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Reporters interested in a speaker interview or covering the event with a media pass may contact Noel Sandberg at noel@wohesc.org or 206.459.0595.

WA & OR Sustainability Conference to Advance Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Higher Education

Full program for the 2019 Washington & Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference just announced.

January 2, 2019 (Seattle, WA) – Organizers of the annual Washington & Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference (WOHESC) have announced the program for the 2019 conference, taking place **February 25-27** at the University of Washington in Seattle. WOHESC 2019 will continue its work advancing **equity, diversity and inclusion** through thematic elements, speakers and attendees while aiming to examine systemic change and generate dialogue that guides and inspires action.

“WOHESC is a powerful driver of change in our region by bringing together students, faculty, and staff to exchange ideas about the current work on sustainability, social justice and diversity,” said Claudia Frere-Anderson, Director of University of Washington Sustainability. “We will propel our discussions to create real, collaborative solutions to seemingly unsurmountable challenges, and elevate existing practices while creating a new pathway for advancing sustainability and diversity in higher education.”

The conference will feature expert leaders who will share their experiences within their respective specialties on topics ranging from meaningful projects that impact the community and the environment, climate resilience, social permaculture and more. Students and attendees will learn proven best practices first-hand, and will leave with actionable takeaways as these speakers set the stage for a conference that inspires and drives change.

Day one of the conference will feature the opportunity to tour notable sustainable facilities in the city, including the **North Transfer Station**, the **Capitol Hill EcoDistrict**, **Seattle University Gardens**, **UW Surplus Facilities**, and the **Bullitt Center**. Attendees can also get an inside look at host campus University of Washington in Seattle with a **Campus Sustainability Walking Tour**.

WOHESC 2019 – Program Highlights

Plenary: Campus Sustainability, Diversity & Inclusion | Spotlight on Student and Executive Leadership

Learn how campus leaders from leading institutions are driving sustainability initiatives forward that are relevant and engaging for diverse communities and aligned with programming focused on diversity, equity, inclusion and social justice.

Plenary: Juliana v. United States: Using Constitutional Rights to Force Climate Recovery

The landmark climate lawsuit being brought by 21 youth plaintiffs against our federal government seeks a court order directing the government to stop permitting, authorizing, and subsidizing fossil fuel development that endangers their future. Meet some of the key players in this landmark case, explore the issues at stake, and be inspired by the power of legal activism.

Shades of Sustainability: Strategies for Deep, Ethical and Anti-Racist Practices in Sustainability Education

The panel will discuss how to apply an anti-racist lens to sustainability education work and unpack ways that sustainability education perpetuates white supremacy culture and the unintended consequences on our communities if this goes unexamined.

Notable Speakers:

- Laura Clise | Founder and CEO, Intentionalist
- Rickey Hall | Vice President for Minority Affairs & Diversity and University Diversity Officer, University of Washington
- Ash Awad | Chief Market Officer and President of McKinstry Essention
- Narce Rodriguez | Chief Officer, Equity Diversity and Inclusion, Pacific University
- Amy Dvorak | Director of Sustainability, Lewis & Clark College
- Meghan Fay Zahniser | Executive Director, Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)

Discounted registration options are available for university faculty, staff and students, and students may be eligible for a Conference Scholarship. Tickets range from \$50-\$250, and Pre-Registration discounted pricing ends January 25. Tickets available at wohesc.org/register or at 206-459-0595.

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Event Details

2019 Washington and Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference (WOHESC)

Monday, February 25 – Wednesday, February 27, 2019

University of Washington | Husky Union Building

Tickets available at wohesc.org/register or via phone at 206-459-0595.

About WOHESC

The Washington & Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference (WOHESC), produced by Social Enterprises, Inc., is a platform for inspiring change, facilitating action, and promoting collaboration related to sustainability within the region's higher education institutions. Conversation, workshops, and networking opportunities will empower participants to advance environmental performance at Washington and Oregon State institutions of higher education. More at wohesc.org.