

# August 2021

**ASU** Julie Ann Wrigley  
Global Futures Laboratory™  
Arizona State University

## Global Futures: **Now**



***“The future depends on what you do today.” Mahatma Gandhi***

As we commence our new academic year, we find ourselves living in a world consumed by extraordinary events. Climate-based wildfires across three continents, record ice melts at both poles, pollution-infected waterways in Argentina turning pink, the ongoing engagement with an evolving global pandemic – we are in a state of constant confrontation with diverse challenges. This makes us question not simply the health of our planet but our

responsibilities as the species that have placed undue pressure on its life-supporting systems.

Yet, we also stand at a moment when the opportunity could not be greater to drive knowledge, awareness and innovation that addresses the larger planetary systems in which we exist. From questions about the role of artificial intelligence in our lives to concerns about food security to better understanding the indigenous knowledge developed across generations before us, the Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory is committed to sharing information, conversations, debates and engagements to further well-being for all as we look ahead.

I welcome you to **Global Futures: Now**, a new monthly outreach of current stories and events for our broader Global Futures community. Each month we will provide you a selection of insights that will allow you to explore and engage the laboratory's endeavors as we work together to shape tomorrow, today.



Peter Schlosser  
Vice President and Vice Provost of Global Futures

## News

**Report:  
Climate Change 2021:  
the Physical Science  
Basis**



Working Group 1's contribution to the Sixth Comprehensive report on the state of our planet's climate was released on Aug. 9. The Global Futures Laboratory will be publishing a response shortly.

[Learn more](#)



## College of Global Futures gains new leadership

**Miki Kittilson, Kathleen Vogel to support student, faculty success**

Two scholars have joined the college, which aims to guide students and faculty and address the most critical challenges of our world. [Miki Kittilson](#) has been

named associate dean for faculty success and strategic partnerships, and [Kathleen Vogel](#) has been named the interim director for the [School for the Future of Innovation in Society](#).

[Read more](#)



## 2021 WE Empower UN SDG Challenge awardees named

The [WE Empower UN SDG Challenge](#) announced the five social entrepreneurs selected as their 2021 Awardees, each selected on the basis that they lead an enterprise committed to advancing one or more of the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals, and leverage their businesses to push for progress in their communities.

[Read more](#)

## Swette Center report sets U.S. organic food agenda

The ASU Swette Center for Sustainable Food Systems recently released a report to help President Joe Biden set a new agriculture agenda dedicated to organic foods. The report is outlined with 46 recommendations for food development and safety as well as its impacts on climate change, research, supply chain, animal welfare



standards, racial justice, social equity and enforcement.

[Read more](#)



## Jennifer Vanos talks heat at the Olympics with New York Times

The College of Global Futures assistant professor discussed how climate change will force future summer Olympic sites to prepare for extreme heat.

[Read more](#)

[More Global Futures News](#)

## Upcoming events



## Global Futures Conference 2022

An opportunity to set a global action-oriented science agenda for the next decade that can set a trajectory of our planet and the role of global society in shaping it by asking “which global future(s) do we want, and can there be any consensus getting there?” Co-convened by the Global Futures Laboratory and the [Earth League](#).

**Save the date:**

Sept. 11-16, 2022  
Washington, D.C.

[Learn more](#)



## Public Interest Technology University Network (PIT-UN) Annual Convening

A partnership that fosters collaboration among nearly four dozen institutions of higher education committed to building the nascent field of public interest technology. This two-day will close with a public forum discussing the topic of climate technologies and the public.

**Save the date:**

Nov. 1-2, 2021  
Tempe, AZ

[Learn more](#)

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

-Times Higher Education, 2021

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