OR, where she organized many events within the Deschutes National Forest. As a director, Aisha made it a priority to produce events that left minimal impact on the environment and prioritized the use of sustainable, zero waste materials. Aisha has produced events for industry leaders such as Vespa, Nike, Amstel Light and NASA. She has produced events both nationally and internationally, planning corporate events in Costa Rica, France and Mexico. Aisha is a member of the NAACP and served on the board of the Central Oregon BIPOC Association.

Shelley Kossak, Senior Advisor for University Relations, Global Council for Science and the Environment

Shelley Kossak is the senior advisor for university relations at GCSE. In her role, she works closely with the membership program and supports the planning of the Annual Conference. Her responsibilities include working with key sponsors and speakers as well as developing the conference program. Over the years, she has served as the director of university relations and development. She also works with the executive director on funding strategic initiatives for the organization. She has 25 years experience in program development and management and board relations, which includes positions at several nonprofit organizations representing state and local governments. Shelley holds a master's degree from The George Washington University and a bachelor's degree in education from the University of Maryland, College Park.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Frank Sesno, Vice Chair, GCSE Board of Directors; Director of Strategic Initiatives, George Washington University; Founder, Planet Forward

Frank Sesno is the vice chair for the GCSE Board of Directors and served as director of the School of Media and Public Affairs at the George Washington University for 11 years. He is now the Director of Strategic Initiatives. He is an Emmy Award-winning journalist and creator of [Planet Forward](#), a user-driven web and television project that highlights innovations in sustainability. He hosts and facilitates the Planet Forward Salon Series focusing on topics such as energy policy, green jobs and food production. He has moderated events for the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Bayer CropScience, Land O'Lakes Foundation and National Geographic, among others.

GCSE STAFF

The GCSE team welcomes members to reach out and engage with the staff and looks forward to serving our members through GCSE programs, initiatives, research and events.



Aisha Ali
Communications and
Events Manager
aisha@gcseglobal.org



Shelley Kossak
Senior Advisor for
University Relations
shelley@gcseglobal.org



Mamta Mehra, Ph.D.
Research Director
mamta@gcseglobal.org



Pam Mendelson
Director of Programs
and Membership
pam@gcseglobal.org



Kathleen Parrish
Program Associate
kathleen@gcseglobal.org



Brenda Vitisa
Program Associate
brenda@gcseglobal.org



Michelle Wyman
Executive Director
michelle@gcseglobal.org