

**You're Invited! International Conference, October 25 - 27, 2023:**

## **The Future of the Amazon**

*A New Era of Indigenous Activism, Post-Carbon Environmental Models, and Latin American Partnerships with China and the Global South*

**Host:** Orfalea Center, UCSB

**Location:** McCune Room (6020, HSSB)

**Date:** October 25 - 27

*Wednesday, 9am - 5pm: Panels and Roundtables*

*Thursday, 11am - 6pm: Panels, then Film Event @ 6pm, MCC*

*Friday, 2pm - 5pm: Brainstorming Groups and Interactions*

The gathering features in-person participation by Indigenous activists, environmental policymakers, activist-researchers, and NGOs from China, Ecuador, Brazil and other countries in the Amazon region.



**The Orfalea Center**  
for Global & International Studies

# The Future of the Amazon: A New Era of Indigenous Activism, Post-Carbon Environmental Models, and Latin American Partnerships with China and the Global South

The Orfalea Center for Global & International Studies, directed by Prof. Paul Amar, welcomes you to the international conference “The Future of the Amazon.” This event is open to the public and will grant certificates of participation/completion to students (high school and college), journalists, environmental activists, philanthropists, community residents, teachers, civil society organizations, researchers, businesspeople, and policy makers. The gathering features in-person participation by Indigenous activists, environmental policymakers, activist-researchers, and NGOs from China, Ecuador, Brazil and other countries in the Amazon region. The event is hosted by the Orfalea Center for Global & International Studies at the University of California Santa Barbara, made possible by the support of the Ford Foundation and the Paul Orfalea Gift Endowment.

## Conference Hotel:

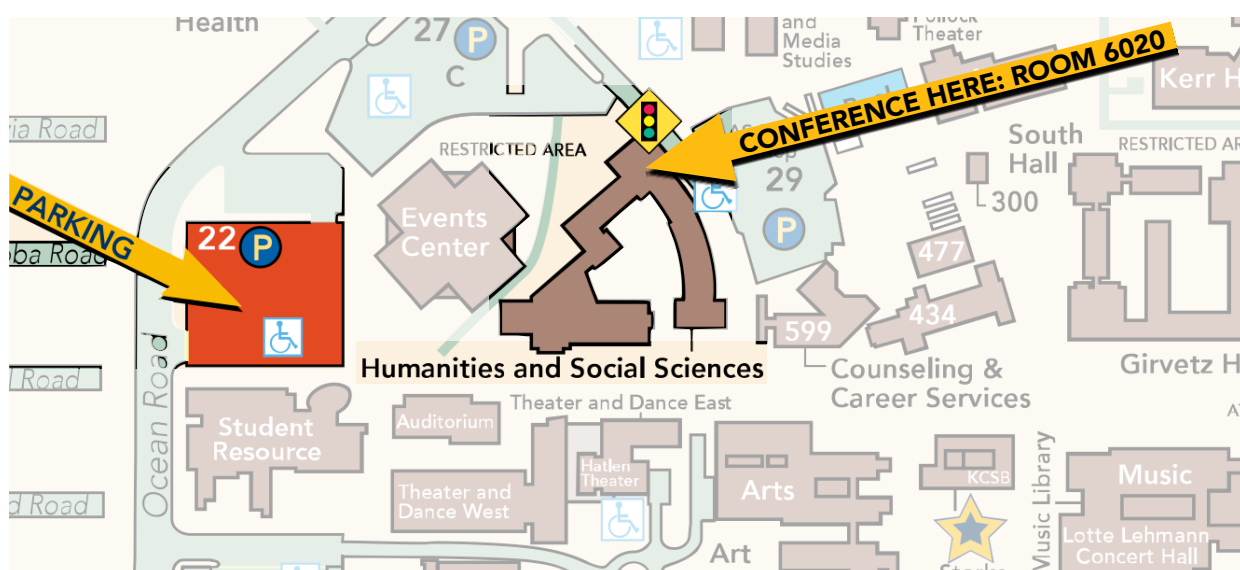
Hotel Milo, 202 W Cabrillo Blvd, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

## Conference Venue:

McCune Room,  
6020 Humanities and Social Sciences Building (6th Floor, HSSB),  
University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB),

## Parking:

Parking lot 22, 22B, and 27 on Ocean Road.



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# I Tuesday

## 24 October 2023

Conference Participants Arrive in Santa Barbara – Hotel Milo  
Free time to stroll along beach and downtown on State Street

# I Wednesday

## 25 October 2023

### 09:00 Gather for Transport to Venue

Guests at Hotel Milo meet in lobby to go together to UCSB

### 09:30 Breakfast

Coffee and breakfast will be provided in McCune Room (HSSB Building 6020)

### 10:00 Welcome and Introduction

Charles Hale — Dean of Social Sciences, UC Santa Barbara  
Kum-Kum Bhavnani — Assoc. Vice-Chancellor, UC Santa Barbara

### 10:30 Panel I

*Futures Intersecting: New Indigenous Leadership, Post-Extractive Development Models, and Shifting South-South Geopolitics*

#### Speakers:

Lisa Rofel — UC Santa Cruz  
Paul Amar — UC Santa Barbara  
Fernando Brancoli — Federal University of Rio de Janeiro  
María Amelia Viteri — University of Maryland, College Park  
Consuelo Fernández-Salvador — Universidad San Francisco de Quito  
Li Zhang — Amherst College  
Discussant: Eng-Beng Lim — Dartmouth College  
Discussant: Juan Manuel Rubio — UC Santa Barbara

#### Book Launch:

This panel will launch and discuss the new book, “The Tropical Silk Road: China and the Future of South America,” collectively authored by many of our conference attendees. In addition, this panel will strive to generate questions that we will follow throughout the conference.

### 12:00 Keynote Addresses

David Fajardo Torres — Yasunidxs Guapondelig  
Pedro Gutiérrez Guevara — Researcher at Kuska Estudio Jurídico  
Chair: María Amelia Viteri — University of Maryland, College Park

### 01:00 Lunch Break

Catered in McCune Room

### 02:00 Roundtable I

*BRICS Futures and Global-South Developmentalist Contradictions*

#### Speakers:

Laura Trajber Waisbich — Oxford University  
Ana Saggiore Garcia — Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro  
Paul Amar — UC Santa Barbara  
Fernando Brancoli — Federal University of Rio de Janeiro  
Cai Yiping — UC Irvine  
Discussants: Charmaine Chua and Ricardo Jacobs — UC Santa Barbara

### 03:30 Panel II

*Feminism, Queer Sovereignty, and “Rights of Nature” Activism in Amazonia*

#### Speakers:

Sigrid Vasconez — Anant National University  
Carlos Rojas — Duke University  
Sylvia Cifuentes — Mount Holyoke College  
Pedro Gutiérrez Guevara — Researcher at Kuska Estudio Jurídico  
Co-Chair: María Amelia Viteri — University of Maryland, College Park  
Co-Chair: Raquel Pacheco — UC Santa Barbara  
Discussant: Thaddeus Blanchette — Brazil's National Museum  
Discussant: Tristan Partridge — UC Santa Barbara

### 05:00 Dinner and Reception

Dinner will be catered in McCune Room (HSSB Building 6020)

### 06:00 Gather and Return to Hotel

Shuttle leaves from UCSB to Hotel Milo

**Thursday & Friday schedules, next page →**

# I Thursday

## 26 October 2023

### 10:00 Gather for Transport to Venue

Meet in hotel lobby to go to UCSB

### 10:30 Breakfast

Coffee and breakfast in McCune Room (HSSB Building 6020)

### 11:00 Panel III

*Projects and Partnerships between China and the Amazon Region: Challenges and Opportunities*

#### Speakers:

Cynthia Sanborn — Universidad del Pacifico

Claudia Melim-McLeod — Rainforest Foundation Norway

Gustavo Oliveira — Clark University

Carol Wise — University of Southern California

Chair: Cecilia Méndez — UC Santa Barbara

Discussants: David Pellow and Jia-Ching Chen — UC Santa Barbara

### 12:30 Lunch Break

Lunch break is held in McCune Room (HSSB Building 6020)

### 01:30 Roundtable II

*Indigenous Youth Activism in Latin America (focus Ecuador) since 2019: Lessons learned and challenges of today*

#### Speakers:

Yajaira Masaquiza — Pueblo Kichwa Salasaka, Alumni USFQ

David Menacho Tugumbango — Pueblo kichwa Imantag, Comunidad Colimbuela

Israel Arvelio Chumapi Ayui — Comunidad Shuar Yamaram Nunka

David Fajardo Torres — Yasunidxs Guapondelig

Rina Pakari Marcillo Perugachi — Pueblo Kichwa Otavalo

Elizabet Durazno — Organización Comunitaria de Mujeres en Resistencia

Sinchi Warmi Río Blanco

Chair: Consuelo Fernández-Salvador — Universidad San Francisco de Quito

Discussants: Giovanni Batz and Charles Hale — UC Santa Barbara

### 03:00 Open Exchange

Open Change with Audience attendees and mapping of questions and actions to take, collaboratively

### 04:00 Early Light Dinner

Early Light Dinner will be catered in McCune Room (HSSB Building 6020)

### 04:30 Webinar

*Voices from China: How NGOs are Working with Environmental Issues*

(Co-Sponsored by the Rainforest Foundation Norway and the Orfalea Center)

#### Speakers:

Xin Yu — WWF China, Priority Project Coordinator, Sustainable Food Consumption and Supply Chain

Peng Ren — Global Environmental Institute (GEI), Program Director of Overseas Investment, Trade and Environment

Boya Jiang — ClientEarth, Nature and Climate Lawyer

Chairs: Claudia Melim-McLeod and Paul Amar

### 06:00 Film Event: *Stepping Softly on the Earth* by Marcos Colón

(72 min | 2022 | Directed by Marcos Colón | USA | Filmed in Peru, Colombia, and Brazil)

Film Screening and Conversation with Director Marcos Colón

Location: UCSB MultiCultural Center

Discussants: Jeffrey Hoelle and Noa Cykman — UC Santa Barbara

### 08:00 Gather and Return to Hotel

Shuttle leaves from UCSB to Hotel Milo

# I Friday

## 27 October 2023

### 10:00 Gather for Transport to Venue

Gather in lobby of Milo Hotel for transportation to UCSB/McCune Room

### 11:00 Grant Writing Workshop

Lisa Rofel — UC Santa Cruz

Paul Amar — UC Santa Barbara

Siri Damman — Rainforest Foundation Norway

Chair: Manáira Athayde — UC Santa Barbara

### 12:00 Lunch in McCune Room

### 02:00 Orfalea Center Short Film: *Terra Vista*

(20 min | 2023 | Directed by Noa Cykman and Pedro Stropasolas | Filmed in Bahia, Brazil)

Produced by Orfalea Center, Environmental Justice/Climate Justice Studies Research Cluster and Brasil de Fato

### 03:00 Breakout Group

Proposals, next webinars, collaborations

### 04:00 Breakout Group Result Sharing

Share results of Breakout Groups in large brainstorming session

### 04:30 Closing Reception

Closing Panel and Conferring of Certificates to Participants

### 06:30 Dinner & Reception at Amar's house

