

ERGAN

Energy and Resources Group Alumni Network

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### Letter from the President

#### Dear Fellow ERGies,

I hope this email finds you healthy and in good spirits!

past year was a busy one, with all events back in person and in full swing. ERG's traditional events, including the Annual Lecture, Talent Show, Commencement, Pizza Party at Dick's, and Winter Gathering, provided opportunities for alumni to get together and connect with students and faculty. If you're local or in town, we encourage you to join these festivities in 2023 as well—alumni are always welcome!

ERGAN kicked off a couple new programs of its own this past year: the Student Mentorship Program and the Alumni Mentorship Program. Led by our Diversity and Inclusion Chair, Chris Hyun (MA '15, PhD '20), and PhD student Jenny Rempel, the Student Mentorship Program provides career development support for first- and second-year master's students through six in-person meetings throughout the semester. Twenty mentor-mentees pairs are participating in the Alumni Mentorship Program, representing every decade, starting with the incoming class of 1980 all the way up to the incoming class of 2021. Each pair will meet regularly for one year to share their wisdom, expertise, and experiences with each other.

As we kick off 2023, ERGAN is looking forward to hosting a happy hour following a spring colloquium and celebrating Cathy Koshland's retirement during the annual lecture and the days to follow.

We are also asking for your help. We are looking for new members to join the ERGAN board. Many of the current board members are

already serving a second (or even third) term and are ready to cycle off. To put it bluntly, we need new members for ERGAN to survive! The time commitment is minimal (no more than an average of two hours per month) and our board meetings are casual and fun. Moreover, joining the board allows you to connect with ERGies from across generations, establish a leadership presence in the wider ERG community, often be the first to hear about new career opportunities, and play a key role in shaping the network's future. Specifically, we're looking to fill the following positions: Secretary, Special Projects Officer, Communications Chair, and Webmaster. Descriptions of the various ERGAN board roles can be found <u>here</u>. Email me if you're interested.

We are also looking for some guidance on member management web platforms. Currently, our primary expense is the service platform we use for ergies.org, Wild Apricot. The annual rate is fairly high (see financial report on page 12), especially since we have to use a majority of the money we collect in dues for this expense alone. The board has done a fair amount of research over the past year to try to find a less expensive alternative. However, we have yet to find something that covers all our needs. If you are able to offer any expertise on the matter, or know a consultant who can, please reach out!

We would love to connect with you this year. Let us know how we can best serve you.

All the best,

Rashmi Sahai, MS '12

president@ergies.org

### Letter from the Chair of ERG

#### **Fellow ERGies:**

extremely proud of the work that the ERG community has done in the last year. Our students and faculty have made incredible contributions to conversations around energy and environmental justice in the U.S., sub-Saharan Africa, and the Indian subcontinent; safe drinking water in California's prisons and low income communities, as well as China; climate and infrastructure decision-making under deep uncertainty; carbon markets and management; and how communities engage with adaptation projects in Ecuador.

We've welcomed another wonderful cohort of master's and PhD students from around the world, including individuals that have already built some of the planning models used to pass the US Inflation Reduction Act; a cinematographer who documents struggles for civil rights and environmental justice; an energy adviser to the UK government; and an expert in sociopolitical transitions. And we've seen another wonderful group of master's and PhD students graduate and go on to prestigious postdocs, influential science adviser positions, R&D positions in industries re-shaping the energy landscape, and utilities seeking to adapt to climate change.

What I find the most compelling about ERG—and what was on full display in this last year—is its ability to pursue high-impact research and education for a sustainable environment and just society. Our capacity to do this is driven in part by the incredible resources we have available at UC Berkeley, and partly by the faculty and staff who chart ERG's course. But the most important part of our success is the incredible students—and eventually, alumni—that come to learn, work, and play here.

As ERGAN members, you are part of this inspiring group, and you are representing ERG's mission to promote sustainability in justice in your own ways. But you are also giving back to ERG—expanding our educational reach and capacity for change in a number of ways. For example, you have members that sit on ERG's executive committee, and you regularly engage with our current students. In the last year you've donated funds to ERG—especially via the "Big Give" event—with so much generosity that we were able to cover a semester's non-resident tuition for four incoming students. This is moving us toward our goal of guaranteeing that none of our students ever need to pay non-resident tuition. You've also started an ERGAN professional development mentoring program for current ERG students. Career advising is a crucial part of a successful graduate school experience, and we're grateful that you're helping to improve this part of ERG.

Thanks for being part of this incredible community!

Duncan Callaway ERG Chair

December 23, 2022

### Year in Review

It's been a busy year for ERGAN. Here's what we've been up to.

#### **Programs**

Alumni Mentorship Program: In November, ERGAN launched an alumni-to-alumni mentorship program. The program aims to connect ERGies across generations, help navigate career transitions, and offer safe and confidential spaces for dialogue. Twenty mentors and sixteen mentees signed up for the program, representing every decade, starting with the incoming class of 1980 all the way up to the incoming class of 2021. We're also excited to have representation from the international community, with ERGies from Canada, Madagascar, and Australia participating. Mentor-mentee pairs will meet monthly or every other month for one year to share their wisdom, expertise, and experiences with each other.

Student Mentorship Program: The Board, along with ERG faculty and staff, are excited to announce ERGAN's new mentorship program to provide career development support for first- and second-year master's students (a.k.a. ERG newbies and twobies). Now that all ERG master's students must reapply for the PhD, students require even more preparation for a career after the ERG master's program. The six-student pilot cohort will meet over six sessions from December to May with Chris Hyun (MA '15, PhD '20) and Jenny Rempel (PhD student) co-facilitating. The curriculum is based on a professional development program Chris developed and implemented with hundreds of grad students for UC Berkeley's Graduate Division. If there is continued interest in and capacity for the program, ERGAN may continue it next school year with a new cohort. Contact Chris if you're interested in more info at chrish@berkeley.edu.

Focus on Mental Wellness: This year, mental health was a topic of importance both at ERG and within ERGAN. Diana Dombrowski (MS '23) organized a workshop-style presentation about this topic at ERG colloquium that was open to students and alumni. On September 21, professionals from UC Berkeley Counseling and Psychological Services, Dr. Peter Cornish, Co-Director of Student Mental Health, and Dr. Matt Goodman, Assistant Director of Mental Health Innovation, discussed "Recentering for Climate Justice & Healing." The speakers shared potential impacts of working on the climate crisis and how to identify emotionally sustainable strategies for forging on with meaning and purpose. ERGAN also published its June newsletter focusing on this topic, including resources like podcasts, news articles, and support groups, as well as a personal reflection from Renata Marson (PhD '06).

Diversity & Inclusion Updates: As part of the ERGAN DEI Strategy, the ERG Diversity Committee (led by Lara Keuppers) now includes an ERGAN Board member (currently Chris Hyun) to help ERG and ERGAN mutually support actions for equity. With Isha Ray as Associate Dean of Equity and Inclusion, the College of Natural Resources released results of its first bi-annual Equity and Inclusion Survey, including responses from ERGies. These results and those from a 2022 pilot ERG Exit Survey will be discussed in a Spring 2023 ERG Town Hall, which was postponed due to the UC strike.

Three ERG alumni: Sam Arons, MS '07 (top center), JP Ross, MS '01 (bottom second left), and Deepa Lounsbury, MS '11 (bottom center) shared their professional and life stories with the second-year master's student course 293C.



### **Events**

#### **Big Give**

ERGAN supported Berkeley's Big Give effort this past March by reaching out directly to alumni, both groups and individuals. ERG received 136 gifts, most of which came from alumni, and raised nearly \$35,000. The funds raised by the Big Give go directly to students, especially underrepresented students and those in need. A big thank you to all alumni who donated!

### **Talent Show & Silent Auction**

ERG students hosted the traditional Spring Talent Show on April 7th, 2022 with the theme "ERG is Back". The Giannini Steps were the stage for acts such as a spicy chicken eating challenge, poetry and spoken word, and a choreographed dance to the 90's classic ERG's (Backstreet's) Back. Alumnus Carter Brooks (MS '05) performed a dramatic story monologue. The Giannini Lobby displayed delicious potluck offerings and a Silent Auction with tempting donations from students, faculty, staff, and alumni. The Silent Auction raises money for the Spherical Cow Fund, which grad students facilitate and manage for student events and support.



On March 31st, Damilola Ogunbiyi, Special Representative of the UN Secretary General, delivered her lecture on "Driving a Just, Inclusive, and Equitable Energy Transition" for ERG's 28th Annual Lecture on Energy and the Environment. She engaged a wide audience, with almost 100 in-person attendees at Sibley Auditorium and about as many again on LiveStream, as well as being featured in the BerkeleyTalks podcast. ERGAN followed up the lecture with a happy hour and a hike the following day.





### **Events**

#### **ERG Commencement**

Delighted to be able to celebrate in person, ERG hosted Commencement on May 7th, 2022 to honor our 2020, 2021, and 2022 graduates. It was a beautiful tree-dappled day on the Alumni House patio with almost 200 attendees. Professor Charisma Acey provided the keynote, and PhD student Cora Kingdon received the Spherical Cow Award. The class gift was a much-needed and muchused bicycle tire pump for the grad student rooms.



#### Welcome Back Town Hall & Dinner at Dick's

Professor Emeritus Dick Norgaard and ERG alumna Nancy Rader brought back the traditional back-to-school pizza party on their deck in the Berkeley hills. Professor John Harte initiated a new group of ERGies to the shortcuts and backroads that make the uphill hike to Dick's house from the campus. Alumni are always welcome to join this August event.



#### **Winter Gathering**

ERG hosted the annual Winter Gathering at Freehouse in Berkeley on December 7th. Approximately 40 attendees, including a few local alumni, enjoyed mingling over hors d'oeuvres to celebrate the end of the semester.

Carter Brooks' signature ice sculpture at the 2022 Winter Gathering

# ERGies in Focus

#### **ERGAN's Newest Members**

Please join the ERGAN Board in welcoming these ERGies as new alumni network members. Learn more about their accomplishments and interests in the ERG Commencement Guide.



# **Master's** graduates!

Nabig Chaudhry
Nia Novella Jones
Arthur Mallet Dias
Sean Kelly
Joyceline Leonard Marealle
Priyanka Mohanty
Molly Oshun
Sasha Ponomareva
Luke Sherman
Liyang Wang

# **PhD** graduates!

Anna Brockway
Bodie Cabiyo
José Daniel Lara
Isa Ferrall
Adam Hanbury-Brown
Anushah Hossain
Jonathan Lee
Sophie Major
Samira Siddique

### Alumni Updates

The list below provides a breadth of professional updates from the ERG community. Thanks to those of you who shared your accomplishments with us!

#### Robert B. Weisenmiller

(MS, ERG, 1977. Also PhD Chemistry, 1977)

Received the Edmund G. "Pat" Brown Award, 2021 California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance (CCEEB).



#### **Steve Fetter**

(PhD/1985, MS/1983)

After 18 years in university administration, I'm stepping down as associate provost and dean of the Graduate School at the University of Maryland. I will take a year of sabbatical leave before returning to teaching security policy and environmental policy in the School of Public Policy. Fall 2023 will be at the Centre for Science and Security Studies at King's College London; Spring 2024 will be at the Center for Security Studies at ETH Zurich. Please let me know if you will visit either city-or College Park.

#### **Zack Subin**

(PhD, 2012)

I am entering my third year at RMI (the artist formerly known as Rocky Mountain Institute; we have an Oakland office but my teams are geographically distributed), where I am cross-staffed between the state policy analysis initiative and a new Climate-Aligned Urbanism initiative. I was glad to have contributed to some state climate action scorecards earlier this year and contribute an essay to a national housing report on the intersection of housing and climate — with copious references to Prof. Dan Kammen's research with Chris Jones. I had the chance to contribute several op-eds to the SF Examiner as part of a new RMI series, beginning with one on SF's streets and climate.

I continue to focus volunteer time towards Urban Environmentalists, a YIMBY Action chapter focused on the intersection of housing, climate, and transportation policy in the Bay Area. I am pleased that these themes increasingly overlap with my work at RMI and in the climate space more broadly, while Urban Environmentalists allows me to stay close to local political action. I am motivated by the possibility that despite its challenges, SF could emerge from the pandemic more sustainable, inclusive, and thriving than before and once again be a model for cities around the country. The unexpectedly strong November election results for Slow Streets, public transit funding, and pro-housing candidates in SF bolsters my confidence.

#### Isa Ferrall

(MS'18, PhD'2022)

After completing the PhD this past May, Isa began a Postdoc in Energy Equity at the National Renewable Energy Lab. Through the Solar Energy Innovation Network and Communities LEAP programs, she is able to translate emerging energy justice research to help communities around the country achieve their renewable energy goals.

#### **Kim Taylor**

(MA '90, PhD '95)

Is still working on California water issues at the USGS.

#### Asa Bradman

(MS, 1989)

is now professor and chair of public health department at UC Merced; see her current work and grants here.

#### Sascha von Meier

(PhD 1995)

I retired from UC Berkeley (EECS and CIEE) in 2022 and am now an independent consultant. Always happy to host ERG visitors in Bishop!



#### Nikky Avila

(PhD 2018)

I joined Meta leading the Energy Strategy Research program. I design and manage research with universities and think tanks focused on grid decarbonization and reliability, as well as net zero corporate goals.

#### Rafael Friedmann

(PhD/1996)

I continue to Chair the Chile
California Council, a NPO that
fosters knowledge exchanges to
enhance sustainability in both
areas. Focus on Marine/Coastal
conservation, clean energy,
climate change, water, and
innovation. Check us out and let
me know if you are interested in
helping us.

#### **Andrew Cohen**

(MS 1989, PhD 1996)

In 2022 I tried to get US EPA to obey the Clean Water Act (CWA) in regulating ships' ballast water discharges, after 50 years of the agency refusing to do so. In January I organized to get the San Francisco Estuary Partnership (SFEP) to include a statement in its 5-year plan for the estuary about the need for ballast water discharge standards that comply with the CWA. SFEP refused despite requests from 18 environmental groups and from 3 recipients of SFEP's highest achievement award (including the former SFEP director), and despite SFEP having included strong statements on ballast water in its previous 5-year plans; the refusal seemed pretty obviously connected to the fact that EPA provides SFEP's core funding.

In June, with support from 74
environmental organizations we persuaded
34 Members of Congress to write EPA
Administrator Michael Regan asking him
to finally obey the CWA on ballast water;
in November 180 environmental and
public health organizations and Native
American tribes wrote Joe Biden and asked
him to order EPA to obey the law; and in
December The Hill published an editorial I
wrote on the problem.

We've been fighting this fight, mostly through litigation, since 1999, and EPA has been consistently awful on the issue under both Democratic and Republican administrations, and possibly a little worse under the Dems. Friends of the Earth and the Center for Biological Diversity will shortly file suit against EPA on this issue for the 5th time: EPA lost all 4 of the previous suits but still refuses to comply with the law, and is now essentially openly defying an order to revise its discharge standards issued by the Second Circuit Court of Appeals in the last lawsuit.

Regrettably, it will take all of this and more to persuade EPA to obey the CWA.

#### Elizabeth Carlassare

(M.S. 1992)

Elizabeth enjoys her work at Google as a User Experience Writing Manager. She currently works on Google Cloud. She was delighted that a chapter from her ERG Master's thesis was published in 2016 in the French book "Reclaim: Anthologie de textes écoféministes" (almost 25 years after she wrote her Master's thesis).

#### Ian Bolliger

(PhD 2020)

I started a new job! As a VP in the Aladdin Sustainability Lab at BlackRock. We're working to bring physical climate risk information into investment strategies and tools.

#### Deepa Lounsbury

(MS 2013)

The next chapter in the journey is that I've become managing director of LabStart, a non-profit focused on commercializing climate breakthroughs from our national labs by matching the researchers and patents with underrepresented, diverse entrepreneurs coming from outside the labs. You can find out more here: https://www.labstart.xyz and I'd love to connect with any ERGies who are interested in any part of this puzzle.

#### Sasha Harris-Lovett

(MS 2013, PhD 2018)

I just started a new job as Lead Environmental Scientist at the San Francisco Estuary Partnership.

#### Will Gorman

(PhD/2022)

Completed my PhD and joined full time as a Research Scientist in the Electricity Markets and Policy Department at Lawrence Berkeley National Lab

#### Alex J. Horne

(Ph. D. University of Dundee, Scotland, 1969. Now emeritus Prof CEE)

The last of my series of 6 papers on hypolimnetic oxygenation of Camanche Reservoir (part of EBMUD's & our drinking water supply) was published last year in J Lake & Reservoir Management. The papers report a large ecological benefit for the Mokelumne River by adding dissolved oxygen directly to the deep water of the reservoir. The result was a cessation in hatchery fish kills, doubling of the autumn returns of adult Chinook salmon—a \$5 million annual benefit to the State's recreational fishery—with an annual cost of only \$0.3 million and re-establishing the in-river spawning of the endangered Steelhead trout. In other news, I was given the Odum Award for lifetime achievement in ecological restoration and research by the American Ecological Engineering Association.

#### Kripa Jagannathan

(PhD/2019)

I was recently elected to the council of the American Geophysical Union (AGU), which is a key professional society for earth and environmental scientists. I will be Presidentelect of the Science and Society Section of AGU. In this role, along with other committee members, I will work to support and grow a community that actively works on building stronger connections between science and societal action. We are working towards creating a welcoming community at AGU for not just scientists from all disciplines, but also artists, communicators, policy-makers, community members, and other decision makers who play an integral part in bringing science to society.



#### **Carter Brooks**

(MS '06)

I continue to explore what it means to be an artist and philosopher of Climate Art, which so far has consisted of an ongoing practice of melting ice installations at all scales. Still contemplating how best to shift framing of certain climate issues, such as getting comfortable with uncertainty, learning how to be overwhelmed and stay engaged, treating climate grief as a growth opportunity, and generally keeping curiosity and imagination alive in the face of the "tyranny of solutions."

#### **Brent Haddad**

(Ph.D. '96)

Still a professor at UC Santa Cruz in the Environmental Studies Department.

#### Juan Pablo Carvallo

(MS 2013, PhD 2019)

Promoted to Research Scientist at the Electricity Markets and Policy department at LBNL. About to start a one-year detail advising Alejandro Moreno, who is the Acting Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy at the U.S. Department of Energy.

#### Seth Zuckerman

(M.S. 1990)

The forestry nonprofit that I lead, Seattle-based Northwest Natural Resource Group, was part of a consortium awarded \$25 million by the USDA as part of their Climate-Smart Commodities partnership. We'll use our \$5 million to draw landowners into this approach to managing their land, and to train timber operators skilled at thinning instead of clearcutting.

I'm also about to submit a manuscript for a book that we hope will do for ecological forestry what "How to Grow More Vegetables" did for organic gardening. You can read a draft of the introduction here, which harkens back to my time on the North Coast doing field work for my master's project. draft book intro:

### Ian Bolliger (PhD 2020) I'm engaged! My fiancée and I are getting married in August.

Zack Subin (PhD, 2012) I continue to live in the Ocean View-Ingleside neighborhood with my husband and two cats.

### Will Gorman (PhD/2022) I got married!



Asa Bradman (ms, 1989) Both daughters have flown the coop to college.

Sasha Harris-Lovett (MS 2013, PhD 2018) is looking forward to reconnecting with ERGies and meeting ERGies I haven't met before.

Kim Taylor (MA '90, PhD '95) is happily back behind the pottery wheel obsessing about color and form

#### Carter Brooks (MS '06)

My daughter is currently a Junior at UC Berkeley majoring in Applied Math, and doing the ERG minor! (Which she discovered on her own.) She is currently president of the environmental consulting club BEACON.

#### Chris Hyun (MA 15 / PhD 20):

ERGies from the Newbies 2013 cohort in Pacifica, California for an autumn 2022 weekend getaway.



#### Sam Arons (MS 2007)

Sam and his family moved back to the Bay after a 2.5-year pandemic hiatus on the Sonoma Coast. He's settled down in Oakland (Rockridge) and looks forward to catching up with ERGies!

Juan Pablo Carvallo (MS 2013, PhD 2019) Second son Caspian about to turn 1, 2022 was a hard year! Big brother Santino finding his way around his new role, slowly but without pressure.



#### Kersten Johnson (MS 1985)

Recently diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer (Sept 2022), prognosis 6 months to 2 years.

#### Deepa Lounsbury (MS 2013)

I still live in Oakland and have a 3 year old and 6 year old. Bonsai, the puppy I adopted while at ERG, passed away.



Nikky Avila (PhD 2018) We are in San Diego :)

#### Steve Fetter (PhD/1985, MS/1983)

Marie will retire in March from her position as a nurse-midwife and OB/GYN nurse-practitioner. She is looking forward to time with the grandchildren, volunteer work, baking, art, and travel, starting with a two-week trip to Morocco with a friend in April.

Alex J. Horne (Ph. D. University of Dundee, Scotland, 1969. Now emeritus Prof CEE) My rock/blues/country band, "Mo Waters", was able to resume public performances last fall following a gap due to Covid. Work is now in progress recording a CD of ecological songs including "Fixing Global Warming" and the "Wetlands Song".

#### Elizabeth Carlassare (M.S. 1992)

Elizabeth and her husband Jon welcomed baby boy Milo into the world on Sep 27, 2021. Milo is a complete ray of sunshine!



### In Memoriam

This section celebrates the lives of people who give the term "ERGie" its luminosity and resonance.



### Professor Robert F. Sawyer

(1935-2022)

Dr. Robert F. Sawyer, an ERG affiliate and ERG Chair from 1984–1988, passed away on November 17th, 2022. Dr. Sawyer joined UC Berkeley's Mechanical Engineering Department as an assistant professor in 1966, gained tenure, and stayed until he retired in 1991. He held a joint appointment as a Senior Faculty Scientist at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and was selected the first Class of 1935 Professor of Energy in 1988. His work focused on air pollution, vehicle emissions, and energy, environmental, and regulatory policy. He served as mentor to students and colleagues alike, and guided many ERGies through their master's projects and PhD dissertations. He supported many former ERGies and others throughout their careers. Professor Cathy Koshland remembers, "Bob was my mentor, a major collaborator and fellow teacher to whom I give credit for launching me on my Berkeley career. He was a champion for women and underrepresented students at Cal, particularly in Engineering."

### Coming Attractions

We hope you will join us for our upcoming activities in 2023. If you have ideas, please don't hesitate to get in touch!

**ERGAN Board Recruitment:** ERGAN is still looking for recruits to join the board. We're looking to fill the following positions: Secretary, Special Projects Officer, Communications Chair, and Webmaster. Joining the ERGAN Board allows you to connect with ERGies from across generations, establish a leadership presence in the wider ERG community, often be the first to hear about new career opportunities, and play a key role in shaping the network's future. Our monthly board meetings are casual and fun.

ERGAN needs a full leadership team to properly support our growing network. The time commitment is minimal, no more than an average of two hours per month. Descriptions of the various ERGAN board roles can be found <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>. Email Rashmi at <a href="https://example.com/here">president@ergies.org</a> if you're interested. We would love to hear from you!

#### Annual Lecture and Cathy Koshland Retirement Celebration:

Longtime ERG professor Cathy Koshland retired in 2022. Professor Koshland will be giving ERG's Annual Lecture on April 13, 2023; join us for a celebratory reception from 5-6pm in Giannini Lobby, with lecture to follow at 6:30pm in Sibley Auditorium. ERGAN will plan a picnic and hike in Berkeley on Saturday, April 15, with concurrent programming for ERGies who don't live in the Bay Area.

**ERGAN-Sponsored Colloquium:** ERGAN will sponsor a happy hour following one of ERG's colloquiums in March 8th. This will be an opportunity for alumni to connect with current ERG students and faculty.

Mentorship Programs, Continued: The ERGAN Alumni to Alumni Mentorship Program will continue through October 2023. If it goes well, we'll start another cohort next November. The new ERGAN Student Mentorship Program will continue through the end of the school year in May. If there is interest and capacity, we'll kick off another cohort in the fall.

### **Financials**

#### FY 2021-2022 ERGAN Balance Sheet

#### **Assets**

57,923 Bank

50 PayPal

50 Cash on hand

50 Sub-total cash assets

50 Non-cash assets

57,923 Total assets

#### Liabilities

<sup>5</sup>O Accounts Payable

50 Other

50 Total liabilities

### FY 2021-2022 ERGAN Income Statement

#### Revenues

53,620 Membership Dues & Donations

53 Bank interest

<sup>5</sup>O Event Registrations

50 Other cash revenue

50 Non-cash revenue

53,620 Total Revenue

#### Expenses

\$2,096 Communications (cash)

<sup>5</sup>O Communications (non-cash)

**Net Income / Loss** 

<sup>5</sup>O Events

\$235 Transaction fees

Other cash expenses
Other non-cash expenses

52,332 Total Expenses

#### **Net Assets**

<sup>5</sup>7,923 Net Assets

#### Assets

<sup>\$</sup>1,293 Net Income

ERGAN held steady in terms of its financial position over the previous fiscal year. Dues increased year over year, thanks to our generous members. At \$2,096, the primary expense was paying for one year of Wild Apricot (the service platform we use for ergies.org), the rates for which have increased since the last time we paid them for two years of hosting in 2020. It is a fairly high rate, especially since we have to use a majority of the money we collect in dues for this expense alone. The board has done a fair amount of research over the past year to find

a different, less expensive alternative. However, we have yet to find something that covers all our needs. If any ERGie out there has knowledge on member platforms, we could very much use your wisdom! Please reach out to president@ergies.org.

With your continued financial support, we will continue building up our financial base so that our assets can enable the next Big Event (date TBD) and other digital and in-person programming.

### **Current ERGAN Board**



#### President

#### Rashmi Sahai (MS '12)

Rashmi is currently enjoying being a full-time mom, raising her four-year-old son and one-year-old daughter. She has more than seven years of experience in campus sustainability working for the University of California and Stanford University. She has expertise in sustainability metrics data gathering, analysis, and reporting; greenhouse gas accounting and REC management; resource modeling and planning; and running targeted conservation programs. Rashmi enjoys practicing karate, whitewater rafting, and spending time with her large extended family.



#### Secretary

#### Froylan Emilfer Sifuentes (M5 '11, PhD '18)

Froy is an assistant professor at Western Washington University teaching classes on efficiency, building design, and energy. Froy is interested in the decarbonization pathways of regional electric grids in the US and in China. He has experience in electricity planning modeling, building energy simulations, and demand response modeling to provide flexibility to the grid. He enjoys reading science fiction, playing board games and video games, and riding his bike on dirt and pavement.



#### Treasurer

#### Heidi Fuchs (MS '13)

Heidi works at LBNL, helping lead the Industrial Applications team's energy management systems research as the resident interdisciplinary ERGie. She works to understand change at organizations with ISO 50001-based energy management systems, increase these systems' uptake as a path to decarbonization, and advance the resilience of manufacturing water supplies. Heidi and her husband Thomas left the Bay in 2021 for her hometown of Boulder, CO, where she's been electrifying a 1940s house, becoming an official city Pollinator Advocate, building her Fun Aunt capacities, engaging in climate grief work, and playing outdoors (Rocky Mountains edition).



### Special Projects Officer

Chad White (MS '99, PhD '08)

Chad still works at the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, currently in the grants division. On the side, he manages a study on biomass recovery and utilization that, he hopes, will create a circular economy platform for biomass generated from wildfire prevention and landfill diversion. During the pandemic he and his partner Tom electrified their 100-year-old house in San Francisco. He works hard to give his dog Macx a good life and plays volleyball with techies to stay current. This is his third term as an ERGAN officer.



#### Student-Alumni Relations Chair

Diana Dombrowski (expected MS '23)

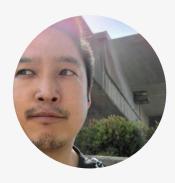
Diana is a master's student at ERG and holds dual degrees in Environmental Science and in History from the University of Florida. She is currently a Graduate Student Research Assistant in the Electricity Markets & Policy Group at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. Diana is also Appalachian Voice's inaugural Carbon Removal Fellow and is working on a pilot project to reforest abandoned mine lands as a nature-based solution for carbon removal. She enjoys yoga, biking, bouldering, and spending time with her dog, Deuce.



**Events Chair** 

Jessie Knapstein (MS '17)

Ms. Knapstein is a 2017 ERGie Alumni from the MS program. Professionally, Jessie joined Energy & Environmental Economics (E3) in 2019, where she helps utilities, system operators, and state agencies meet climate goals. Previously, at utility Pacific Gas & Electric, she led efforts to prepare for climate-related impacts and conducted analysis of climate and energy regulation and legislation. She has also worked for the U.S. Department of Energy on funding and commercializing energy-efficient building technologies. Ms. Knapstein holds an M.S. in Energy and Resources and a Master of Public Policy degree from the University of California, Berkeley and a B.A. in Business Administration, with a minor in Physics, from the University of Florida. In her free time, Jessie enjoys squeezing dogs and camping/hiking (typical ERGie stuff).



#### **DEI Chair**

#### Chris Hyun (MA '15, PhD '20)

Chris (he/him) initiated ERGAN's direct work on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) and became ERGAN's first DEI Chair in 2021. He serves at the California State Water Board as Climate Lead, Lead for Water Conservation Emergency Regulations, and Racial Equity Action Plan team member. In these roles, he ensures the Board does all it can to mitigate climate impacts, save water, and improve social equity. He is also on AGU's Science and Society Executive Committee, ERG Executive Committee, and ERG Diversity Committee. After obtaining an environmental science degree from Banaras Hindu University in India, he joined ERG as part of the Newbies 2013 cohort (aka "best cohort," aka "the cohort that gifted the espresso machine") and received his PhD during lockdown with a designated emphasis in development engineering. He lives with his significant othERGie, Eric, across from campus, which he considers his "front garden." He lived in India for over a decade and enjoys creative writing, karaoke, and drag.



#### Fundraising Chair

#### Renata Marson (Phd, 2006)

Since 2022, Renata has been serving as a tutor to Getsmarter and the University of Cambridge's Business and Climate Change: Towards Net Zero Emissions online short course. Her role has been guiding and helping executives from all business sectors to gain the knowledge and skills to decarbonise their business, enhance the resilience of their organizations, and unlock new opportunities for growth and innovation both now and into the future. She has been also working for the nonprofit World Resources Institute (WRI) for the past seven years as a Research, Data, and Innovation senior consultant. As senior consultant in the past 20 years, advising federal environmental agencies, city planners, and different economic sectors, energy utilities and local communities, recommending an integrated territorial and climate governance and planning strategy focused mainly on Brazil, and some with support of GEF Sustainable Cities Program. She has been bridging scientific evidence with real-world policy and business: working with a transdisciplinary perspective to understand the complex processes involving climate change, land use policy making, governance, infrastructure impact, economic decoupling and climate justice. Renata received a postdoc in Energy Biosciences and a PhD in Energy and Resources, both from UC Berkeley. She holds a Master's in Energy degree and a Chemical Engineering degree, both from the University of São Paulo, Brazil. At UC Berkeley she has worked as a lecturer and the Catholic University of Brasilia, Brazil, as a full professor. She has served as volunteer to several climate change, forest, water and marine conservation areas and programs in the Federal District and in the Northeast Coast of São Paulo State, Brazil.



#### Communications Chair

#### Carter Brooks (MS '06)

Carter is engaging the conceptual, emotional and existential issues facing humanity as an Artist and Philosopher of Climate Art. He is known for his installations of melting ice that bear witness to our grander crysophere's demise. His philosophical themes include long-term thinking, and identifying and encouraging the human capacities and qualities important in the climate era. He is co-founder of Climate Earth, which provides EPDs to the construction industry and supply chain assessments to Fortune 50 companies. When not working on Climate Art, Carter is also an independent software developer, and lately has been engaged in online event production. He is father to Alison, currently a first-year student at UC Berkeley.



#### Webmaster

#### John Galloway (MS '00)

John began working in the "sustainability" field before that term was in wide usage, having started in renewable energy technology and policy and most recently consulting with corporations and financial institutions on carbon management, "net zero" strategy, and setting science-based climate targets at Anthesis Group. He's also worked in sustainability and clean energy teams at Google, San Francisco International Airport, and PG&E with specialization in distributed energy strategy, storage, and transmission and substation interconnection of renewables. Prior to ERG, John completed an Electrical Engineering degree at Georgia Institute of Technology. He likes to write and perform comedy skits, cooks, bikes, hikes, and is learning to play the Celtic harp (sorry, neighbors!).



ERG Chair Designee

#### Amanda Okamoto

Amanda Okamoto joined the Energy and Resources Group in 2022. As Manager she provides administrative, operational, and program support for the ERG community, allowing ERG's passionate and talented faculty and students to pursue their crucial work in sustainability and justice. Amanda received her BA in Rhetoric at Cal, and has had a wide-ranging career running projects and operations at banks, schools, and non-profits. She even worked as a cabinet maker and woodworker. She loves all the good stuff—cooking, hiking, books, swimming, family—and is always ready to try something new.

### **ERGAN Structure**

President Treasurer Secretary Special Projects Rashmi Sahai Heidi Fuchs Froylan E. Sifuentes Chad White OFFICERS

Student Rep / Alumni-Student Relations Fundraising Chair Events / In-person Networking Communications / Social Media Networking

ERG Chair Designee Chancellor Designee

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Diana Dombrowski Renata Marson Jessie Knapstein Carter Brooks John Galloway Chris Hyun ERGAN BOARD includes officers

**ERGAN LEADERSHIP** (Includes board

ERGAN (Includes everyone)

Amanda Okamoto (Vacant)

Jessie Knapstein

(vacant)

charge of overall administration of ERGAN. They meet monthly.

The board is in charge of the overall policy and priorities of ERGAN. They meet quarterly.

The leadership develops and executes events and helps the Board develop programs and direction for ERGAN. They meet anually

ERGAN is a living alumni organization.

Anyone who holds a degree from the Energy and Resources Group is automatically a member. The purpose of ERGAN is to support the interests of its alumni and to create a forum for ongoing engagement

The goal is to get
ERGies into contact
with other Ergies at

#### Big Event Chair

#### Career Track Ambassadors

#### **Geographic Ambassadors**

Geographic Ambassador - Bay Area Barbara Haya Garvin Heath Geographic Ambassador - Colorado Geographic Ambassador - Europe Deborah Comland Geographic Ambassador - New England Elsa Derby Shannon Graham Geographic Ambassador - Middle East Marcus Moench Geographic Ambassador - Rockies Geographic Ambassador - Pacific Northwest Mary Louise Gilford Geographic Ambassador - Washington, DC Joanna Lewis

#### 

1979: Ross Pumfrey	1995: Manish Desai	2011: (vacant)
1980: (vacant)	1996: (vacant)	2012: (vacant)
1981: David von Hippel	1997: Chad White	2013: (vacant)
1982: Michael Lazarus	1998: (vacant)	2014: (vacant)
1983: (vacant)	1999: (vacant)	2015: (vacant)
1984: Jim Williams	2000: Jolanka Nickerman	2016: (vacant)
1985: Rafael Friedmann	2001: (vacant)	2017: Peter Worley
1986: (vacant)	2002: Beth Zotter	2018: (vacant)
1987: Rich Myhre	2003: Amber Kerr	2019: (vacant)
1988: (vacant)	2004: (vacant)	2020: (vacant)
1989: Denis Sarigiannis	2005: Sintana Vergara	2021: (vacant)
1990: (vacant)	2006: (vacant)	2022: (vacant)
1991: (vacant)	2007: (vacant)	
1992: (vacant)	2008: (vacant)	
1993: Sidney Bob Dietz	2009: (vacant)	

2010: Michaelangelo Tabone

### **Worldwide Alumni**

(Anyone with an ERG degree)

1994: (vacant)

# Want to get involved with ERGAN?

Want to get involved with ERGAN? Email an ambassador or contact the ERGAN Board.

Have an idea about an ERGAN event or mode of engagement? Email any of the ERGAN Officers.

ERGAN email addresses are <name of position>@ERGies.org For example, President@ERGies.org or SpecialProjects@ERGies.org.