Welcome to the UCSF Climate Health Dialogue Newsletter.

The indefatigable members of The Human Health and Climate Change (HHCC) student group

Naomi Beyeler, Co-Director, Evidence-Policy, Global Health Sciences

Katherine Gundling, MD (School of Medicine)

The ad hoc Academic Senate Committee on Sustainability, Marya Zlatnik, MD, MMS, Chair

contributing important links.

A big thank you to the Office of Sustainability and Gail Lee for supporting the Newsletter’s production and for periodic funding opportunities for trainees.

organization

Co-founded by 4th year medical student Sarah Shear, learn how California physicians have offset their personal travel emissions with carbon credits and offsets. How can we engage the entire UCSF community in an “all in” strategy to change the culture of faculty travel?

Interested in the carbon footprint of faculty travel? Join our students Colin Baylen and Stephen Ettinger, along with many others, was clearly the greatest public health threat of the 21st century. COVID-19 has served as a wake-up call for all of us to reflect on our individual and collective responsibility to mitigate climate change—both as individuals and as a community.

As we look back, we can see the impact of COVID-19 on our lives, our health, and the environment. The combination of COVID-19 and the 50th anniversary of Earth Day provided an opportunity to consider the link between climate and health in the context of the pandemic.

Here are six common themes that emerged from the Climate Health Dialogue:

1. UCSF has the potential to serve as an international leader in education, research, clinical care and advocacy in Climate Health. With its strong reputation and passion to make a difference, UCSF can bend the curve of global warming and train Climate Health leaders of the future – if the community acts quickly to accelerate progress toward a healthier planet.

2. Work in silos has inhibited collaboration among many dedicated and talented community members. There have been few opportunities for dialogue and informed growth. The geography of multiple worksites contributes to a sense of isolation and “not-in-my-backyard” attitudes.

3. Solutions to global warming are also well-known solutions to health disparities. How can we accelerate progress on both fronts?

4. UCSF has limited capacity and infrastructure that should be available and must be used to address the health implications of climate change.

5. The UCSF community needs enhanced pathways to translate Climate Health research into education and opportunities at UCSF. By instituting a platform for Climate Health communication, the Newsletter aims to augment and accelerate what UCSF does best: advance the related science, education, clinical care, and advocacy for present and future generations.

6. Partnerships should be encouraged with multiple entities, such as public health agencies, non-profit organizations, corporations, and other medical institutions.

Health centralized hub to facilitate collaborations and mitigate the barriers of space, financial support, and time that discourage busy people from getting started.

UCSF Climate Health Dialogue

Self-assessment of strengths, challenges and opportunities for building a robust response to the health

UCSF. The changing climate, with its associated threats of heat, floods, vector-borne diseases, displacement, and matters of days.

Prior to the pandemic, many faculty, students, and staff had been hard at work advancing Climate Health efforts at UCSF. The geography of multiple worksites has contributed to a sense of isolation and “not-in-my-backyard” attitudes.

Here are some of the highlights of the Climate Health Dialogue:

The two topics—climate and pandemics—are intricately related, and next month’s Newsletter will consider responses to the imperative for a healthier planet.

Medical Students Call On Us

To you, for Climate Action & Health

UCSF Climate Health Newsletter

Advancing Science, Building Bridges, Creating Community

Medical Students for a Sustainable Future express how the climate crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic have put us in a self-assessment of strengths, challenges and opportunities for building a robust response to the health anomalies of the planet.

The two topics—climate and pandemics—are intricately related, and next month’s Newsletter will consider responses to the imperative for a healthier planet.

If you have comments, feedback or suggestions for improvement, please feel free to share this Newsletter with others, and let us know if you have comments, feedback or suggestions for improvement.

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