

September 2023

ASU Julie Ann Wrigley
Global Futures Laboratory™
Arizona State University

Global Futures: **Now**



“Young people: They care. They know that this is the world that they’re going to grow up in, that they’re going to spend the rest of their lives in. They actually believe that humanity, human species, has no right to destroy

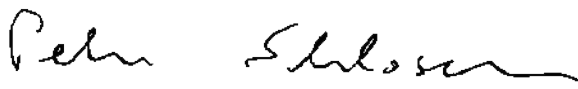
and despoil regardless.” David Attenborough

A combined sense of urgency and hope permeated the second Global Futures Conference (GF23), which took place between September 19 and 21 during Climate Week in New York City. The conference brought together a diverse group of individuals and entities including academics, Indigenous community members, representatives from the private sector, NGOs, members of governance, and climate activists. Speakers and panelists included world-renowned icons such as Sylvia Earle, Jane Goodall, David Attenborough, Mary Robinson and Chido Mpemba, Envoy for Youth at the African Union Commission and the youngest diplomat in the Chairperson's cabinet. While the perspectives on the future of our planet varied from generation to generation, the consensus for shaping its trajectory was the same: We must enact changes now.

GF23 was dedicated to further define the actions (Must Dos) that have to be taken to enable implementation of the 10 Must Haves, a series of ten ambitious targets designed to move humankind towards a trajectory that brings it back into equilibrium with other Earth systems. First deliberated during the 2022 Global Futures Conference, the 10 Must Haves are rooted in collaboration. Where GF22 asked participants to help define the Must Haves, GF23 brought together people of all sectors and areas of expertise to ignite conversations and generate ideas for implementing pathways of action. These working sessions effectively advanced the 10 Must Haves into its next phase.

GF23's opening panel featured 21-year-old climate justice activist Xiye Bastida, co-founder of the Re-Earth Initiative, and Sylvia Earle, President and Co-Chairman of Mission Blue/The Sylvia Earle Alliance. While the speakers were in agreement about the need for rapid transformation of the way in which humankind utilizes Earth's limited resources, they naturally had different views concerning the pathway that has to be taken to achieve this goal. Specifically, they had an inspiring discussion about the roles of individuals versus larger segments of global society in achieving the change we need to protect the functions and services of our planet's life supporting systems. The different approaches augment each other and enrich the portfolio of options we have when thinking about a sustainable future in which all life can thrive on a healthy planet.

Without the courage and tenacity of young climate activists such as Rigoberto Amaya and Kneyone Murray, Global Ambassadors for Blue Planet Initiative, the future viability of our planet would be bleaker. And without the knowledge bestowed by the wisdom of those who have lived through the transition from the holocene into the anthropocene – the Sylvia Earle’s and Mary Robinson’s of the world – the pace at which we achieve our common goals might fall drastically behind the rapid changes experienced by our planet. It is the responsibility of institutions such as the Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory to empower the next generation of climate leaders, steer them toward hope, and clear the path for rapid change.



Peter Schlosser
Vice President and Vice Provost of Global Futures



Futurecast

Edition 5 | Fall 2023

In this issue of Futurecast, we explore a number of topics including electrification, a conversation with Arizona's State Climatologist Erinanne Saffell, the deployment of humanitarian aid in the face of global challenges and a museum exhibition that explores what Arizona may look like for the next generation.

[Read now](#)

News



ASU Chandler partnership brings sustainability to local parks through real-world student opportunities

Through a Professional Skills in Sustainability Practice course, ASU students will provide local communities with thoughtful, sustainable solutions for better environmental, economic and social balances and outcomes in the city of Chandler. Last month, the Chandler City Council entered a five-year agreement with ASU's School of Sustainability. Their first challenge will be to review five of Chandler's city parks to see how they're being utilized and suggest ways to improve their sustainability efforts.

[Read more](#)



Research: A modeling framework for World-Earth system resilience: exploring social inequality and Earth system tipping points

[John M Anderies](#) was an author in a paper that demonstrates the importance of building Earth systems resilience to reach a safe and just operating space. The paper illustrates the importance of World Systems dynamics by showing how perceptions of fairness coupled with regional inequality affects pathway resilience. Anderies is a Senior Global Futures Scientist and a professor with joint appointments in the School of Human Evolution and Social Change, the School of Sustainability and the School of Complex Adaptive Systems.

[Read more](#)

Research: Evidence-based recommendations for recorded meetings policies

[Stephen Carradini](#), a Senior Global Futures Scholar, was an author in a paper exploring virtual meeting practices in the workplace. The paper provides evidence-based recommendations on how to best manage recorded meetings in the workplace, covering topics such as when to record, when not to record, how to gain consent and who will have administrative and sharing rights.



[Read more](#)



Our planet's lifeline

From the depths of the Atlantic Ocean, the Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences, now part of ASU, has been measuring the temperature, acidity and ocean life for 120 years. Learn how researchers are taking a closer look at the roles plankton and zooplankton play in sequestering carbon dioxide, which is essential for keeping our climate cooler and planet healthier.

[Read more](#)

ASU professor says some athletes may push themselves too



hard in extreme heat

With sprawling outdoor trails and mild winters, Arizona is home to countless running enthusiasts. However, extreme heat comes with a unique set of challenges for even the most seasoned athletes.

[Jenni Vanos](#), associate professor in the School of Sustainability, offers insights on how athletes can protect themselves against the heat, including looking out for early warning signs of heat stroke.

[Read more](#)

ASU experts: surviving the Phoenix heat

[Patricia Solís](#) and [Melissa Guardaro](#) of ASU's Knowledge Exchange for Resilience were featured in a New Yorker article on the recent Phoenix heat. Their core insight, according to the article, is that heat does not affect all communities equally. Their work with ASU aims to better understand and tackle the compounded impact that targets some communities and spares others.



[Read more](#)

Global Futures Scientist develops new asphalt binder alternative that is less toxic, more sustainable



than conventional blend

A team led by Associate Professor in the School of Sustainable Engineering and the Built Environment, [Ellie Fini](#), developed AirDuo, a new, patent-pending asphalt binder that diminishes toxic fumes of the overall asphalt-surface area and increases sustainability. Fini, also a Senior Global Futures Scientist, said the binder also reduces health hazards for those exposed to asphalt-surfaced areas, especially for those performing the installation.

[Read more](#)

ASU team receives half-million-dollar NSF grant for web-based data-categorization app

[Daniel Hruschka](#), Senior Global Futures Scientist and professor and associate director at the School of Human Evolution and Social Change, teamed up with colleagues to develop CatMapper, an app that helps connect data on health and discrimination for ethnicities across thousands of datasets from countries around the world. The app works to build bridges between different datasets that represent the same information but may be categorized, or named, in different ways.

[Read more](#)

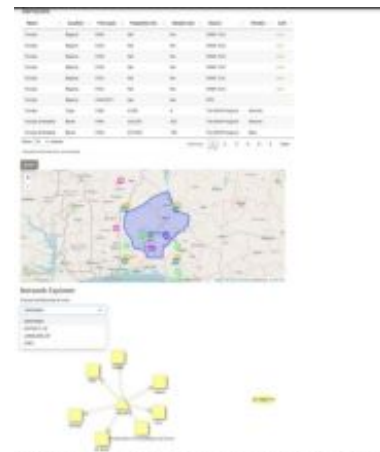


Figure 4. View page for the Yoruba ethnicity, including samples, map and network explore.



ASU fellowship aims to engage Arizonans for a climate-friendly future

Last summer, the Center for Science and Imagination and Center for Energy and Society launched the Solar Tomorrows Fellowship. A \$50,000 grant from EarthShare, a Washington D.C.-based nonprofit, enabled ASU to select four fellows with working experience in the realms of K–12 education, informal education, lifelong learning and journalism/popular media. The grant is part of EarthShare’s “The Energy of One, the Power of Many” program, which aims to raise awareness and foster support for sustainable energy initiatives.

[Read more](#)

Water sustainability at center of new mixed-reality game

An ASU team led by [Claire Lauer](#), professor of technical communication in the School of Applied Professional Studies and Senior Global Futures Scientist, was awarded \$2 million by the National Science Foundation. The team is developing an engaging mixed-reality game and accompanying museum installation designed to convey the complexities of water allocation across Arizona.



Read more



ASU Research team partners with EPA to study electrified transit emissions

An ASU research project, led by Global Futures Scientist [Danae Hernandez-Cortes](#), was given a nearly \$650,000 grant from the EPA to study the distribution of pollution due to Maricopa County public transportation developments. As a response to electric transit, the team will develop models to predict pollution in Maricopa County with the goal of applying these models across the country.

Read more



ASU
Thrive

Microbes for the mind

A new treatment from ASU is helping people with autism and children with a rare disorder called Pitt-Hopkins syndrome, a genetic disease characterized by physical, intellectual and developmental delays. By replacing harmful bacteria in the intestines with good bacteria, the treatment can help reduce gastrointestinal symptoms related to autism and Pitt-Hopkins. It's the first treatment proven to address autism's core symptoms.

[Read more](#)

Global challenge honors women advancing UN Sustainable Development Goals

The WE Empower U.N. SDG Challenge, co-convened by the Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory and Vital Voices Global Partnership, brings together a diverse selection of women entrepreneurs from around the world who are addressing these challenges and advancing the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals through their businesses. The awardees, Andrea 'Andy' Blair, Karin Sempf, Susan Blanchet, Menna Farouk and Diana Mbogo, participated in the Global Futures Conference and other events in New York City for Climate Week.

[Read more](#)





Frasier Global Mentorship Program empowers students through travel experience

The Frasier Global Mentorship Program offers ASU College of Global Futures students and professional sustainability practitioners the opportunity to engage in an insightful mentorship experience. Students are paired with a mentor to gain insights in their desired field before they join the workforce, and are given an expenses-paid trip to participate in an approved ASU international experience or to visit their mentor on-site.

[Read more](#)

ASU alum combines sustainability leadership with law enforcement

W. Troy Weisler, a Master of Sustainability Leadership alum, said sustainability is a practice and way of thinking that should be incorporated across all fields of employment. He should know: as the New Mexico State Police chief, he sees the importance of sustainability within our social systems firsthand.



[Read more](#)



Shelters can help homeless people by providing quiet and privacy, not just a bunk and a meal

[Heather Ross](#), clinical associate professor in nursing and clinical associate professor in the School for the Future of Innovation in Society, co-authored an article exploring the availability and conditions of shelters intended for people experiencing homelessness, and some of the potential paths forward.

[Read more](#)

Edward Chu hired as Special Advisor to the President for Environment and Climate Solutions

Edward Chu will provide strategic leadership to advance research in some of the Global Futures Laboratory's most central working areas. Arizona State University announced Chu's new position via social media on Sept. 27.



[See the post](#)

Global Futures Viewbook

We must rediscover our planet and our relationship with it.

What does this mean, exactly? For the faculty, students, researchers and global partners of the Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory, it means a commitment to urgently exploring pathways to impactful solutions and decisions that address the challenges we have caused through resource extraction and thoughtless consumption as part of a relentless pursuit of “progress.”

We believe better is possible.

[Learn more](#)

ASU Julie Ann Wrigley
Global Futures Laboratory™
Arizona State University



**#1 in the U.S.
for global impact**

-Times Higher Education, 2021

Don't miss any future news

Be sure to receive this newsletter as well as other journals and updates including our biannual journal, Futurecast.