

## Muir Symposium: California and the Birth of a New Environmentalism

Wednesday, March 1, 2017

California NanoSystems Institute (CNSI)

UCLA Campus

- 1:00 p.m.      Welcome  
**Glen MacDonald**, Distinguished Professor and John Muir Memorial Chair, UCLA  
Department of Geography  
**Jon Christensen**, Adjunct Assistant Professor, UCLA Institute of the Environment and  
Sustainability, UCLA Department of History, and the UCLA Center for Digital  
Humanities
- UCLA Welcoming Remarks  
**Mark Gold**, UCLA Associate Vice Chancellor for Environment and Sustainability
- Introductory Remarks: “The Challenges Ahead and Opportunities at Hand”  
**Glen MacDonald**, Distinguished Professor and John Muir Memorial Chair, UCLA  
Department of Geography
- 1:20 p.m.      Panel Discussion I: Creation of a New Environmentalism – Where Might We Go From  
Here? - The View from on the Ground  
Moderator: **Paul Ong**, Professor of Urban Planning, Social Welfare and Asian American  
Studies, UCLA  
**Fernando Cazares**, Senior Program Manager, The Trust for Public Land  
**Taylor Thomas**, Research and Policy Analyst, East Yard Communities for Environmental  
Justice  
**Belinda Faustinos**, Consultant, San Gabriel Mountains Forever  
**Alfredo Gonzalez**, Program Officer, Resource Legacy Fund  
**Roxana Tynan**, Executive Director, LAANE (Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy)
- 2:50 p.m.      Break
- 3:10 p.m.      Panel Discussion II: Creation of a New Environmentalism – Where Might We Go From  
Here? – Academic Perspectives  
Moderator: **Stephanie Pincetl**, Professor-in-Residence, Institute of the Environment and  
Sustainability, UCLA and Director, California Center for Sustainable Communities  
at UCLA  
**Michael Woo**, Dean, College of Environmental Design, California State Polytechnic  
University, Pomona  
**Laura Pulido**, Professor of Ethnic Studies and Geography, University of Oregon  
**Mary Cadenasso**, Director, Cadenasso Landscape and Urban Ecology (CLUE) Lab and  
Professor, Department of Plant Sciences, UC Davis  
**Jon Christensen**, Adjunct Assistant Professor, UCLA Institute of the Environment and  
Sustainability, UCLA Department of History, and the UCLA Center for Digital  
Humanities
- 4:25 p.m.      Break

- 4:45 p.m.      Overview and Panel Discussion  
Discussant and Moderator: **Peter Kareiva**, Director, Institute of the Environment and Sustainability, UCLA
- 5:15 p.m.      Introduction of Keynote  
**Laura E. Gómez**, Interim Dean of Social Sciences, UCLA
- Concluding Keynote – **Barbara Romero**, Deputy Mayor for City Services and former City of Los Angeles Board of Public Works Commissioner
- 5:45 p.m.      Reception to follow presentations  
CNSI Lobby

### SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

**MARY CADENASSO** is a native of Oakland, California, and after completing a biology degree at the University of Santa Clara, she worked as a botanist with an environmental consulting firm in the Bay Area before returning to graduate school at Rutgers University and earning Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolution in 1998. She was a post-doc at the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies in Millbrook NY and a founding member and co-PI of the Baltimore Ecosystem Study, LTER. She spent 2 years as a visiting scholar at the School of Forestry and Environmental Studies at Yale University before joining the UC Davis faculty in 2006. At UC Davis she is a Professor of Landscape and Urban Ecology in the Department of Plant Sciences. The primary thread that weaves through all of Mary's research is a concern with linking landscape pattern to ecosystem function and understanding how human activities alter that link. Her research spans systems and scales and she works in the savannas of California and South Africa and the metropolitan regions of Sacramento and Baltimore. She has published more than 70 peer reviewed journal articles, 25 book chapters and 4 co-authored or edited books.

**FERNANDO CAZARES** was born in México and immigrated to Los Angeles, growing up in South Central LA and attending middle and high school in the San Fernando Valley. He attended Occidental College where he earned a B.A. in Public Policy and later received a Master in Public Affairs & Urban and Regional Planning from Princeton University. His professional career includes redevelopment, local government, U.S. Congress, the 2012 presidential election. He joined the environmental movement in 2013 when he ran Latino leadership outreach for Voces Verdes at the Natural Resources Defense Council where he later became Los Angeles Coordinator for Urban Solutions. In 2016, he joined The Trust for Public Land as California Manager for Climate-Smart Cities where he coordinates partnerships with the Cities of Los Angeles and Richmond.

**JON CHRISTENSEN** is an adjunct assistant professor in the Institute of the Environment and Sustainability, the Department of History, and the Center for Digital Humanities at the University of California, Los Angeles. He is a journalist-in-residence at the Institute of the Environment and Sustainability, a founder of the Laboratory for Environmental Narrative Strategies in the IoES, and a senior fellow in UCLA's cityLAB. He is editor of LENS Magazine. He is also a partner and strategic adviser at Stamen Design, an interactive design studio specializing in mapping, data visualization, and strategic communications. And he is a columnist at LA Observed, a contributor to other newspapers and magazines, and a commentator on radio and television. Jon was executive director of the Bill Lane Center for the American West, an interdisciplinary center for research, teaching, new media, and journalism at Stanford University before coming to UCLA. He has been an environmental journalist and science writer for more than 30 years. His work has appeared in The New York Times, Nature, High Country News, and many other newspapers, magazines, journals, and radio and television shows. Jon was a Knight Journalism Fellow at Stanford in 2002-2003 and a Steinbeck Fellow at San Jose State University in 2003-2004, before returning to Stanford to work on a Ph.D. in environmental history and the history of science. He was editor of Boom: A Journal of California, a quarterly magazine published by the University of California Press, from 2013 to 2016. He is currently finishing a book entitled "Critical Habitat: A History of Thinking with Things in Nature" and is engaged in multidisciplinary research on equity and the environment. He was a co-coordinator of a Mellon Sawyer Seminar on "Environmental Humanities: Emergence and Impacts" at UCLA, which resulted in *A Companion to the Environmental Humanities*, an edited volume of essays forthcoming from Routledge.

**BELINDA FAUSTINOS** has over 30 years of experience working on environmental and social justice issues. She served as the Executive Officer of the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC), a California State Agency for 10 years and as Deputy Director of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for over 17 years. She retired in May of 2011 after 40 years as a California State employee. In September of 2016 Assembly Speaker Rendon appointed her to the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency. Secretary of Interior Ken Salazar appointed her to the National Park System Advisory Board in 2010 and in November of 2011 as Co-Chair of the American Latino Heritage Expert Scholars Panel. In August of 2011 she was appointed by Senator Steinberg as an alternate California Coastal Commissioner. Her appointment to the National Park Service Advisory Board was extended in 2014 by Secretary Jewell. She serves on two local advisory committees as a Los Angeles County Board of Supervisor's appointee and on the board of several nonprofit organizations. In May of 2012 she established her firm, BVF Consulting, Inc. and has one primary client, San Gabriel Mountains Forever (SGMF). As a result of the work of SGMF in October of 2014, President Obama designated portions of the San Gabriel Mountains as a National Monument. Her work with this coalition was instrumental in the formation of two new coalitions, one around transportation policy – EnviroMetro and the other for parks and open space – #OurParks LA where she serves as a member of their respective steering committees.

**MARK GOLD** is the Associate Vice Chancellor for Environment and Sustainability at UCLA. His research focuses on integrated water management, coastal resource management, and urban sustainability. He facilitates environmental research, helps lead campus-wide sustainability efforts, and spearheads UCLA's first ever Grand Challenge – Sustainable LA: a path to transition Los Angeles towards 100% renewable energy and 100% local water while enhancing ecosystem and human health by 2050. In addition, Mark serves on Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti's Water Task Force and is a city representative on the Metropolitan Water District. Prior to working at UCLA, Mark was the President of the environmental group, Heal the Bay, for 18 years. Mark received his Bachelors and Masters in Biology and his doctorate in Environmental Science and Engineering from UCLA.

**LAURA E. GÓMEZ** was appointed Interim Dean of the UCLA College's Division of Social Sciences in June 2016. She is a professor at the UCLA School of Law, where she served as Vice Dean from 2013 to 2015. She holds zero-percent appointments in two Social Sciences departments: Sociology and Chicana/Chicano Studies. She was the co-founder and the first co-director of the UCLA's Critical Race Studies Program. She began teaching at UCLA in 1994. In order to raise her son near his grandparents, she joined the University of New Mexico faculty in 2005, where she held a 75 percent appointment in law and a 25 percent appointment in American studies. She returned to UCLA in 2011. Gómez's research spans the fields of law and society, critical race theory and the sociology of race, and her articles have appeared in journals including the Law & Society Review and the Annual Review of Law and Social Science. She is the author of three books: *Misconceiving Mothers: Legislators, Prosecutors and the Politics of Prenatal Drug Exposure* (1997) and *Manifest Destinies: The Making of the Mexican American Race* (2007), and *Mapping "Race": Critical Approaches to Health Disparities Research* (2013, co-edited with Nancy López). Her courses have included constitutional law, criminal law, civil procedure, race and American law, and law and society. Gómez is past president of the Law and Society Association, an international, interdisciplinary scholars association. She received an A.B. from Harvard in Social Studies, a J.D. from Stanford Law School, and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Sociology from Stanford University.

**ALFREDO GONZALEZ** leads efforts across programs to broaden and diversify the conservation constituency with a specific focus on actively engaging urban, Latino, underserved, and younger Californians. Previously, he served as director of the South Coast and Desert Region for The Nature Conservancy of California, managing programs in Southern California including a Los Angeles-based urban strategies project and a renewable energy initiative. He also oversaw land protection and habitat enhancement efforts in the Tehachapi Mountains, Riverside County, San Diego County, and the watersheds of the Santa Clara and Armargosa Rivers. Prior to that, he served in senior government affairs positions for the Southern California Association of Governments and the County of Santa Clara, and was a policy analyst for the Latino Issues Forum. Alfredo received a BA in Communications from UC Berkeley and an MA in Public Administration from California State University, Los Angeles.

**PETER KAREIVA** is the director of the Institute of the Environment and Sustainability at UCLA. Before coming to UCLA, Kareiva was the Chief Scientist and Vice President of The Nature Conservancy, where he was responsible for maintaining the quality of over 600 staff engaged in conservation science in 36 countries around the world. He is also Chair of the Board for Science for Nature and People Partnership (SNAPP), a new scientific collaboration among the Conservancy, the Wildlife Conservation Society and the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis that is designed to rapidly respond to critical questions involving nature and human well-being. Kareiva studied political science and zoology at Duke University for his bachelor's degree and ecology and applied mathematics at Cornell University for his Ph.D. He is the author of more than 150 scientific publications and author or editor of eight books, including a textbook on conservation science. His current research concerns the connection between human activities and changes in ecosystem services, as part of the Natural Capital Project, which he co-founded with Gretchen Daily, Steve Polasky, and Taylor Ricketts. Kareiva is also studying the linkage between the sustainability initiatives of global corporations and their impacts on ecosystems, as well as their own corporate performance; the environmental impact and value of aquaculture for food production; and the value of nature for people in urban areas. He is a member of the National Academy of Science and a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

**GLEN M. MACDONALD** is the John Muir Memorial Chair of Geography, Director of the White Mountain Research Center and a UCLA Distinguished Professor. He is a former UC Presidential Chair and former Director of the UCLA Institute of the Environment and Sustainability. He is the UCLA Co-PI for the Department of the Interior's Southwest Climate Science Center. Glen's research focuses on climate change, its causes and its impact on the environment and society. He has worked in North America, Eurasia and Africa. A particular focus of his research has been on water resources and society in western North America and the global semi-arid regions. He is known for work on the concept of the 'Perfect Drought'. He has also extensively researched the response of the Arctic to climate change and how this will effect global carbon balance and climate. In recent years he has been working on the legacy of John Muir and the development of new models of environmentalism. Glen is the author of over 150 scientific articles, popular press pieces and an award winning book on biogeography. He has also published Op/Eds in the Los Angeles Times and San Francisco Chronicle. He speaks widely to the public and policy makers and has provided presentations to a number of California state agencies and the US Senate Appropriations Committee. Glen MacDonald is a Member of the National Academy of Sciences, a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a Fellow of the American Geophysical Union, a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a Guggenheim Fellow and a Rockefeller Bellagio Resident. He has received the James J. Parsons Distinguished Career Award and the Henry C. Cowles Award for Excellence in Publication, the University of Helsinki Medal, a Visiting Fellowship and Life Membership at Clare Hall Cambridge, and a Visiting Fellowship at St. Catherine's College, Oxford. He has been awarded distinguished teaching awards at McMaster University, Canada and UCLA.

**PAUL ONG** is professor of Urban Planning, Social Welfare and Asian American Studies at UCLA. Professor Ong has done research on the labor market status of minorities and immigrants,

displaced high-tech workers, work and welfare, transportation access, and environmental justice. He is currently engaged in several projects, including studies on equitable sustainable development, gentrification and displacement, the racial wealth gap, and minority political participation. He is the senior editor of *AAPI Nexus*, a journal focusing on Asian Americans and Pacific Islander, and the director of the Center for Neighborhood Knowledge. Dr. Ong has served as an advisor to the U.S. Bureau of the Census, the British government, and the California Department of Social Services and the state Department of Employment Development, as well as the Wellness Foundation and the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

**STEPHANIE PIN CETL** is Professor-in-Residence at the UCLA Institute of the Environment and Sustainability and Director of the California Center for Sustainable Communities at UCLA. Dr. Pincetl conducts research on environmental policies and governance and analyzes how institutional rules construct how natural resources and energy are used to support human activities. She is expert in bringing together interdisciplinary teams of researchers across the biophysical and engineering sciences with the social sciences to address problems of complex urban systems and environmental management. Dr. Pincetl has written extensively about land use in California, environmental justice, habitat conservation efforts, urban metabolism, water and energy policy. She has received funding from the National Science Foundation to conduct collaborative research with biophysical scientists on urban ecology and water management in Los Angeles, as well as from the California Energy Commission to develop a methodology to understand energy use in communities in California coupled with social policy considerations (see [www.energyatlas.ucla.edu](http://www.energyatlas.ucla.edu)). Her book, *Transforming California, the Political History of Land Use in the State*, is the definitive work on land use politics and policies of California. She is currently co-lead on the urban chapter of the National 2nd State of the North American Carbon Cycle Report, due out in early 2017. Dr. Pincetl has a Ph.D. in Urban Planning from UCLA. She spent 10 years working in the nonprofit environmental justice sector and has taught in the Masters of Public Affairs at the Institut de Sciences Politiques in Paris. Pincetl is the Faculty Director of the Los Angeles Regional Collaborative for Climate Action and Sustainability (LARC), a Los Angeles regional organization dedicated to working across jurisdictions to achieve a better future. She was instrumental in making the Institute of the Environment and Sustainability at UCLA its institutional home.

**LAURA PULIDO** is professor of American Studies and Ethnicity researches race, environmental justice, Chicana/o Studies, critical human geography, and Los Angeles. She studies how various groups experience racial and class oppression, how these experiences differ among particular communities of color, and how they mobilize to create a more socially-just world. Asking such questions, Professor Pulido has done extensive work in the field of environmental justice, social movements, labor studies, and radical tourism. Currently, she is working on several projects. First, she is exploring what it means for Los Angeles to be built over the communities and cultures of previous residents - both indigenous and Mexican. In particular, she is examining the landscape as a way of connecting the city to its history of racial violence. Second, she is researching environmental racism and the failure of the state to protect communities of color from severe pollution. Drawing on critical race theory, she is investigating exactly how and



where the state fails in this neoliberal moment and what alternatives might be available to activists.

**BARBARA ROMERO** currently serves as the Deputy Mayor of City Services for the City of Los Angeles. Romero spent a decade working for the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, where she was Chief of Urban Projects and the Watershed Planning Division. As the liaison to local, state, and federal legislators on park planning issues, Romero handled legislative policies and project funding strategies, and managed millions of dollars for urban park projects. She also focused on identifying, developing and implementing multiple park development, restoration, and acquisition projects primarily in urban areas along the Upper Los Angeles River and tributaries.

**TAYLOR THOMAS** is a research and policy analyst at East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice and a born and bred Long Beach local. Having had an overly compassionate grandmother and an underserved community, she has been involved in social justice movements since the age of 15. She has organized for quality and affordable education, as well as homeless rights. With the guidance and support of Great Leap and EndOil, Taylor, along with four other community members, co-wrote and performed a theater play called “The Air We Breathe,” which chronicled what it’s like living in Long Beach and dealing with air pollution. She aims to combine art, sustainability, compassion, and social justice into a movement of love. She is a graduate of Centro Shalom's Advanced Organizing Institute 2013 cohort, where she mentored under veteran organizers, and collaborated with other local community leaders to build a network of grassroots organizers in Long Beach. She was also a Justice Fellow with Californians for Justice in 2013. She is currently earning her B.A. in Human Development at CSULB, and is a member and Research and Policy Analyst with EYCEJ. She can often be found at her favorite coffee shop enjoying vegan desserts.

**ROXANA TYNAN** joined LAANE (Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy) in 2001 and served as deputy director for six years until assuming the position of executive director in February 2012. Ms. Tynan has been instrumental in the expansion of LAANE’s work and impact over the past decade. She has also played a leading role in developing LAANE’s community organizing department, mentoring dozens of young organizers and creating one of the region’s most effective grassroots recruitment and advocacy programs. Prior to joining LAANE, Ms. Tynan served as economic development deputy to L.A. City Councilmember Jackie Goldberg, working to encourage responsible economic growth, while organizing with District residents. Ms. Tynan worked as an organizer for the Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union in Las Vegas and Los Angeles. A graduate of Yale, she is bilingual in English and Spanish. She lives with her husband and two children in Mt. Washington.

**MICHAEL WOO** is Dean of the College of Environmental Design at Cal Poly Pomona, one of the main producers of architects, landscape architects, graphic designers, and urban planners working in Southern California. The first trained urban planner and the first Asian American elected to the Los Angeles City Council, Woo represented 235,000 constituents in the Hollywood area, spearheading the fight for the Hollywood Redevelopment Plan that laid the

groundwork for Hollywood's current revitalization and playing a key role in the selection of the route and the station locations for the Metro Red Line subway. After eight years, Woo gave up his City Council seat to run for Mayor of Los Angeles, ultimately receiving 46 percent of the citywide vote in the 1993 mayoral run-off election. He subsequently was appointed by Mayor Villaraigosa to the Los Angeles City Planning Commission where he served for six and a half years.

Woo has participated in many innovative projects including the Los Angeles market launch of Flexcar, the city's first car-sharing operation, for which he was the general manager. Before joining Cal Poly Pomona, Woo was a consultant to ClimatePlan, the statewide advocacy group fighting climate change by reducing urban sprawl and unnecessary driving. In the nonprofit sector, Woo chaired the national board of directors of Smart Growth America for 10 years and for 20 years headed the board of directors of the nonprofit organization that runs the Hollywood Farmers Market, the largest certified farmers market in the City of Los Angeles. At the state level, Woo was appointed to the California Parks Forward Commission, an independent blue-ribbon panel that recommended new directions to make the state parks system more relevant to California's increasingly diverse and urban population. Last year, Woo was invited to participate in the jury selecting a new design for Pershing Square in downtown Los Angeles.

A graduate of the University of California, Santa Cruz, Woo earned his Master of City Planning degree from UC Berkeley where he was a student of former San Francisco planning director Allan Jacobs and T.J. Kent, Jr., cofounder of People for Open Space. He was a Fellow of the Institute of Politics at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. Although Woo is a full-time administrator at Cal Poly Pomona, he occasionally re-enters the classroom as a teacher. Last year Woo taught a seminar on "Redesigning Los Angeles," and in Spring 2017 will be teaching a senior seminar on written and oral communications for graphic designers. A native of Los Angeles, Woo has lived in the Silver Lake district since 1980.