

From: Bruce Riordan bruceriodan@berkeley.edu
Subject: News from the Berkeley Climate Change Network May 25
Date: May 26, 2023 at 7:09 AM
To: Bruce Riordan bruceriodan@berkeley.edu



NEWS FROM THE BERKELEY CLIMATE CHANGE NETWORK (BCCN) - MAY 25

<https://bccn.berkeley.edu/>

Bruce Riordan, Director

Unsubscribe?

Have News to Share?

bruceriodan@berkeley.edu

1. "I've Never Seen Anything Like That Here" - Record rain after drought in Italy
2. Cool Climate Program: Institute for Parks, People and Biodiversity
3. Hey Climate Break! (@Berkeley Law)
4. Major NSF Climate Funding Opportunity: The Convergence Accelerator
5. Poetry and Climate: John Shoptaw Now and a Possible Fall Science-Poetry Event
6. Berkeley's First New School/College in 50 years — College of Computing, Data Science and Society (CDSS)
7. Big New York Climate Exchange Launches, led by Stony Brook University
8. New from the California-China Climate Institute (Berkeley Law and RCNR)
9. BCCN Climate Calendar

1. **["I've Never Seen Anything Like That Here"](#)** — Record rain after drought in Italy
Some parts of Emilia-Romagna received [half their annual rain in 36 hours](#) - this after two years of severe drought. In the U.S., we have seen 7 billion-dollar weather/climate disasters Jan-April 2023, the second highest Jan-April number ever. Last month [25 inches of rain fell at the Ft. Lauderdale Airport in 24 hours](#), smashing the previous record of 14.5 inches!

2. **Cool Climate Program Spotlight: [Institute for Parks, People and Biodiversity](#)**
Director Patrick Gonzalez, now back at Berkeley from the White House, is doing some great climate-related projects. Here's one:

Preventing Catastrophic Wildfire Under Climate Change in National Parks in California.
Unnatural accumulation of fuel by outdated policies of suppression of all fires, including natural fires, and the heat of climate change have increased burned area across the western U.S. Yet, managers still use unattainable pre-European settlement conditions as a reference condition for fire management. In response, I have been conducting research to spatially analyze fire risk under climate change in Yosemite, Sequoia, Kings Canyon, and Lassen Volcanic National Parks. The data will enable parks to target prescribed burning and managed wildland fire and effectively prevent catastrophic wildfire under climate change. See more about the Institute [here](#).

3. **Hey Climate Break! (@Berkeley Law)**

Climate Break brings you stories of climate progress and interviews with climate

innovators from California and around the world, in under 2 minutes. Climate Break's solution-oriented, radio-ready shows are produced by Berkeley students and climate experts at the Center for Law, Energy, and Environment (CLEE) and KALW 91.7 FM, in conjunction with our School of Journalism. Check out the latest and subscribe at [Apple Podcasts](#) or at www.climatebreak.org. Want to get your project on the air? Buzz cmiddleton@berkeley.edu, ken.alex@berkeley.edu, or elkind@berkeley.edu.

4. Major NSF Climate Funding Opportunity: The Convergence Accelerator

Panos Vagenas, our Deputy Director of Research Development in BRDO, will run a 90-minute [ZOOM webinar](#) next week (Weds May 31 2 pm) for interested faculty. BRDO has already received substantial interest in the program and all tracks relate to climate. Here is [BRDO's announcement](#) with program info. See also the [NSF Convergence Accelerator web site](#).

5. Poetry and Climate: John Shoptaw Now and a Possible Fall Science-Poetry Event

[John Shoptaw](#), prize-winning poet in the English Department, was recently featured in John Fiege's environmental podcast "Chrysalis" reading and discussing his gorgeous poem "[Near Earth Object](#)" which connects climate change with the Chicxulub Crater-Asteroid. [Hear John here!](#)

For the future, we are exploring a possible Fall campus event to cross-mingle the forthcoming **5th National Climate Assessment**, the near-ready poetry anthology **Dear Human at the Edge of Time: Poems on Climate Change in the United States**, and who knows what else. Interested? rugg@berkeley.edu or brucerjordand@berkeley.edu.

6. Berkeley's First New School/College in 50 years — College of Computing, Data Science and Society (CDSS)

Last week, the Regents [approved the new CDSS](#), headed by Dean Jennifer Chayes. Want see how CDSS data science experts are already collaborating with climate scientists across our campus? Check out this highly informative slide talk [Tackling Climate Change with Machine Learning](#) put together by Chayes and VCR Kathy Yelick (starts at the 10:33:00 mark). Bonus points: We now have 15 schools and colleges. Who were the last two new schools — approved in 1968 and 1969?

7. Big New York Climate Exchange Launches, led by Stony Brook University

Last month, a public-private-non profit team, led by Stony Brook University, was selected to build the [New York Climate Exchange](#) on Governor's Island. SBU's key partners include University of Washington, Georgia Tech, IBM, Boston Consulting Group, Moody's and a raft of New York area non-profit and public entities. Major \$\$\$ from Simons Foundation (\$100M match) and Bloomberg Philanthropies. The purpose is to create world-class climate solutions for New York and spread them globally.

8. New from the California-China Climate Institute (Berkeley Law and RCNR)

[Renewable Energy Pathways to Carbon Neutrality in China \(May 2023\)](#) In collaboration with UC San Diego

[https://www.berkeley.edu/](#). In collaboration with UC San Diego and Tsinghua University, this report defines feasible and efficient renewable energy pathways, by decade, to support a more effective and equitable clean energy transition for China. This work uncovers deployment priorities across time and space and provides recommendations for near- and long-term action.

9. BCCN Climate Calendar:

- [California Climate Adaptation Forum July 31-Aug 2 \(Pomona\)](#)
- Simons Foundation - [International collaborative on Solar Radiation Management](#) (\$1.5M, LOIs due May 31)
- [X-Prize for Wildfire](#) - "Innovate across firefighting techs to detect and suppress fires." August/October deadlines
- [Economics of Energy and Environment Virtual Exec Education Course](#) - Energy Institute at Haas June 8-9 & 12-13.

Bruce Riordan

Berkeley Climate Change Network

Funded by: RCNR, CIEE, VCRO, Law, CED, Haas, Goldman, SPH, Chemistry, CDSS, Engineering, LBNL

bruceriordan@berkeley.edu

510.306.0130

