



Pennsylvania Environmental
Resource Consortium

THE KEYSTONE OF A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE 2022 FALL CONFERENCE

Hosted by Penn State Sustainability Institute

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AGENDA

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| 8 – 9 am | Registration and coffee | |
| 9 – 9:15 | Welcome from Ken Shultes, PERC’s President | |
| 9:15 – 9:25 | Celebration of Josh Hooper, Retiring Executive Director | |
| 9:25 – 10 | Keynote from Malcolm Kenyatta: Pennsylvania’s Climate Justice Present & Future | |
| 10 – 10:45 | Advancing Sustainability Initiatives in Challenging Economic Times | Concurrent Student Track – Youth Climate Advocacy Workshop (HUB 129ABC) |
| 11 – 11:45 | Campus Electrification | |
| 11:45 – 1:45 | Student Poster Session and lunch | |
| 12:15 – 1:15 | Sustainability Showcase and lunch | |
| 1:45 – 2:30 | Community Partnerships | |
| 2:30 – 2:45 | Break | |
| 2:45 – 3:30 | Climate Action Think Tank | |
| 3:30 | Closing remarks | |

GRATITUDE

Thanks to our host: [Penn State's Sustainability Institute](#) for helping us to find space for this conference on campus. Thanks especially to PERC President Ken Shultes (Dickinson College), Peter Buck (Penn State), and Josh Hooper who worked tirelessly to make this conference happen, and to Executive Committee members Shaunna Barnhart (Bucknell University), Rich Bowden (Allegheny College), and Ben Culbertson (Shippensburg University), Mike Mumper (Lebanon Valley College), Tom Simpson (Franklin and Marshall College), and PERC Assistant Director Audree Khalishah (Dickinson College). And to student interns and staff from Penn State, as well as Webster's Books and Café for catering this event. And finally, thanks to all the speakers for giving so generously of their time.

SPONSORS

The conference is made possible by PERC Member Institutions, Sustaining Annual Sponsor [Sodexo](#) and Gold Annual Sponsors [NextEra Energy Solutions](#) and [Nania Energy Advisors](#). Thank you.

SESSION INFORMATION

Speaker bios can be found later in the packet.

Advancing Sustainability Initiatives in Challenging Economic Times

Features Mike Mumper from Lebanon Valley College and speakers from Nania Energy and Schneider Electric who will discuss ways to promote Climate Action Plan projects and other sustainability initiatives not only despite tight budgets and inflation, but because of them!

Campus Electrification

Our panel session on climate action planning strategies to achieve decarbonization will be informative and interactive. The session will be led by Larry Eighmy, Treasurer of the Sustainable Energy Fund (SEF) and managing partner of the Stone House Group, and Ken Shultes, AVP for Sustainability and Facilities Planning at Dickinson College, and President of PERC.

Concurrent Student Track – Youth Climate Advocacy Workshop

Get equipped with tools and strategies for young climate activists. Learn actionable ways to improve sustainability and combat climate change on your campus and local community. Practice breathing and movement exercises to protect your mental health – care for yourself so you can care for your community and planet! Facilitators include representatives from [Sunrise Movement](#) and Penn State University.

Sustainability Showcase and lunch

Features Judd Greenstein, Composer of *A Marvelous Order*. Read more on the opera [here](#) and more on Judd Greenstein [here](#).

Community Partnerships

Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection has partnered local governments with colleges and universities to conduct greenhouse gas inventories and create local climate action plans with technical support from ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability as part of the state strategy to localize and implement the state Climate Action Plan. In this session, community, university, and implementing partners will discuss their experiences of collaborating to create local climate action plans.

Climate Action Think Tank

SPEAKER INFORMATION

Listed alphabetically by speaker's last name

Dr. Shaunna Barnhart is the Director of the Place Studies program at Bucknell University's Center for Sustainability & the Environment. In this role, she works with faculty, students, staff, and community partners on research, teaching, and outreach in the areas of community revitalization, climate and environmental action, environmental justice and community planning, human dimensions of renewable energy systems, and place-making and sustainability. Since 2020, she has worked with DEP's Local Climate Action Plan program to mentor students supporting local government plan development and partnering with local organizations and governments for their implementation. She has a PhD in Geography from Penn State University, a Masters in Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences from the University of Illinois, and a Bachelors in International Relations from Carleton College.

Isabella Briseño is a fourth-year undergraduate student at Penn State University double majoring in Environmental Resource Management and Political Science. Bella is involved with advancing sustainability within Penn State as the Executive Director of Environmental Sustainability within the undergraduate student government and a member of the Student Sustainability Advisory Council. She has interned with the Sustainability Institute for two years as the Employee Engagement intern and Academic Programs intern. Bella has conducted undergraduate research using [ArcGIS StoryMaps](#) to showcase diverse perspectives for comprehensive ocean solutions. Outside of Penn State, Bella serves as the undergraduate representative on the Ocean Advisory Council under the Hispanic Access Foundation.

Erica Brown is a 19 year old West Philly native who is tired of fossil fuel billionaires using racism to divide and distracting working families from their constant arson. She has learned a lot about climate solutions and direct action in the last 3 years and is ready to create the uprising needed to bring back power to the people

Mike Eckenroth is a Senior Energy Advisor at Nania Energy. In this capacity, he empowers energy consumers by developing and executing sourcing strategies to meet their financial and sustainability goals. Mike consolidates objectives from cross-functional teams including Engineering, Finance, Sustainability, Operations, and other stakeholders into practical, easy-to-implement energy solutions that save time, stay within budget, and mitigate future risk.

Mike is born and raised in south central Pennsylvania and holds a B.S. in Industrial Engineering from Elizabethtown College. After Quality Engineering roles in reserve and motive power batteries where he maintained ASME NQA-1 (Nuclear Quality Assurance) and ISO:9001 (Quality Management Systems) Lead Auditor designations, he transitioned to energy consulting with Nania Energy Advisors in 2016. Mike is a Certified Energy Manager (CEM) as accredited by the Association of Energy Engineers (AEE). He currently serves in committee roles with various associations to better understand their challenges and support their solutions.

Larry Eighmy is a founder and Managing Principal of The Stone House Group, which focuses on improving institutions' building stewardship through comprehensive planning, energy and construction strategies. He possesses focused experience in institutional and non-profit finance

and currently serves as the treasurer of Moravian Academy and on the Board of the Sustainable Energy Fund. He has also served as chairman of the Green Schools Alliance board, a member of the Saucon Valley Conservancy Advisory Board and on the vestry of the Cathedral Church of the Nativity. Larry has also overseen the renovation of the Flat Iron, a historic building in South Bethlehem, that is home to The Stone House Group's LEED Gold Certified headquarters. The iconic 110-year-old building that was state of the art is re-emerging as a modern building with a low carbon footprint. Larry also serves on the Advisory committee of the South Side Art's District that is helping catalyze the renaissance of the South Side. Through his projects at The Stone House Group, he and his team share their passion about educating students about sustainability. The Stone House Group has served over 150 educational institutions, and provided strategic planning services to Connecticut College, Lafayette College, Bates College, Lehigh University, and Villanova University, among others.

Larry graduated from Middlebury College with a Bachelor of Arts. He also studied at Carnegie Mellon University Graduate School of Industrial Administration and most recently at Harvard University's Executive Leadership Program in Sustainability.

Sima Farage is a yoga and meditation instructor at Penn State. She has an MBA and once worked in the corporate, but has since left that stressful, unfulfilling life behind for a healthier, peaceful, and more meaningful life surrounding yoga and meditation. Sima has a certification in both Ayurvedic Medicine and Yoga at the Chopra Center, is a 200 E-RYT yoga teacher, and has studied with a number of Yoga masters around the nation. She's also studied plant-based nutrition with Dr. T. Colin Campbell at Cornell University and received a certification in plant-based nutrition.

Sima is passionate to share the transformative impacts of these practices with her students and is dedicated to helping others reach their potential.

Josh Hooper has been the Executive Director of PERC since 2010. In concert with PERC's Executive Committee, Josh led the transition from a voluntary association of universities and colleges to a 501(c)(3) non-profit impacting, over the years, more than 80 of Pennsylvania's higher education campuses. In 2015, he was honored to accept for PERC the U.S. EPA's award as Endorser of the Year in recognition of PERC's development with Sodexo and the EPA of the PA Higher Ed Food Recovery Challenge. Josh was certified a Fellow in the Climate Reality Leadership Corp after training with founder Al Gore in 2017 and as such presents to community groups on the climate crisis. Prior to joining PERC, Josh worked in organizational development and marketing. Early in his career he was in broadcasting and filmmaking, both behind the scenes and on camera. Josh is a graduate of PERC Member School Franklin & Marshall. Today we recognize his retirement and designation as PERC's Executive Director Emeritus.

Audree Khalishah received her BA in Environmental Studies from Dickinson College. During her time at Dickinson, Audree was involved as a Burpee Fellow, assisting Jenn Halpin, Director of the College Farm, on research to assess the potential of home gardening as a solution for household food insecurity in the Carlisle borough. This experience fed her passion for self-sustenance, community resilience, and low technologies. Audree is currently the Education and Outreach Coordinator at the Dickinson College Farm and Assistant Director of the Pennsylvania Environmental Resource Consortium (PERC).

Taylor Lightman is a graduate of Lund University where he earned his M.S. in Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Adaptation. He now works in his hometown, Lewisburg, as the Elm Street Manager on livability issues like walkability, bike-ability, flood mitigation, tree equity, and housing/land-use issues. Taylor loves serving on his local planning commission (nerd alert!) and chairs the Greater Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce's Community Prosperity Alliance. You can also catch him chatting about politics on his podcast BarnstormingPA. Taylor loves traveling, hiking, and camping, especially with his partner, Melyat!

Maggie McConnell is a recent graduate from Bucknell University where she studied Political Science and Environmental Studies. She was first introduced to the Local Climate Action Program during her undergrad when she was a student intern with Lewisburg Neighborhoods helping to design their Local Climate Action Plan. Currently, she is an Americorp VISTA member working with Shamokin City and Bucknell University on implementing Shamokin's Environmental Resiliency Plan.

Larry F. Myers, PE, CEM, GBE is an Account Executive for Schneider Electric, Sustainability Business. He works with owners of facilities to develop reinvestment opportunities that increase the comfort of occupants while obtaining efficient and sustainable performance. Mr. Myers aids in discovering the link between corporate objectives and the outcomes of a sustainable physical plant. This requires interaction with corporate level administrators, building and plant operators, financial lenders, engineers and legislators. Markets served include university, K-12 schools, municipalities, office spaces, and state-related institutions. He serves leadership roles in the Central PA Chapter of the Association of Energy Engineers, Alleghenies Broadband Inc, chairs several committees associated with the Allegany College of Maryland, and serves on committees of the Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission. He is a registered Professional Engineer, gaining his BSEE degree from the Rochester Institute of Technology and Master of Business Administration from St. Francis University, Loretto, PA.

Larry Myers has over thirty years of experience in the energy sector. Accomplishments include the development of near real-time procurement strategies for electric, natural gas, and renewable energy credits from commodity suppliers, a member of the stakeholder consortium that developed the PJM Generation Attributes Tracking System (GATS), the author of several published papers, and a holder of two US patents.

Kenneth E. Shultes is the Associate Vice President for Sustainability and Facilities Planning at Dickinson College. Ken has held positions of leadership at Dickinson for thirty years -- assuming his current role in 2014. A prime focus and absolute passion throughout his career has been advancing operational sustainability initiatives on campus and connecting them to the overall student experience. Ken oversees the college's organic farm and was instrumental in attaining LEED certification for seven projects at Dickinson -- including six Gold and one Platinum. Ken provided leadership in the creation and implementation of Dickinson's climate action plans, culminating in Dickinson achieving carbon neutrality in 2020. Ken is currently serving as President of the Pennsylvania Environmental Resource Consortium (PERC). Ken also served on the Planning and Analytics Team in association with the development of Carlisle PA's Climate Action Plan. Ken completed the Executive Education for Sustainability Leadership program from the Harvard School of Public Health in 2014.

Troy Turner was born and raised in Berks County, PA. There he got his start organizing his community to turn out to vote and for issues like raising the minimum wage, fair funding for education, and ending immigrant detention. He's really inspired to see ordinary people coming together to make the impossible happen. He got his start in climate work while doing campus organizing in 2018 and never looked back. When it comes to winning climate solutions at the scale science and justice demand, he's interested in thinking about what it takes to build the power necessary to overcome the money and influence of fossil fuel CEOs and the politicians they buy out.

SPONSOR INFORMATION

Sustaining Annual Sponsor PHE-FRC Funding Sponsor



Better Tomorrow 2025 is Sodexo’s company-wide direction on sustainability and is our global CSR strategy. This roadmap outlines Sodexo’s nine commitments to leverage our interconnected roles as an Employer, a Service Provider, and a Corporate Citizen to achieve positive impact on individuals, communities and the environment. At Sodexo USA, our aim is to act with intention to restore and improve quality of life through what we do and how we do it. That means finding sustainable solutions at the intersection of social and environmental issues where we can have the most impact—all in partnership with our clients, suppliers and allies. We know a better tomorrow is possible, but it depends on the choices we make and actions we take today. We look for solutions in crises. Sustainable, responsible choices are what we’re about and have been since our founding in 1966. That’s why we’re optimistic about tomorrow.

| Our 9 Commitments & Objectives | | | |
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| | Our Impact On Individuals | Our Impact On Communities | Our Impact On The Environment |
| Our Role As An Employer | Improve the Quality of Life of our employees, safely 80% Employee Engagement Rate in the U.S. | Ensure a diverse workforce and inclusive culture that reflects and enriches communities we serve 100% of our segments have gender balanced management teams in the U.S. | Foster a culture of environmental responsibility within our workforce and workspaces 100% of our employees are trained on sustainable practices in the U.S. |
| Our Role As A Service Provider | Provide and encourage our consumers to access healthy lifestyle choices 100% of our consumers are offered healthy lifestyle options everyday in the U.S. | Promote local development, fair, inclusive and sustainable business practices 25% of spend on small- and medium- enterprises (SMEs) in the U.S. | Source responsibly and provide management services that reduce carbon emissions 34% reduction of carbon emissions in the U.S. |
| Our Role As A Corporate Citizen | Act sustainably for a hunger-free world 3.6 million annual Stop Hunger beneficiaries in the U.S. | Drive diversity and inclusion as a catalyst for societal change Empower women in communities in the U.S. | Champion sustainable resource usage 50% reduction in our food waste in the U.S. |

Key: ■ Global commitment ■ US objective

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NextEra Energy Solutions is honored to support the mission and vision of PERC through our annual sponsorship. As the largest owner/operator of wind and solar generation systems in the U.S., supporting the exploration and implementation sustainable options is at the core of what we do. NextEra designs solutions for customers that bring together technology, generation and engineering to reduce energy consumption and sustainably source energy. We have been named one of the world's Most Ethical Companies by Ethisphere 11 times.

For additional information please visit our web site
<http://www.nexteraenergy.com/sustainability.html>



Nania Energy Advisors is an energy consultant dedicated to giving our clients expert advice so they can achieve their cost and sustainability goals. We get it – purchasing energy can be a complex and time-consuming process. That's why we put our energy into delivering sustainability strategies so that our clients don't have to. Our team has expertise in the following areas: Energy Procurement, Energy Efficiency, Sustainability, and Demand Management.

Energy consumers choose to work with Nania Energy to establish a sustainability roadmap and execution strategy that will meet the financial and environmental goals of its stakeholders. Educational institutions are all on different parts of their sustainability journey and most are feeling the same pressure and obligation to produce results – often on the same budget they've always had. Our team identifies and refines the intended outcome, develops strategies to reach those, and prioritizes those strategies in accordance with the goals of the institution.

Founded in 1999, Nania Energy Advisors works with commercial and industrial energy consumers in all deregulated states across the country. The sectors we specialize in include the Government and Public Sector, Higher Education, Retail, Hospitality, Property Management, Manufacturing, Senior Living, and PK-12 Education.