



From Research to Action: Responding to Plastic Pollution through Science
International Summit on Plastic Pollution
Long Island University
New York City
April 5 - 6, 2022

Scientific studies demonstrate that plastic pollution is accumulating at an alarming rate in our ecosystem. Recently in October 2021, the UN Environment Programme released a global assessment of the marine litter and plastic pollution crisis in the lead up to the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA 5.2) meeting in 2022. The assessment provides a scientific ground for the need to urgently act and reported sharp growth in recent years of plastic waste emissions, or leakage, into aquatic ecosystems, which is on track to nearly triple by 2040 if action is not taken to control plastic emissions from source to sea.

In December 2019, the French Embassy Office of Science and Technology, the Global Council for Science and the Environment (GCSE) and Le Mans University co-hosted the first French-US Workshop “Responding to Plastic Pollution through Science: From Research to Action” in Le Mans, France. The outcomes from the workshop established and sustained a strong French-American research cohort focused on accelerating plastic pollution research. In addition, it initiated the 2020-2021 research project led by the French-American research team focused on tracing the rapid surge of plastic pollution due to the COVID-19 pandemic, funded by the Lounsbery Foundation.

In 2022, the Global Council for Science and the Environment, the French Embassy Office of Science and Technology and Long Island University are co-hosting a transatlantic summit at Long Island University’s Brooklyn Campus to advance the ongoing work led by French and American universities and research institutions focused on effective practices to make science more accessible and engaged by decision makers. Subsequently rigorous, evidence-informed actions and decisions can be taken to curb the pace of plastic pollution today.

This summit would be an opportunity and continued effort for research institutions and universities to support the long term data, different initiatives, and future projects, with an aim to collaborate and to align work in the future that leverages the value of sharing transboundary knowledge.

Summit Objectives

1. To advance the ongoing work led by French and American academic and legal institutions focused on tracking the surge of plastic pollution during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond
2. To exchange and share knowledge, research strategies and actionable policy sets by French and American academic institutions
3. To provide data and influence decision and policies maker
4. To initiate new opportunities, and expand collaboration outside of the United States and France
5. To connect with the private and industry sector

Summit Agenda

| April 5, 2022 DAY #1 Room LLC122 | |
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| 9:30 am | Welcoming Remarks by Randy Burd, Senior Vice President, Long Island University |
| 9:35 am | Opening Keynote Speaker: Jesse Ausubel, Chair, Richard Lounsbery Foundation Outpacing Plastic Pollution through Science and Innovation |
| 9:50 am | <p>Session 1: Plastic Pollution: Policy, Practice, and Beach Monitoring during the Pandemic Research Cohort from the First Symposium hosted by Le Mans University in December 2019</p> <p>French American Research Cohort No. 1: Monitoring methods and surveying techniques for plastic pollution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Camille Lacroix, Cedre ● John Weinstein, The Citadel <p><i>Moderator: Bonnie Marie Ertel, The Citadel</i></p> <p>French American Research Cohort No. 2: Assessment of legal and regulatory aspects of plastic pollution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Carine Le Roy-Gleizes, Partner, Foley Hoag LLP ● Mary Ellen Ternes, Earth and Water Law <p><i>Moderator: Seth Jaffe, Foley Hoag LLP</i></p> |
| 10:50 am | Coffee Break |
| 11:00 am | <p>Session 2: Towards Global Monitoring Methods and Surveying of Plastic Pollution: Strategies, Methods, Data and Support to Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Amy V. Uhrin, Chief Scientist, Marine Debris Division, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ● Eric Chassignet, Director of the Center for Ocean-Atmospheric Prediction Studies ● Wolfgang Ludwig, Director of the Centre of Education and Research on Mediterranean Environments ● Audrey Hasson, Chair, GEO Blue Planet European Office at Mercator Ocean International <p><i>Moderator: Francois Galgani, Project Manager, IFREMER</i></p> |
| 12:00 pm | Lunch |
| 1:30 pm | <p>Heidi Savelli-Soderberg, Marine Litter Lead, Global Partnership on Marine Litter UN Environment Programme</p> <p><i>Armchair discussion led by Alex More, Director of the Honors College, Associate Professor, Public Health, Environmental Health, Climate and Health, Long Island University</i></p> |
| 2:00 pm | <p>Session 3: Plastic Pollution Health Impacts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mathilde Body-Malapel, Research Engineer, University of Lille ● Muriel Mercier-Bonin, Research Director, French National Institute for Agriculture, Food and Environment |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jérôme Cachot, Professor at University of Bordeaux and Researcher at EPOC Laboratory • Philip Landrigan, Director, Global Public Health Program and Global Pollution Observatory • Paul Mayewski, Director, Climate Change Institute <p><i>Moderator: Guillaume Duflos, Laboratory Manager, Physico-chemical Laboratory Unit at the French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety</i></p> |
| 3:30 pm 3:40 pm | <p>Catherine Mouneyrac, French National Agency for Research Sylvette Tourmente, Director of CNRS Office, USA</p> |
| <p>April 6, 2022 DAY #2 Room LLC122</p> | |
| 9:30 am | <p>Opening Remarks Mireille Guyader, Counselor for Science and Technology, French Embassy</p> |
| 9:40 am | <p>Session 4: Assessment of Legal, Regulatory, and Economic Aspects of Plastic Pollution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senator Angele Preville, Senator, French Parliament • Assistant Secretary Monica Medina, U.S. Department of State • Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) • Député Philippe Bolo, French House Representative <p><i>Moderator: Peter Snyder, Senior Vice President, University of Rhode Island</i></p> |
| 10:50 am | <p>Coffee Break</p> |
| 11:00 am | <p>United Nations Environment Programme: End Plastic Pollution: Towards an International Legally Binding Instrument</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maria Ivanova, University of Massachusetts, Boston • Juliet Kabera, Director General, Rwanda Environment Management Authority <p><i>Moderator: Michelle Wyman, Global Council for Science and the Environment</i></p> |
| 12:10 pm | <p>Lunch Table / small group discussions on scientific opportunities for collaboration. <i>Summit Outcomes,</i> Alex More, Long Island University Stéphane Raud, Attaché, French Embassy Michelle Wyman, Executive Director, GCSE</p> |
| 2:00 pm | <p>Remarks President Kimberly Cline, Long Island University</p> |
| 2:05 pm | <p>Reenvisioned Solutions to Plastic Pollution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ana Agostinho, Managing Director, Mirpuri Foundation • Jean-Philippe Laguerre, Director, Academia North America, Dassault Systemes <p><i>Moderator: Alex More, Long Island University</i></p> |
| 2:35 pm | <p>Closing Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Randy Burd, Senior Vice President, Long Island University |

Spring 2022 Summit on Plastic Pollution Steering Committee

Steering Committee:

1. Stéphane Raud, French Embassy in the US
2. Christine Knauss, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science
3. Fabienne Lagarde, Université Le Mans
4. François Galgani, IFREMER
5. Gilles Pinay, CNRS-INEE
6. Guillaume Duflos, National Health Security Agency
7. Mark Benfield, Louisiana State University
8. Martina Knoop, CNRS
9. Matthieu George, University of Montpellier
10. Michelle Wyman, Global Council for Science and the Environment (GCSE)
11. Peter Snyder, University of Rhode Island
12. Stuart Sandin, University of California, San Diego
13. Alex More, Long Island University

Organization:

14. Alan Gertler, Long Island University
15. Brenda Vitisia, GCSE
16. Benoit Faivre, French Embassy in the US