Opportunities for All Infrastructure Program Speakers

Session 1 (Tuesday, June 16, 2020)

Opportunities for All Fellows



Hannah Curtis is an undergraduate student at Santa Clara University majoring in Economics with a concentration in data analytics and minoring in Environmental Studies. Hannah is passionate about the environment and aims to pursue a career in sustainable economic development and environmental policy. She hopes to work towards creating a society where people and the environment are thriving together. As an "Opportunities For All" Fellow, Hannah managed a dozen high school and college-age interns.



Jayline Dixon is a Nursing major at the University of Nevada Las Vegas and U.S. Army Reservist. As an Army Reservist, Jayline works as a Surgical Technician for the military and has helped perform over 150 surgeries at Walter Reed Bethesda Medical Center. As an "Opportunities For All" Fellow for a Summer 2020 Infrastructure Careers Internship, Jayline managed a dozen high school and college-age interns.



Eduardo Marroquin is a rising senior at UC Merced majoring in Political Science and minoring in Management and Business Economics, with the goal of going to law school and becoming a lawyer. He is passionate about nature and the environment, which is why he works with local organizations to help people become more environmentally and economically sustainable. As an "Opportunities For All" Fellow for a Summer 2020, Eduardo managed a dozen high school and college-age interns.

Program Organizer



Drew Lehman, Principal, Environment and Education runs experiential learning programs nationwide to introduce members of underrepresented communities to environmental and infrastructure careers. An environmental scientist and educator by profession, his team brings together environmental and infrastructure workforce leaders (public, private and CBO's/NGO's) for candid working meetings where they share real-world experiences. Drew tracks their progress over time to advance a national workforce model that simultaneously addresses the shortfall of infrastructure and utility workers and increases the diversity in the geosciences. Mr. Lehman holds an M.A.

in Environmental Geography from Columbia University.

Session 3 (Tuesday, June 23, 2020): Water and Sewer



Steven Currie, Diversity & Inclusion HR Analyst at East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD), a California public utility that supplies high-quality drinking water, generates renewable energy, and provides wastewater treatment and pollution prevention services that protect San Francisco Bay. Steven is a workforce development strategist with extensive experience delivering large-scale, regional, and cross-sector initiatives. He holds a B.S in Public Health from Stockton University and a Master's in Public Administration from San Francisco State.



Mark Harris is an Engineer and Manager of Operations at the Hillsborough Wastewater Treatment Facility. He has been a water professional for over 30 years, working with the SFPUC and other wastewater agencies throughout the Bay area. Mark dedicates his time to advancing the careers of members of traditionally underrepresented communities through his work in California and on leadership teams of the National Water Environment Federation. He also coaches basketball with the Police Athletic League in Oakland, CA.



Jenn Jones is the Executive Director/CEO at California Water Environment Association (CWEA). Founded in 1928, CWEA is a 501(c)3 association composed of 10,400 California water professionals. The organization strives to enhance the education and effectiveness of California's wastewater professionals through training, certification, dissemination of technical information, and promotion of sound policies to benefit society through protection and enhancement of the water environment. Jen holds a B.S in Journalism & Sociology from Eastern Michigan University and an M.S In Public Service & Non-Profit Administration from DePaul University.

Session 4 (Thursday, June 25, 2020): National Perspective on Infrastructure Careers



Zachary Schafer is the CEO and Executive Director of United for Infrastructure, a non-partisan, non-profit 501c(4) organization working to repair and modernize America's infrastructure. Zachary works with labor leaders, elected officials, corporate executives, and trade association and academic leaders to find common ground and identify opportunities for progress. He holds a B.A in Economics, International Relations, and History, and a M.A in Energy and Environmental Policy, Energy, Climate Change, and Economics from the University of Delaware

Session 5 (Tuesday, June 30, 2020): Transportation and Solid Waste



Karen Philbrick is the Executive. Director of the Mineta Transportation Institute. Karen Philbrick has served as executive director of MTI since 2014. Dr. Philbrick is responsible for day-to-day administration and management and long-term financial and strategic initiatives. She holds an M.A in Social-Organizational and Counseling Psychology from Columbia University and a Ph.D in Educational Psychology from the University of Denver.



Rachel Lockett is a Senior Operations Supervisor and Operations Liaison within the Civil and Structural Engineering department at the BART. She has 25 years of experience managing Passenger Rail Systems; leading cross-functional teams in applied knowledge; rail operational functions; multi-systems functions; and systemwide rail operations control. She holds a B.A in Clinical Psychology from San Francisco State University with a Concentration in Forensics and a M.S in Business from San Jose State University (SJSU) with a Concentration in Transportation Management.

Session 5 (Tuesday, June 30, 2020): Transportation and Solid Waste



Felisia Castaneda supervises the Artist in Residence and Environmental Learning Center at Recology In her role, she oversees the educational tour program; develops and designs exhibits; creates educational opportunities for community groups, businesses, and schools; and manages public workshops in collaboration with artists-in-residence. She holds a B.A from Occidental College in Economics/Urban and Environmental Policy.



Natalie Yap is an Environmental Educator who worked at the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy on the Nurseries Education Team. She also worked on SF Environment's Environmental Justice Team to implement healthy, sustainable pest management and Zero Waste at public and affordable housing sites. She holds a dual B.S from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Sustainability Studies and Design Innovation, and Society Programs.

Session 6 (Thursday, July 2, 2020): Power and Energy Careers



Ledum Nordee is a Field Application Engineer with ABB, a leading global engineering company with business in electrification, robotics, automation and motion. Ledum is an experienced Global Product Manager and Applications Engineer with a demonstrated history of working in the energy industry. He is skilled in Electric Power, and Power Systems with strong sales and marketing experience. Ledum holds an M.S in Electrical Engineering focused in Power Systems Management from Worcester Polytechnic Institute.



Julia Hatton is the Chief Executive Director of the Rising Sun Center for Opportunity, a nonprofit organization that seeks to empower individuals to achieve environmental and economic sustainability for themselves and their communities. They offer free residential audits and services that save energy and water and provide workforce development training for youth and adults with barriers to employment. She holds a B.A in English from Northwestern University and is an alumna of the Coro Fellows Program in Public Affairs. Julia is a Certified Project Management Professional.



Brianna Acheampong is Project Engineer at POWER Engineers and the CEO of Adom Energy Engineering, an engineering consulting firm that specializes in electric system planning, analysis and design for utility, industrial and commercial customers. Brianna holds a B.S in Electrical Engineering from University at Buffalo, State University New York; a M.S in Electrical & Computer Engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute; and a M.S in Cybersecurity - Energy Systems from Georgia Institute of Technology.

Session 7 (Tuesday, July 7, 2020): Educational Pathways and Port of San Francisco



John Halpin is the Dean of Workforce Development at City College of San Francisco. John has 20 years of experience in workforce development and career services management and previously worked with the City and County of San Francisco as the Director of Program Operations. He holds a B.A in Sociology from Boston College and a Masters in Social Welfare from University of California, Berkeley.



Chris Walker, Associate Director of Career Success at KIPP NorCal Schools which operate high-achieving public schools in educationally underserved communities Chris leads all Career Integration initiatives for 4 KIPP Nor Cal High Schools Chris has held multiple positions in youth workforce organizations all over the Bay Area since 2008 and has a passion for working with opportunity youth. He holds a B.A. in Sociology from Humboldt State University.



Diane Oshima is the Deputy Director of Planning and Environment at the Port of San Francisco. Diane manages land use, urban design, historic preservation, transportation and environmental sustainability policies for the Waterfront Land Use Plan. She also engages in collaborative community planning, development and waterfront improvement projects with citizens, waterfront stakeholders, private and non-profit partners, City, regional, state and federal public agencies. She holds a B.A in Environmental Studies from the University of California Santa Barbara.

Session 8 (Thursday, July 9, 2020): Young Professionals



Eden Harris was the Energy Communications and Outreach Fellow at the University of California, San Francisco. Previously, Eden conducted research on lead pollution in soil and its connection to elevated blood lead levels across Philadelphia, presenting her findings at the 2019 American Geophysical Union Conference. She holds a B.S in Bioengineering from the University of Pennsylvania.



Lauren Ng was a Program Assistant with Environment and Education for the OFA Summer Internship, providing logistical support, developing curriculum, and working as an integral part of the program management team. She previously worked as a Sustainability Communications Fellow at the University of California, San Francisco. Lauren holds a B.A in Environmental Studies from Soka University of America.



Javier Padilla Reyes is an Environmental Justice Analyst at the California Coastal Commission. Previously, Javier worked as an Environmental Justice and Land Use Manager at the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, and he co-founded Placeholder Magazine, an independent critical voice covering contemporary arts, culture, and literature. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Geology from San Francisco State University.



Nadine Robertson is a Workforce Program Coordinator - InFLOW at Water Environment Federation and a Wastewater Treatment Operator at City of Kenner, Louisiana. She chairs the Louisiana Water Environment Association and is Founder/Executive Director of a youth foundation (Visionary Philanthropic Media Arts Foundation). Nadine holds a B.A in Criminal Justice, Sociology, Communications, and Social Welfare from the Univ. of North Florida, an AAS in Chemical Process Technology from Nunez Community College, and a degree in Industrial Engineering Technology from the Univ. of Southern Mississippi.

Special Session (Wednesday, July 15, 2020): "Making Corporate and Utility Climate Action Possible" by 3 Degrees



Rosie Sundell is the Director of Talent Management at 3Degrees Group Inc. In this role, she focuses on talent acquisition and employer branding strategies. Rosie also collaborates with a talented team on recruitment marketing, process, employer branding, candidate experience and employee engagement including systems, training, work spaces and support. She holds a degree from San Jose State University in Business, Management, and Marketing.

Session 10 (Thursday, July 16, 2020):

Community Based Organizations, Environmental Justice, and Infrastructure



Beverly Scott is the Founder and Executive Director of Introducing Youth to American Infrastructure, a national nonprofit dedicated to engaging today's youth to be tomorrow's "community builders"— American infrastructure leaders, skilled workforce, innovators, and entrepreneurs—with special emphasis on improving the active participation of people of color and women. Dr. Scott holds a Ph.D in Political Science, with a specialization in Public Administration from Howard University; and a B.A in Political Science from Fisk University.



Javon Phillips is the Executive Assistant of Young Community Developers, a 501c (3) community-based organization that provides a variety of workforce development, training, and support opportunities for residents of the Bayview Hunters Point neighborhood of San Francisco. Javon holds a B.A in Philosophy from Morehouse College.



Lisa White is the Director of Education at the UC Museum of Paleontology at UC Berkeley and a member of the American Geophysical Union (AGU). She holds a B.A in Geology/Earth Science from San Francisco State University and a Ph.D in Geological and Earth Sciences from University of California, Santa Cruz. Lisa White also chairs the AGU's <u>Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee</u>.



Lashon Amado is the Director of Opportunity Youth United, a national movement of young leaders who have decided to join forces to increase opportunity and decrease poverty in America. Lashon builds relationships with elected officials towards priority goals, mobilizes Community Action Teams, and works with national partner organizations to recruit and mobilize their members. He holds a B.A in Criminal Justice from Univ. of Massachusetts Boston and a MS in Nonprofit, Public, Organizational Management at Northeastern Univ.

Session 11 (Thursday, July 23, 2020): Resumes, Cover Letters, and LinkedIn

Presenters: Kelsey Burns and Lauren Ng



Kelsey Burns served as the OFA program Educational Advisor and has been a High School educator in Connecticut for the past 12 years, teaching Advanced Placement Psychology and History. In 2016, she was named Teacher of the Year. During her summers, Kelsey volunteers for Limited Resource Teacher Training, a non-profit that trains local teachers in remote areas. She spends one month each year working with teachers in Bwindi, Uganda to help ensure student learning is maximized. During her free time she enjoys a good cup and pretending she is competing on a Food Network program.