

“Increasing Climate Ambition through Capacity Building Among Youth and Educators”

National University of Singapore – Accepted Side Event for COP25

Date: Thursday, 12 December 2019

Time: 18:30 – 20:00

Room: 1

Synopsis: Climate change is one of the most pervasive and threatening issues of our time. Given the increased focus on the need to respond to our changing climate, climate change education has become increasingly important in many countries. This session will highlight evidence-based case studies of such practices that advance climate action and ambition while promoting the effective and lasting implementation of the Paris Agreement. This will be an opportunity to inspire and empower youth and educators to increase climate ambition at a local and national level.

Speakers include:

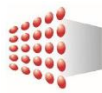
1. Mr Eric Bea, Research Assistant, Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law and Alumni of Environmental Law Students Association, NUS Law (ELSA) & NUS delegate to COP24
2. Professor Gregg Walker, Oregon State University; Research and Independent Non-Governmental Organisations (RINGO) Steering Committee member and representative to the Paris Committee on Capacity Building
3. Mr Terry Godwaltdt, Executive Director, The Centre for Global Education
4. Ms Sarah Flynn, Program Director, TakingITGlobal Youth Association
5. Mr Zhang Jian, Deputy Secretary, Global Alliance of Universities on Climate
6. Ms Zhang Jiaxuan, Senior Student, Tsinghua University
7. Ms Susana Guerreiro, Senior Programme Officer/consultant, Asian Institute of Technology

Moderator: Ms Melissa Low, Research Fellow, Energy Studies Institute, NUS

Co-organizer for opening remarks: Ms Grazyna Pulawska, Senior Project Manager, Asia-Europe Environment Forum (ENVforum), Asia-Europe Foundation

Programme

6.00pm	Registration
6.30pm	<p>Opening Remarks by Moderator: Ms Melissa Low, ESI NUS; co-organizers: Asia-Europe Foundation etc.</p> <p>Welcome remarks by Ms Grazyna Pulawska, Senior Project Manager, Asia-Europe Environment Forum (ENVforum), Asia-Europe Foundation</p>
6.40pm	<p>Eric Bea, Research Assistant, Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law</p> <p><i>Climate Change Negotiations Capacity Building in Singapore</i> The National University of Singapore ran two six-week climate change negotiations training workshops for youth and educators in 2018 and 2019. The training was organised by the Energy Studies Institute (ESI), National University of Singapore together with the Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law, NUS Law and conducted in partnership with the NUS Office of Environmental Sustainability and Ridge View Residential College (RVRC), the National Youth Council Singapore and the Ministry of Education Singapore. This presentation will give an overview of the workshop programme, highlights reflections and ideas generated by participants, and shares next steps.</p>
6.50pm	<p>Gregg Walker, Professor of communication, Oregon State University</p> <p><i>Universities Network for Climate Capacity – Role & Next Steps</i> The Universities Network for Climate Capacity (UNCC) was established following COP22 in Marrakech. It recognizes that capacity building is a cross-cutting issue and there is a need for global organisation of higher education institutions. This presentation will also touch on the role of the Research & Independent Non-Government Organisation (RINGO) constituency in the UNFCCC and participation in the Paris Committee on Capacity Building.</p>
7.00pm	<p>Terry Goldwaldt, Executive Director, The Centre for Global Education Sarah Flynn, Program Director, TakingITGlobal Youth Association</p> <p><i>#Decarbonize #Decolonize Youth Climate Change Project: Global Mobilization through Technology</i> Bringing together over 10,000 young people from the Global North and South, through online dialogue, research, and action, the #Decarbonize project utilizes a talanoa framework to facilitate youth understanding of the local, regional, national, and global intersections of climate change, oceans and waterways.</p>
7.10pm	<p>Zhang Jian, Deputy Secretary, Global Alliance of Universities on Climate</p> <p><i>Mission and Action of Global Alliance of Universities on Climate (GAUC)</i></p>






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	An introduction to the Mission and Action of Global Alliance of Universities on Climate (GAUC), which was established in May 2019. The member universities of the Alliance include Australian National University, the University of California Berkeley, the University of Cambridge, Imperial College London, the London School of Economics and Political Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the University of Tokyo, Tsinghua University, the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, the Indian Institute of Science, Sciences Po, and Stellenbosch University.
7.20pm	<p>Zhang Jiaxuan, Youth Delegate of Tsinghua University</p> <p><i>Low-carbon Transformation and Student Action in Tsinghua University</i> An introduction to the efforts of Tsinghua University, as the initiator of Global University Alliance on Climate (GUAC), in building a low-carbon campus.</p>
7.30pm	<p>Susana Guerreiro, Senior Programme Officer, Asian Institute of Technology, Co-founder Sustainable Energy Youth Network (SEYN)</p> <p><i>“With your own two hands” - The Youth Energy Academy: A practical action approach to youth engagement in climate change</i> Susana will question current understandings and practices of youth empowerment and education and will introduce the concept of the Youth Energy Academy (YEA). The YEA is a unique and disruptive training programme that was implemented in Thailand last October, with the support of the Konrad-Adenauer Stiftung (KAS), aiming to equip young people with the hard and soft tools to start their own decentralized renewable energy projects. By blending theory and practice and through the creation of spaces for exploration, playful and purposeful social interaction, participants from various backgrounds and nationalities, understood the role of energy in community development, discussed how to turn ideas into actionable projects, and got hands-on experience in building their own solar energy systems. In the end, participants left with the “can-do” attitude and the inspiration to take a leading role in their communities.</p>
7.40pm	Moderated Q&A for 15 minutes
7.55pm	Closing Remarks by Moderator
8.00pm	Event Close




For queries, please write in to esimlyx@nus.edu.sg. Thank you.

Speaker Bios:

	<p>Eric Bea is a graduate of the Faculty of Law at the National University of Singapore (NUS) (LLB, Class of 2019).</p> <p>He is also currently a researcher with the Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law at NUS Law, where his work includes both research on the making of international climate change law, with a specific focus on the sustainable development mechanism and how it can translate to other environmental issues and natural resources; as well as capacity-building for youth and young professionals, with other partners in Singapore's environment scene.</p> <p>While a student, Eric was a Vice-President, and later, Advisor to the President, in the Environmental Law Students Association (ELSA), a NUS Law interest group which seeks to encourage students to get involved in environmental law and policy. He was also part of the student delegation who attended the COP24 conference in Katowice, Poland as observers.</p>
	<p>Grazyna Pulawska joined ASEF in February 2010. She is responsible for the Asia-Europe Environment Forum programme, which aims to strengthen co-operation between Asian and European stakeholders in the field of environmental and sustainable development.</p> <p>Grazyna worked for the Ministry of Economy in Poland, working in the field of regional development. She has also been active in the NGO sector, mainly with the Service Civil International network in Belgium and the Development Wheel, a Bangladesh-based NGO specialising in supporting local entrepreneurship and fair trade.</p> <p>She received her Master's degree in International Relations through a joint programme between the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris and the Warsaw School of Economics.</p>
	<p>Gregg Walker is professor of communication at Oregon State University and an internationally recognized expert in negotiation, mediation, conflict management and resolution. On campus, he teaches courses in conflict management, negotiation, mediation, international negotiation, environmental conflict resolution, science communication, sustainable development and argumentation.</p>

	<p>Off campus, Professor Walker conducts training programs on conflict management, designs collaborative public participation processes, facilitates collaborative learning community workshops about natural resource and environmental policy issues, and researches community-level collaboration efforts.</p> <p>He has served as a Fulbright Senior Specialist in the fields of Peace and Conflict Resolution. He is an advisor to the National Collaboration Cadre of the USDA-Forest Service and on the roster of the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution. He also is co-director of the Climate Change Project for Mediators Beyond Borders International and Chair of the Climate Change Negotiations Working Group for the International Environmental Communication Association. In these roles he attends most of the United Nations climate change negotiation meetings and conducts related research on those negotiations.</p> <p>Professor Walker holds Ph.D. and M.A. degrees in Communication Studies from the University of Kansas and B.A. and B.S. degrees in Speech Communication, Sociology, and History from the University of Minnesota.</p>
	<p>Melissa Low joined the Energy Studies Institute in September 2010. She holds a Master of Laws (LLM) in Climate Change Law and Policy (with distinction) from the University of Strathclyde and a Master of Science in Environmental Management from the National University of Singapore. For her NUS Master thesis on past and contemporary proposals on equity and differentiation in shaping the 2015 climate agreement, Melissa was awarded the Shell Best Dissertation Award 2013. She received her Bachelor of Social Sciences in Geography degree (with Honors) and a minor in Urban Studies from the National University of Singapore in 2010.</p> <p>Melissa has participated in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of Parties (COP) talks since December 2009 and is the Designated Contact Point for NUS's accreditation to the UNFCCC. She was recently appointed to the nine-member Steering Committee of the Research and Independent Non-Governmental Organisation (RINGO) Constituency under the UNFCCC. Her current research areas are on the implications of the Paris Agreement and countries' progress in meeting their climate pledges.</p>

	<p>Outside of work, Melissa co-founded an eco-friendly/social book swap movement in Singapore in 2011, called Books and Beer. She is also an active member of the National Youth Council Singapore's INSPIRIT community for young working adults who serve as advocates for youth interests and champion youth causes. She is currently a Chief Curator for the NYC's Young ChangeMakers Programme, a youth-for-youth initiative that provides a dynamic space for social innovators to convene, collaborate and curate ideas to create collective impact on society.</p>
	<p>Sarah Flynn is the Program Director with TakingITGlobal Youth Association. She is an academic, community organizer, and change maker that believes in education as a relationship between our classrooms, lived experiences, and action. When she is not connecting and mobilizing youth with innovative solutions to global challenges, she enjoys exploring the Canadian outdoors with her son.</p>
	<p>Terry Godwaldt is the Executive Director of the Centre for Global Education. From Singapore to Seattle, Australia to Alberta, Terry helps educators all over the world to integrate authentic, globally-minded learning experiences that empower students to see themselves as global citizens addressing the world's most challenging questions. For his work in reshaping the classroom, Terry has been awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee award and the ASCD award for Innovative Teaching.</p>

	<p>Zhang Jian is the Deputy Secretary-general of the Global Alliance of Universities on Climate (GAUC), the Vice President of Institute of Climate Change and Sustainable Development (ICCSA) at Tsinghua University, and the Executive Director of the Low Carbon Energy Research Center at Tsinghua University.</p>
	<p>Zhang Jiaxuan is a senior student in the Global Environment Program in the School of Environment, Tsinghua University. Jiaxuan has enriched internship experiences in the field of climate change and energy transition in both the public and private sector. She is currently the student assistant at institute of Climate Change and Sustainable Development (ICCSA). Jiaxuan also plays an active part in organizing student activities. She once served as the Vice Chair of the Student Green Association in the university.</p>
	<p>Susana Guerreiro has a diverse set of experiences on the climate change and energy sector. She spent some years working with Climate Parliament, a UK-based organization, where she was responsible for implementing a EU-funded project on capacity building for policy makers on climate change and energy access for the poor in Africa, Caribbean and the Pacific. More recently, Susana's work has focused on social change processes in the energy sector, namely citizen-led and community energy projects in Indonesia and Portugal. She managed the operations and communications of the first renewable energy citizen cooperative in Portugal. In 2015 she co-founded the Sustainable Energy Youth Network (SEYN), a non-profit dedicated to empower youth to implement energy projects and currently collaborates with the Asian Institute of Technology as a consultant/senior programme officer.</p>



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