

SOCIAL JUSTICE & SOCIAL CHANGE

Public Policy Awareness Night @ Fresno State

Thursday, December 12, 2013 • 5:00pm – 8:00pm • Peters Education Building

AGENDA

- 5:00 pm Welcome and Purpose**
Dr. Matthew Ari Jendian, Professor & Chair of Sociology
- 5:10 – 5:25 pm Fossil Free Fresno State**
Ripon Mann, Amanda Marks, Jeremy Ritter, Michelle Rodriguez
- “Go Fossil Free” is a campaign of 350.org in which educational and religious organizations, city and state governments, and other institutions that serve the public good are encouraged to divest from fossil-fuel companies. These Fresno State Scholars present their research on climate change impacts on the Central Valley and call on Fresno State and the entire CSU to take a principled stand and immediately freeze any new investment in fossil-fuel companies and to divest within five years from direct ownership and from any commingled funds that include fossil-fuel public equities and corporate bonds.
- 5:30 – 5:45 pm Sweat Free CSU**
Tricia Bell, Carlos Burgos, Grethel Chacon, Andrea Wilson
- Did you know collegiate apparel is most typically sourced through factories located in countries with significant social inequality and no enforced labor standards? Fortunately, Fresno State’s Kennel Bookstore currently has a “Licensing Agreement” requiring licensees like *Nike* ensure their factories pay a fair wage and otherwise protect their workers against harm and discrimination. Unfortunately, the Kennel Bookstore has no way to monitor or enforce that agreement. Sweat Free CSU is an effort that calls on Fresno State and the entire CSU system to participate in the “Designated Supplier Program” (DSP) and affiliate with *Workers Rights Consortium (WRC)*, an independent, 501(c)(3) organization that monitors the working conditions in factories around the world and reports its findings to its university affiliates.
- 5:55 - 6:10 pm Food Security @ Fresno State**
Catherine Coppola, Nicholas De La Torre, Emily Hentschke, Patricia Rodriguez, Corrina Rubio
- Are you food insecure or do you know college students or Valley residents who are? Ever skip meals, reduce food portions, or go without food for extended periods time—perhaps the entire day—because you couldn’t afford or didn’t have access to healthy and nutritious food? Food insecurity is prevalent in Fresno and on campus, and it impacts brain functioning, decision making, absenteeism from work or school, obesity, mental health, and other aspects of people’s lives and our community as a whole. Come learn about this issue, the national Food Recovery Network, and what you can do about it on your campus and in your community.
- 6:15 – 6:35 pm Fresno State Food Recovery Network**
Cuyler Cooper, Evelyn Gonzalez, Karina Lua, Jacob Orosco
- Do you think there is food waste on the Fresno State campus? Come learn about the pilot food recovery effort on campus and how much food was recovered by students. How and from where did the students recover the food? How was it distributed and to whom? See a video documentary compiled by service-learning students enrolled in SOC 3 capturing the evolution of our chapter of the national Food Recovery Network during the fall 2013 semester. Learn about the next steps and how you can get involved during the spring 2014 semester (SOC 3, SOC 122, SOC 174, SOC 176).
- 6:45 – 7:00 pm Fresno Rental Housing Inspection Program (R-HIP)**
Kaylee Fabela, Adrian Gomez, Jerry Her, Angel Moreno, Gudelia Orozco
- Did you know “slum housing” affects our entire community and our local economy, not just the thousands of families who reside in those housing units? Learn about the impacts of slum housing on crime, health, student academic success and the Fresno Rental Housing Inspection Program (R-HIP)—a grassroots effort to eradicate slum housing in Fresno. Through R-HIP, the City of Fresno’s Code Enforcement Division would work with property owners, landlords, managers, and tenants to ensure rented properties are maintained and kept up to standard living conditions by mandating inspections before units are rented out to new tenants.
- 7:05 – 7:20 pm Project Annexation Calwa (PAC)**
Fatima Alcaraz, Christian Arteaga, Pahoua Her, Zoyer Zyndel
- Do you know where Calwa is? It’s “down the street” from Fresno State, off of Cedar Avenue between Church and Jensen Avenues in Southeast Fresno. CalWA, named using the acronym for California Wine Association, is an unincorporated community in Fresno County and has a population of 2,052 (2010 census). Inquiries about community needs by the residents of Calwa—affecting crime and public safety—currently “fall between the cracks” because multiple jurisdictions govern the 4-mile geography, including the City of Fresno, Fresno County, and a special district (Calwa Recreation and Park District). Come learn about the possible options for Calwa—which include merging, being annexed, or dissolving—and the costs and benefits if Calwa were to be annexed by the City of Fresno.
- 7:25 – 7:40 pm Citizens Advocating for Pre-trial Expansion (CAPE)**
Victoria Cuevas, Andrea Garcia, Hien Huynh, Erin Scroggins
- Have you heard about the release of individuals from the Fresno County jail? Did you know that these releases are based on individuals’ ability to pay bail rather than just their risk of flight or likelihood of committing a new offense? Bail bonds is a \$14 billion industry, and 71% of California’s jail population is made up of pre-trial detainees who haven’t been convicted or sentenced and are in jail awaiting trial because they cannot afford bail. This warehousing of individuals awaiting trial costs taxpayers an average of \$100 a day. In contrast, pre-trial monitoring programs cost an average of \$11 per day and have been implemented effectively in Marin, San Francisco, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, and Yolo counties. Come learn how the public could save money and be safer.
- 7:45 – 8:00 pm Sharing Opportunities to Engage and Participate**
Dr. Sarah Whitley, & Dr. Tim Kubal, Assist. & Assoc. Professors of Sociology