



FACULTY SYMPOSIUM

Date: (Friday) APRIL 19th, 2024

9am - 3:15pm

Optional Social Hour From 3:30 - 4:30pm

Location: Middlesex College

“Rooted in Purpose, Branching Out in Action: Empowering Communities Through Civic Engagement Towards a More Sustainable Future”

The first annual symposium will allow us to envision the future of higher education as it relates to the next decade’s incoming student body’s most pressing challenge - the fallout of a warming planet. Along with our faculty audience’s contributions, we will explore climate change across the disciplines – engineering, architecture, sciences, education, and others. Students bring to college an appetite for climate action, disappointed in decision-makers’ unwillingness to take bold steps, and are seeking solutions to our shared climate concerns. They will need their educational experience and, indeed, higher education itself, to respond to their anger.

9 - 9:40

Breakfast, Welcome & Plenary

Looking Ahead: Higher Education and the Next Decade of Incoming Students

A Solutions-Oriented Framework, Elizabeth Bagley (Project Drawdown)

Dr Bagley will speak to higher education’s role in providing students with experiences of and knowledge about the most impactful climate change solutions to help people and the planet thrive in unison. By making solutions both visible and possible for students, higher education itself can further demonstrate its public purpose

- **9:40 - 11:20 am - Back to Back Panels** - Moderated by John Mullen (Rowan)

Higher Education's Response to Climate Change: Students bring to college an appetite for climate action, disappointed in decision-makers' unwillingness to take bold steps, and are seeking solutions to our shared climate concerns. They will need their educational experience and, indeed, higher education itself, to respond to their anger

- **PANEL 1: 9.40 - 10:20 am - The Need for Higher Education to Evolve & the Institutional Adaptations Required to Meet the Needs of a new Student Body**

- Lauren Madden (TCNJ), Steve Miller (SEInc.org), Garrett Broad (Rowan), & Senator Andrew Zwicker

PANEL 2: 10.30 - 11:20 am – Examples of how Faculty are Currently Adapting Their Programs and Curricula to Address Climate Change

- Emily Stander (RvCC), Claire Condie (Middlesex), Kari Larsen (St. Peter's), and Theresa Vitovitch (Rutgers Student)

11:20 Break

11:45 - 12:45 pm Lunch, Opportunities to Network

- BIRDS OF A FEATHER – Audience will be seated at tables of similar interests - identified following registration in a short survey

12:45 - 3:15 pm:

There are two separate afternoon choices for the audience and panelists:

Option A provides a 2.5hr community engaged (service) learning workshop designed as a “first time course development workshop” for faculty interested in beginning their journey into community engaged (service) learning.

Option B is a 2-hour fieldtrip to for participants who wish to see climate action in practice, and some examples of careers in climate change resilience, mitigation and adaptation

Option A. Service Learning First Time Course Design Workshop (Lori Moog at Raritan Valley) - 30 min preview, then 2hr workshop

Option B. Field Trip – Interacting With Professionals who are Putting Their Education to Work to Address Climate Change – Fieldtrip Will Take Place in location TBD

3:15 pm ADJOURN

3:30 – 4:30 pm Optional Social Hour. *A celebration of Togetherness* – where we close with a cocktail hour

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