

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK 2023

Braided Knowledges - for a - Sustainable Future

RIVERS • INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES • JUSTICE



November 13-17, 2023
University of Richmond

This workshop on local-global sustainability was inspired by UR faculty who want to bridge the divide between theory and practice, between indigeneity and a separation of people from nature, between city and university. We in International Education celebrate this vision and are honored to dedicate our annual International Education Week to these pressing issues. The title, "Braided Knowledges for a Sustainable Future: Rivers, Indigenous Communities, Justice," draws inspiration also from Robin Wall Kimmerer, who sends this message to the workshop participants:

"Bringing people together around these important ideas will help advance our shared efforts on behalf of land and people. I'm grateful for your work; we are all called to acts of reciprocity with the living world and I'm glad we're in this together. I wish you all the best for the gathering."

With special thanks to UR's Department of Geography, Environment, & Sustainability, the Office for Sustainability, and the Dining Hall Staff, we launch International Education Week with representation from nine countries and the hope that drawing good people together will yield better ways.

Yours sincerely,



Martha L. Merritt

Dean and the Carole M. Weinstein Chair of International Education

Braided Knowledges for a Sustainable Future: Rivers, Indigenous Communities, Justice

Each November, in recognition of International Education Week, the UR community “meets in another culture” here on campus. This year, we undertake a week-long summit with shared experiential learning on local-global sustainability topics from perspectives of Richmond partners and colleagues from around the world. The goal is to bring local and global scholars and activists into dialogue, bridging knowledge sets and worldviews for sustainable change.

Indigenous leaders from Aotearoa New Zealand, the Peruvian, Brazilian, and Bolivian Amazon, and the US highlight daily plenary gatherings and roundtable discussions; UR students in the role of scribes will attend each event and carefully document each session; guests from nine countries will participate on excursions along the James River; and noted environmental scholar and activist David Orr serving as rapporteur.

Knowledge-sharing will include lessons learned and effective strategies for managing threats to the political, cultural, and economic autonomy of communities and sustainable management of community resources. The particular historical and contemporary experiences of these leaders and their communities vary, but many of the threats they face have a common grounding in colonialism, illegal resource extraction, and the climate crisis. Given the context and shared threats, this summit seeks to facilitate positive collaboration for sustainability.



A full list of International Education Week 2023 programming is available online:

international.richmond.edu/events-programs/ie-week/global-sustainability

Summit Schedule

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Opening Keynote Session

9:00 a.m. International Center Commons

“Water is Life” — Daniel Wildcat

-- coffee break --

“I am the River, the River is me” — Jacinta Ruru

10:30 a.m.

Afternoon Riverside Walk Excursion

Active trek leaving at 1:30 p.m. from the Heilman Dining Center

Lighter walk leaving at 2:30 p.m. from the International Center

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Virtual Gallery Talk and Breakfast

“Fragile Interconnectedness: Greenland & the Amazon”

8:15 a.m. International Center

Plenary Session

9:00 a.m. International Center Commons

Presentations by Wewito Piyāko and Chief Walt “Red Hawk” Brown

-- coffee break --

Discussion Roundtables

10:30 a.m. International Center

Community Climate Adaptation (INTC 103L)

Indigenous Leaders as Defenders of the Environment (INTC Commons)

Community Science & Collaborative Learning (INTC 229)

Afternoon Pontoon River Excursion

Leaving at 1:15 p.m. from the International Center

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Discussion Roundtables

9 a.m. International Center

Building Sustainability into Education (INTC Commons)

Technology & Storytelling (INTC 103L)

Gender Equity & Sustainability Leadership (INTC 103A)

-- coffee & maps break in the Spatial Analysis Lab (INTC 3rd floor) --

GIS Day Plenary Session

10:45 a.m. International Center Commons

“Empowering Mapping and Justice” with presentations by Steve DeRoy and the Transboundary Commission of the Juruá/Yurúa River

Eco-Corridor Tour

1:30 p.m. Eco-Corridor

Local-Global Sustainability Fair

3:30-5:30 p.m. Alice Haynes Room, Tyler Haynes Commons

International Dinner

4:30-8:00 p.m. Heilman Dining Center

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Plenary Session and Summit Summation

9 a.m. International Center

Five 60-second videos by UR's Green Spiders Abroad

Summit Summation by David Orr

-- coffee break --

Summit Participants' Response

iNaturalist Bioblitz

4:00 p.m. Eco-Corridor

Summit Participants, Presenters, Organizers

Rob Andrejewski

University of Richmond

Chief Walt “Red Hawk” Brown

Cheroenhaka Tribe
Virginia, USA

Stewart Chivora

SIT Abroad Cape Town
South Africa

Steve Deroj

The Firelight Group
Canada

Carsten Egevang

DIS Abroad
Denmark/Sweden

Daniel Hart

University of Richmond

Susanne Hovmand

DIS Abroad
Denmark/Sweden

Todd Lookingbill

University of Richmond

Maria Elena Paredes Márquez

Amazon Rainforest
Peru

Martha Merritt

University of Richmond

David Orr

Oberlin College (emeritus)
Ohio, USA

Alfonso Rengifo Pérez

Amazon Rainforest
Peru

Andrés Arévalo Pérez

Amazon Rainforest
Peru

Wewito Piyáko

Amazon Rainforest
Brazil

William Villacorta Portocarrero

Amazon Rainforest
Peru

Kyle Redican

University of Richmond

Jacinta Ruru

University of Otago
Aotearoa New Zealand

David Salisbury

University of Richmond

Arlindo Ruíz Santos

Amazon Rainforest
Peru

Astrid Schmidt

DIS Abroad
Denmark/Sweden

Julie Scott

DIS Abroad
Minnesota, USA

Janet Stephenson

University of Otago
Aotearoa New Zealand

Takako Takono

Waseda University
Japan

Neringa Vendelbo

DIS Abroad
Denmark/Sweden

José Sarabia Vie

Amazon Rainforest
Bolivia

Chris von Rueden

University of Richmond

Daniel Wildcat

Haskell Indian Nations University
Kansas, USA

David Wilkins

University of Richmond

Carl Zeithaml

DIS Abroad
Denmark/Sweden

Partners

Our deepest gratitude to the UR departments and outside organizations who have partnered to help this summit become a reality:

Bonner Center for Civic Engagement • Center for Student Involvement

Dining Services • Jepson School of Leadership Studies • Office of the Chaplaincy

Office of the Provost • School of Arts & Sciences • Spatial Analysis Lab

NASA SERVIR Amazonia • SERVIR Amazonia



**International
Education**