



Council of  
Independent  
Colleges

2023 PRESIDENTS INSTITUTE  
**Designing the Future** >>>

**Bold Actions to Address the  
Climate Crisis**

January 6, 2023



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## Presenters

**Bryan Alexander**  
Senior Scholar, Department of Learning and Design, Georgetown University

**L. Song Richardson**  
President, Colorado College

**Ralph Trecartin**  
President, Pacific Union College

**Chair: Charlotte P. Morris**  
President, Tuskegee University

# Future universities and climate change

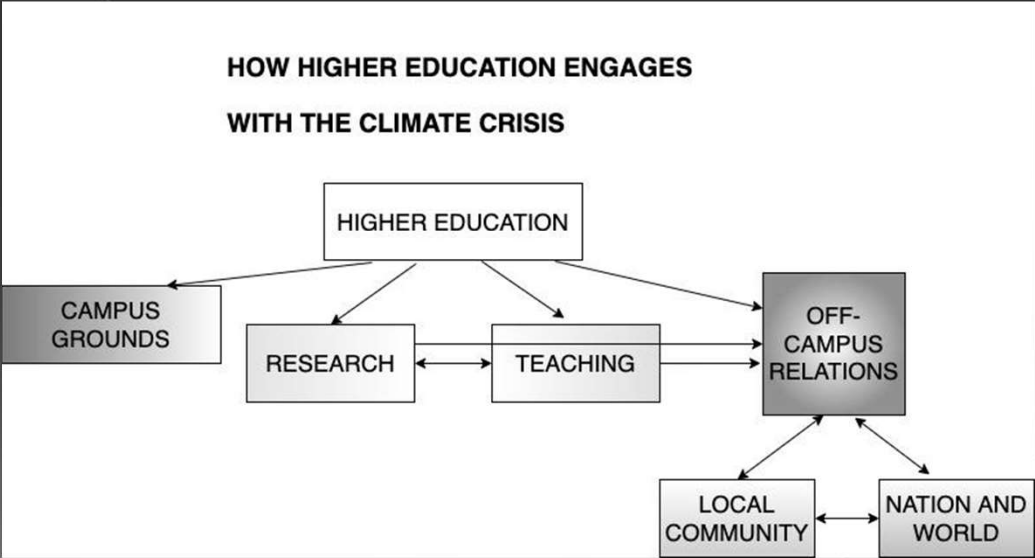


[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northwest\\_Passage](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northwest_Passage)



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# Multiple engagement levels

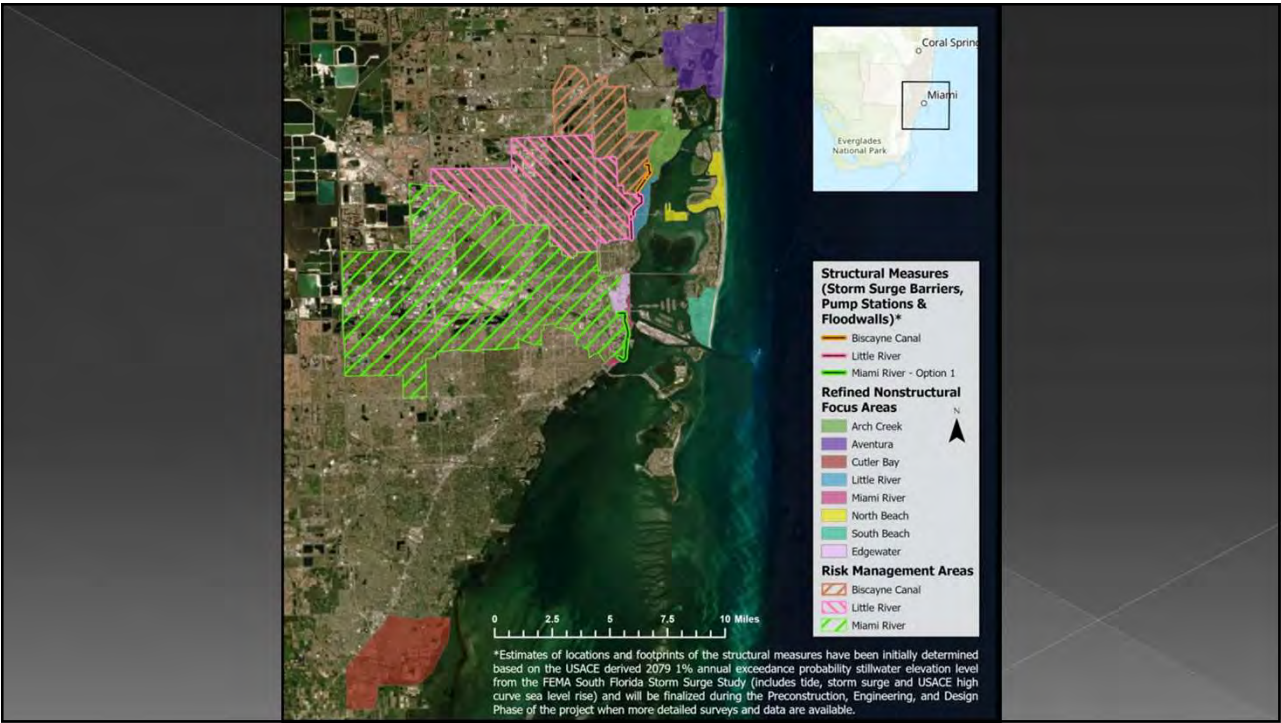


## Climate change on campus

- Buildings
- Power
- Transportation
- Green IT?
- Food systems
- Basic needs
- Relocation from water, desert





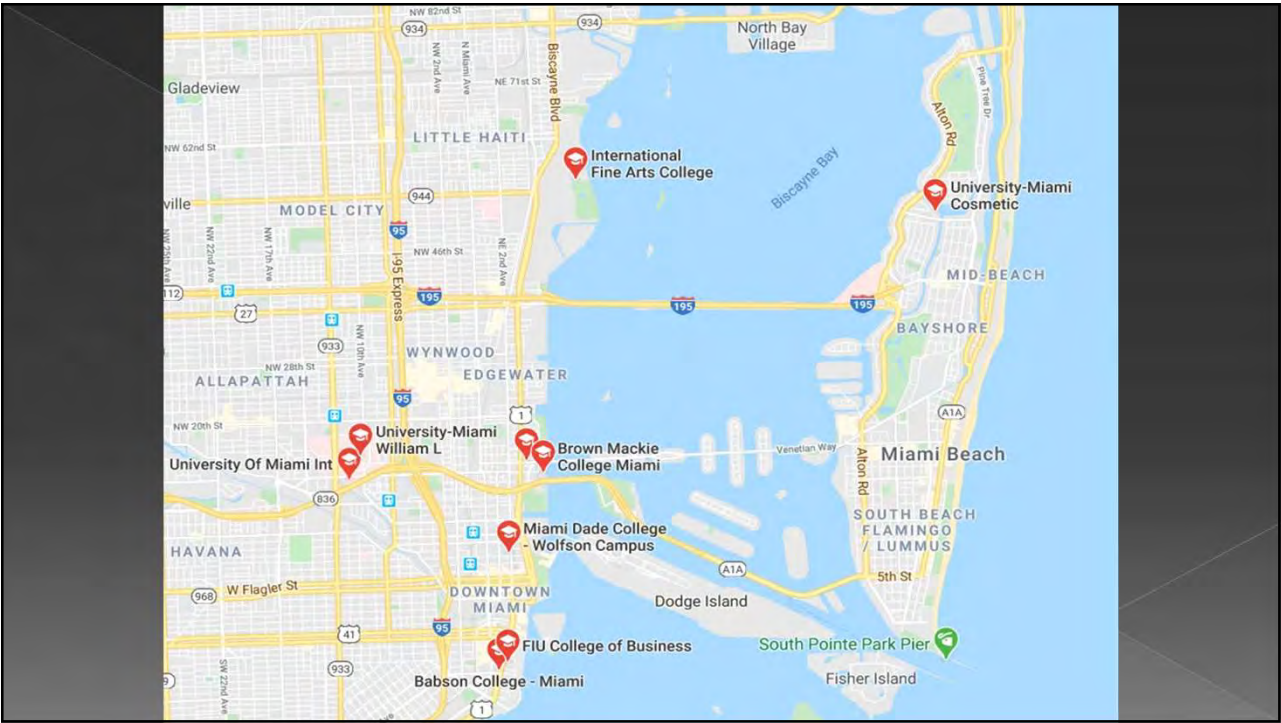


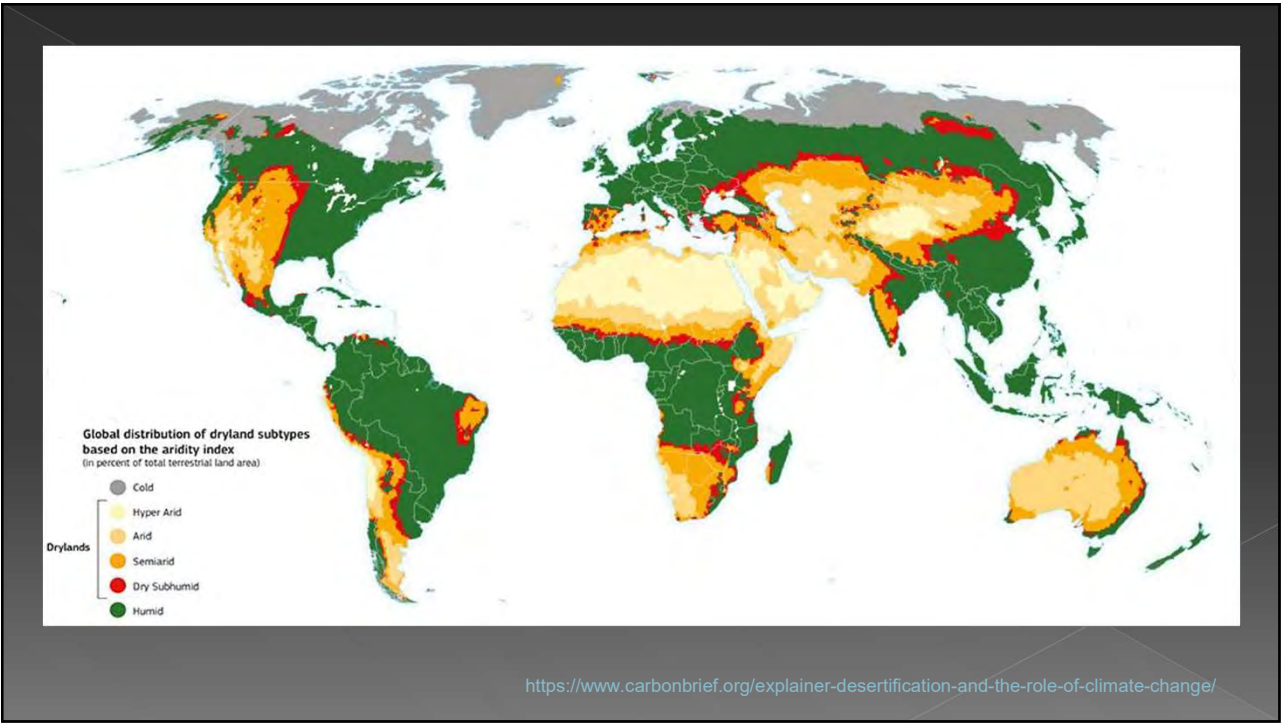


Bold Actions to Address the Climate Crisis



Bold Actions to Address the Climate Crisis





## Climate change impacts

### Research:

- Fields expand, contract
- New domains, disciplines

## Climate change impacts

### Support?

- How to preserve endangered sites, materials
- Political pressures

## Academic travel?





- All webinars?
- HyFlex meetings?

But:

- Inequalities
- Resistance





## Climate change impacts

Teaching: curricula:

- Expand current work
- Add new microcredentials, programs, centers

## Climate change impacts

Teaching: pedagogies:

- Project based
- Inquiry based
- Simulations/gaming



Barcelona

Stephen Burgen

in Barcelona

Sat 12 Nov 2022 03:00 EST

f

Barcelona students to take mandatory climate crisis module from 2024

Course thought to be world first agreed after university bowed to pressure from seven-day End Fossil protest

A photograph showing a person in the foreground holding up a blue smoke canister, releasing a large plume of blue smoke into the air. In the background, there are city buildings and other people, suggesting a protest or demonstration in an urban setting.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/nov/12/barcelona-students-to-take-mandatory-climate-crisis-module-from-2024>

## Climate change impacts

Role of academia in the crisis:

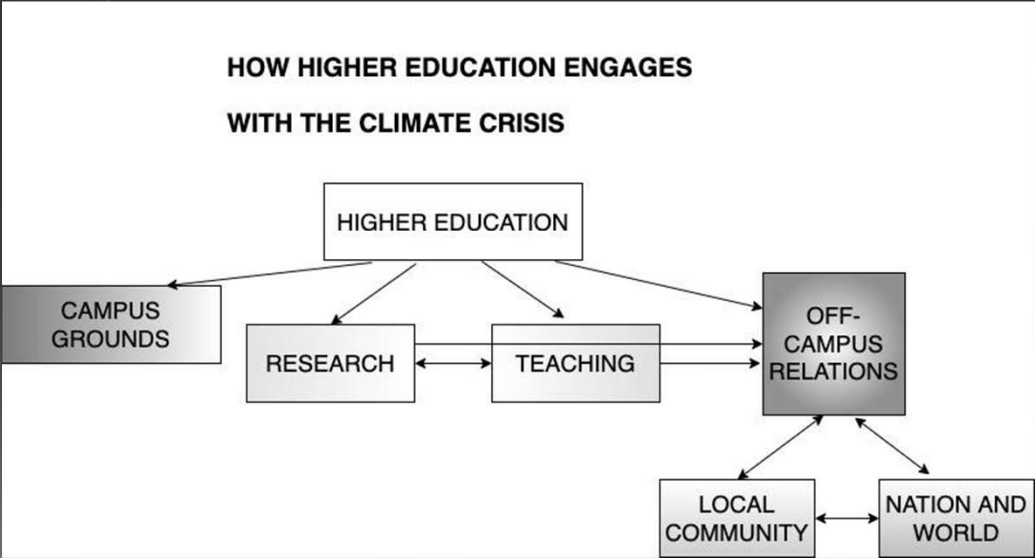
- Work with local efforts?
- Collaboration/friction

## Climate change impacts

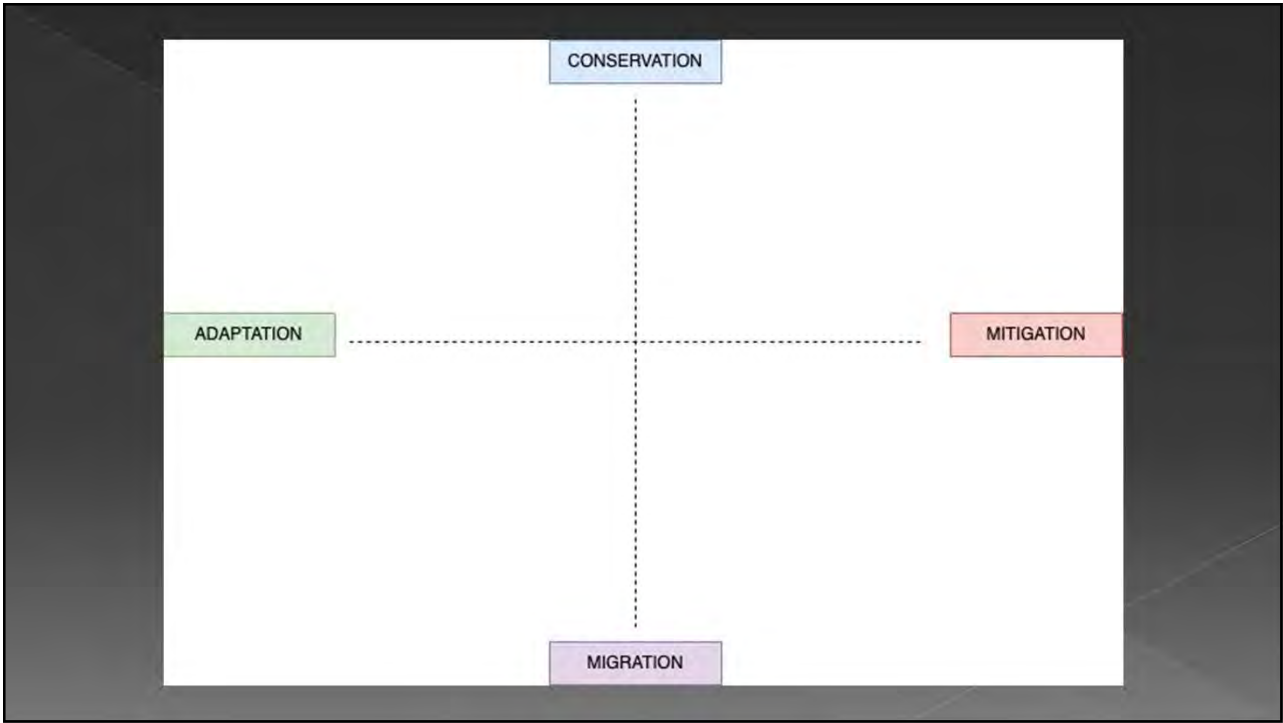
Role of academia in the crisis:

- Public intellectuals?
- Lead mitigation?
- Support climate migrants?
- Global alliances?

# Multiple engagement levels












[www.coloradocollege.edu](http://www.coloradocollege.edu)


# Snapshot

- Founded 1874
- Block Plan since 1970
- 2,425 students
- 80 majors, minors, specialized programs



**COLORADO COLLEGE**  
**CARBON**  
**NEUTRAL**  
**2020**

**1<sup>st</sup>** in Rocky Mountain Region  
**8<sup>th</sup>** in North America



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**COLORADO COLLEGE**  
**CARBON**  
**NEUTRAL**  
**2020**

Reducing On-Campus Emissions by **75%**

**100%** Renewable Energy


Campus Engagement

Community Partnerships

Efficiency Upgrades

Building Renovations

Carbon Offsets











Tree Semester

Teaching & Research in Environmental Education


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Anthropology




Race, Ethnicity & Migration Studies



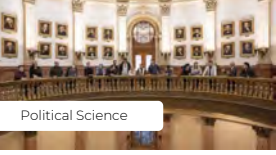
Mathematics & Computer Science




History




Econ. & Business




Political Science




Southwest Studies




Organismal Biology & Ecology




Environmental Studies Program



Geology

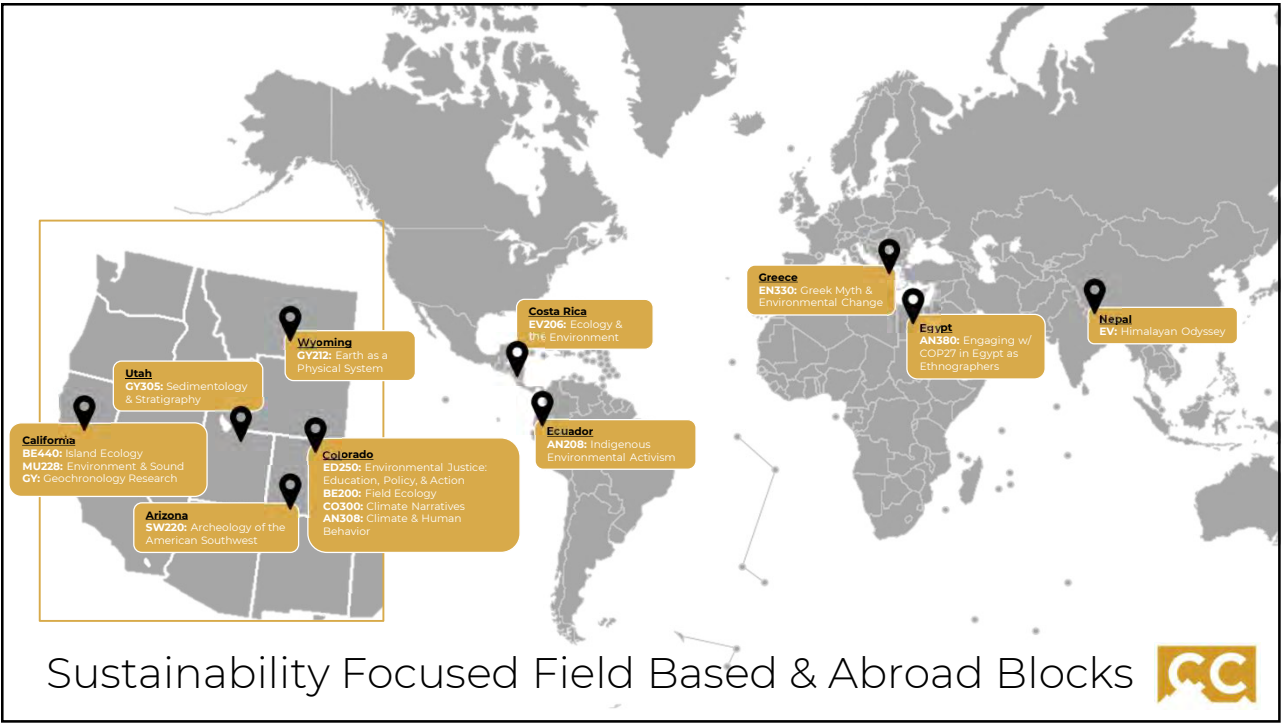


Philosophy

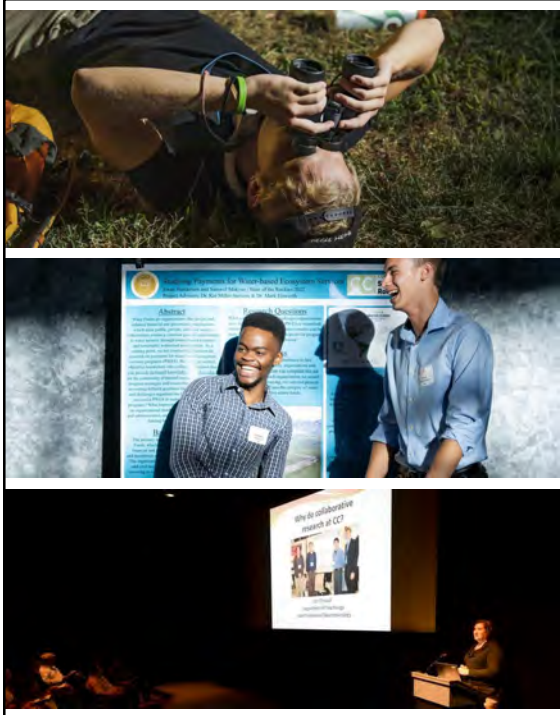


Sociology

**28 out of 30** academic departments at CC offer courses that focus on sustainability







Student/Faculty Collaborative  
Research


.....

**1/5** of faculty conduct research that  
focuses on elements of sustainability


**1/3** of departments have at least one  
member engaging in sustainability  
focused research









**Public Interest Fellowship Program:**  
Connecting students to CO nonprofits




**State of the Rockies:** Student research around social and political challenges in the West



**Anthropology Dept.:** Students at COP27, staffing the Youth Environmental Alliance for Higher Education exhibit booth



**Office of Sustainability:** Opportunities for students to lead sustainability initiatives across campus



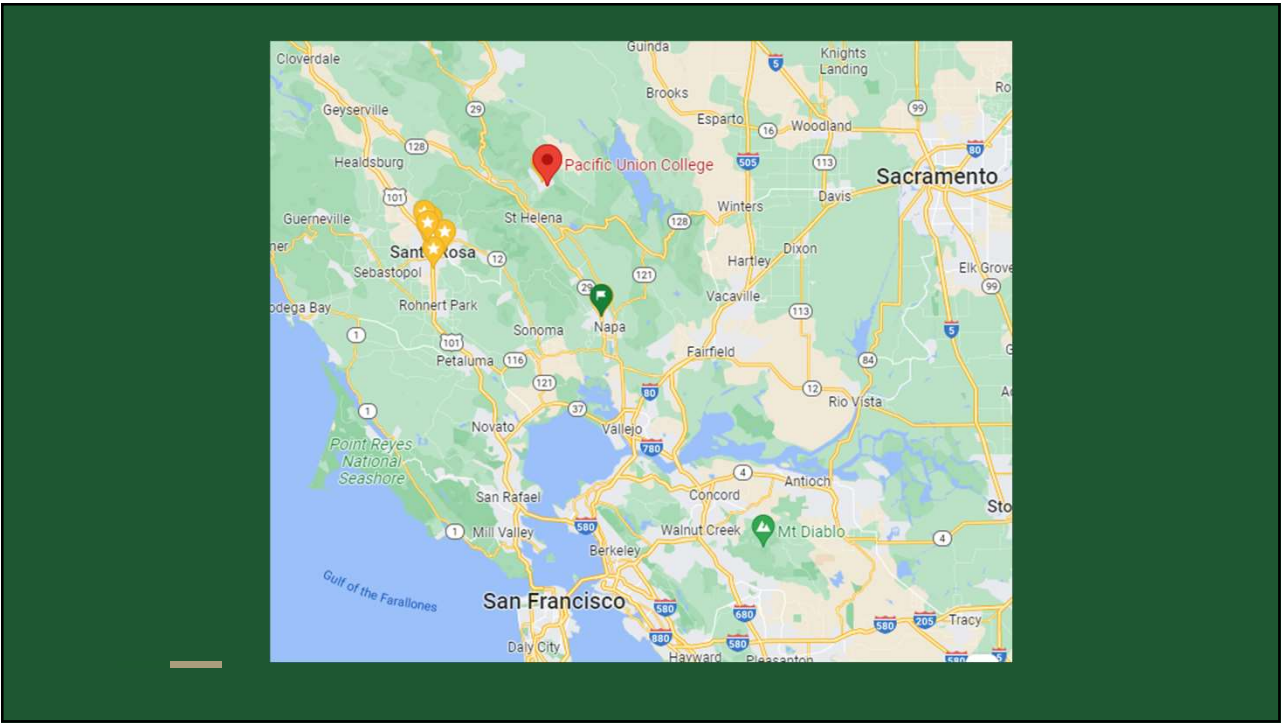
**CCE:** Supporting student community engagement in CO Springs



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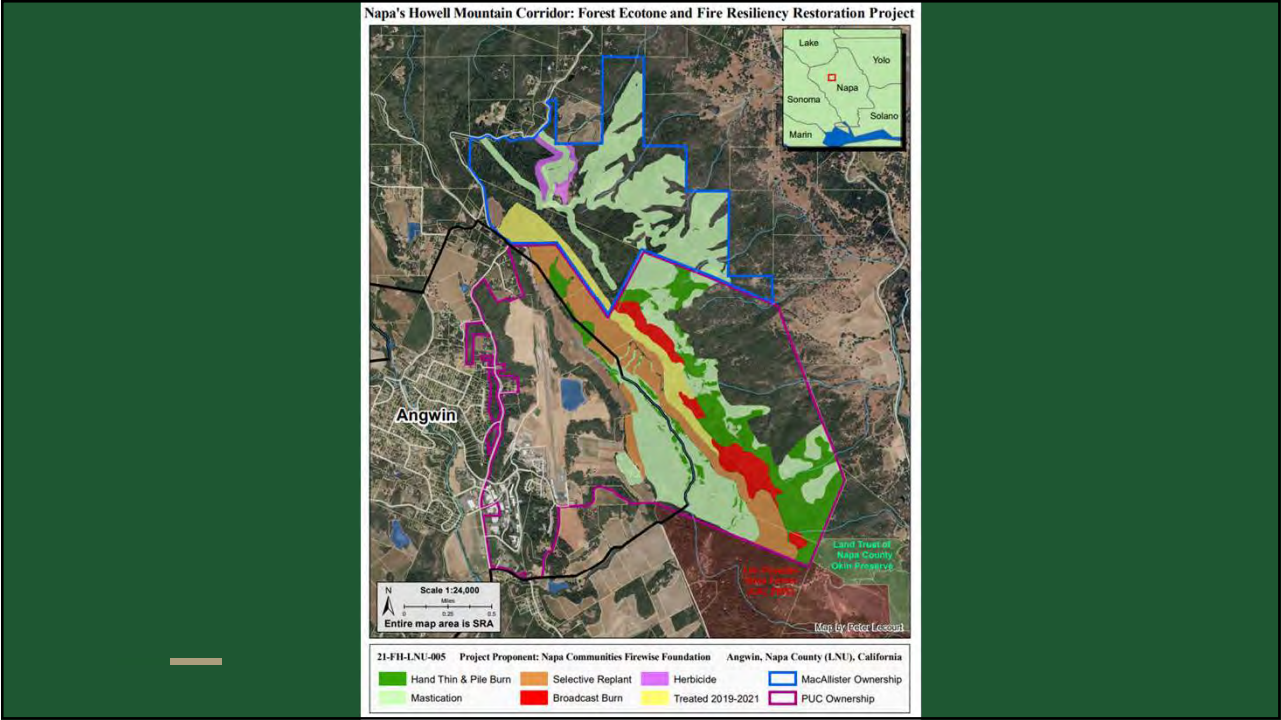
- Private, Christian, liberal arts college
  - 140 years
  - Over 800 students
  - Over 70 degree programs including nursing and health sciences, business, science and technology, behavioral sciences, communication and visual arts
- 



## **Environmental Efforts**

- Water reclamation and management
- Sustainable forest management
- Land trusts
- Conservation technology major
- Volunteer work and research projects
- Fire Mitigation

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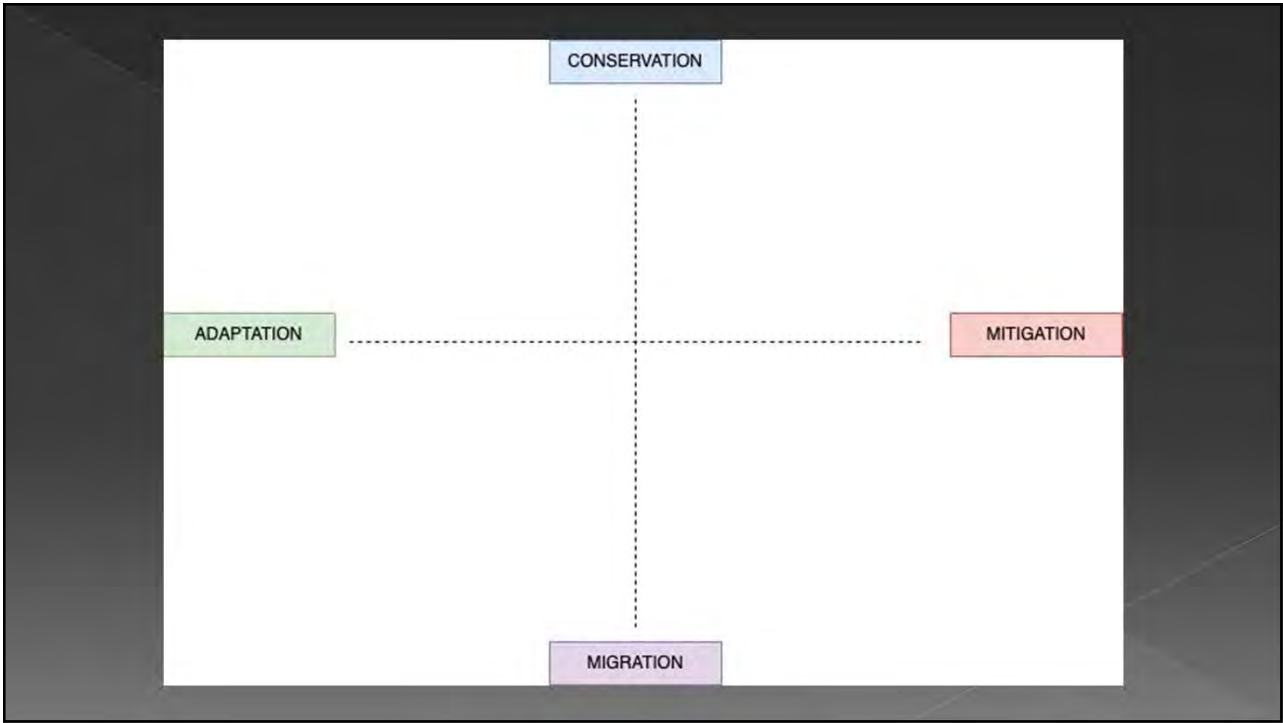


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DISCUSSION:

*WHAT MORE CAN  
WE DO?*

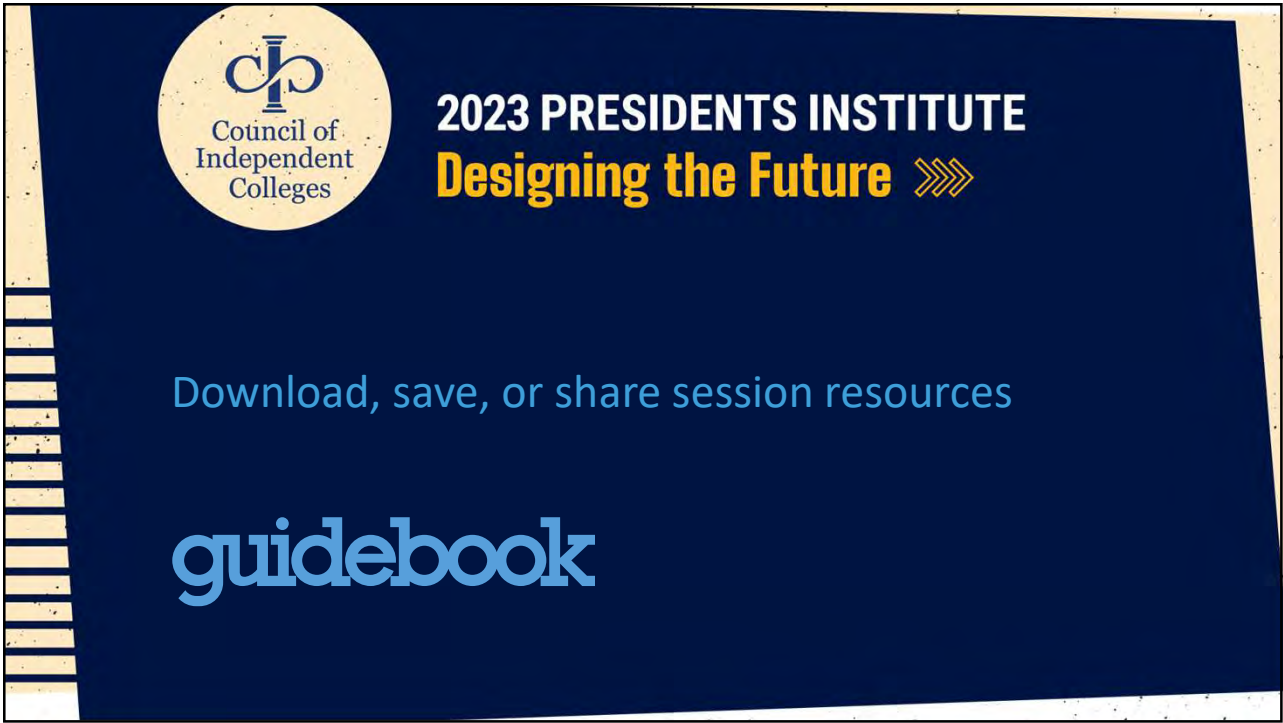



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# QUESTIONS?





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Download, save, or share session resources

**guidebook**



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Thank you



Dynamic Campus



Stevens Strategy  
*Colleges • Universities • Schools*