



Environmental Peacebuilding Gala

**October 23, 2019
Barclay Theatre
University of California, Irvine**

Award for Best Student Paper in Environmental Peacebuilding – awarded to the best paper presented by a graduate or undergraduate student at the Environmental Peacebuilding Conference.



Ousseyni Kalilou, New York University, “Understanding How Climate Change Mitigation through Gum Arabic Production May Lower the Levels of Violent Conflicts in the Sahel.” Originally from Niger, Ousseyni recently graduated from NYU School of Professional Studies where he obtained his MS in Global Affairs. He also holds an MBA in International Business from Strayer University and an MPA in Diplomacy from Ecole Nationale d'Administration. He has worked as a Foreign Service Officer

for Niger’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Student Ambassador for the Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs.

Honorable Mention:

Holly Locke, UC Hastings College of the Law, “Use of Force in Crisis: A Comparative Look at the Domestic and International Laws Governing the Use of U.S. Military Force to Respond to Mass Climate Refugee Migration”

Angela Chesler, University of Notre Dame, “Climate Change, Migration, and Conflict: Evidence from Disaster-Induced Displacement”

Environmental Peacebuilding Research Award – awarded to a recent outstanding research contribution that has made a significant impact in the field of environmental peacebuilding.



Alexandre Roulin, Mansour Abu Rashid, Baruch Spiegel, Motti Charter, Amélie N. Driess, and Yossi Leshem, “Nature Knows No Boundaries: The Role of Nature Conservation in Peacebuilding,” Trends in Ecology & Evolution (2017). Alexandre Roulin is a professor of biology at the University of Lausanne. For two decades, he has been studying barn owls to answer evolutionary and ecological scientific questions. Since 2009, he has worked on promoting cooperation between Israeli, Palestinian, and

Jordanian communities using nature conservation as a tool. This paper focuses on the Birds Know No Boundaries Project, a transboundary project in Israel, Jordan, and Palestine, and exemplifies the cross-disciplinary and cross-country collaboration that is so important to the field of environmental peacebuilding. The study has been influential in academic, policy, and civil society groups, and paves the way for further study on conservation, peacebuilding, and ecology in the Middle East and other regions.

Award for Environmental Peacebuilding in Practice – recognizes exceptional practical work of an individual or organization involved in environmental peacebuilding.



Gloria Amparo Rodríguez, Professor, Universidad del Rosario School of Law; Justice, Special Jurisdiction for Peace, Colombia. Gloria Amparo Rodríguez has worked extensively on environmental issues, community rights, and environmental justice, as well as human rights and peace. She has particularly worked on protection of the rights of Indigenous Peoples, giving local communities in Colombia the knowledge and ability to legally

protect their land rights and helping to reduce socio-environmental conflicts. She has also published several books on environmental law, citizen participation, and prior consultation and ethnic rights from a community-based perspective. In 2018, she was appointed as one of the 38 judges of the Transitional Justice System for the Implementation of the Peace Agreement in Colombia. The award recognizes Dr. Gloria Amparo Rodríguez's influential work in Colombia, which has had broader relevance across Latin America and globally.

Al-Moumin Award for Thought Leadership in Environmental Peacebuilding – recognizes leading thinkers who have shaped the field of environmental peacebuilding (co-sponsored by American University's School of International Service, UN Environment, and the Environmental Law Institute).



Nancy Lee Peluso, Henry J. Vaux Distinguished Professor of Forest Policy, University of California, Berkeley.

Nancy Lee Peluso is an expert in resource management policy with a strong interest in roles that local and regional histories, as well as social factors such as ethnicity, class, and gender play in natural resource management and conflict. She has published widely on the political ecology of Southeast Asian forestry and resources conflicts, as well as natural resources, land distribution and

control, and resource management more broadly. This award honors the contributions of her work on natural resource policy and management, particularly her work on forest and land management, power relations, and conflict. Her work on political ecology provides nuanced views of the social, economic, political, and cultural factors that influence unequal access to and ownership of resources. She has also contributed significantly to the literature on resource-related causes of violent conflict. Her work is a crucial cornerstone for understanding complex power relations around natural resources.

Environmental Peacebuilding Lifetime Achievement Award – honors significant contributions to the field of environmental peacebuilding across a lifetime of work and research.



Mark Halle, Senior Fellow, International Institute for Sustainable Development.

Mark Halle began his career in international negotiations, serving in the diplomatic secretariat of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. Through this position, he was involved with the negotiation of the Barcelona Convention of the Mediterranean Environment. He then worked with the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), and the International Union for the Conservation

of Nature (IUCN). He was an early leader in recognizing the linkages between conflict, peace, and the environment, publishing papers, organizing workshops, and placing and keeping the issue on the policy agenda in the late 1990s. He established a joint IISD/IUCN Task Force on Environment and Security, and an expert group on environmental security and peacebuilding for UNEP. Both of these entities had transformative impacts and in many ways led to the establishment of the Environmental Peacebuilding Association. Throughout his career, he has focused on increasing the evidence base and bringing attention to the connections between environmental security, sustainable development, peace, and conflict. This award honors his lifetime of work on conservation, peace, environmental policy, and natural resource governance. His work has been influential in the establishment of the field of environmental peacebuilding and paved the way for a new generation of scholars, practitioners, and activists.

Agenda

6:00pm
Doors open

6:30pm – 7:30pm

Presentation of Environmental Peacebuilding Awards

Host: Richard Matthew, UC Irvine

Award for Best Student Paper in Environmental Peacebuilding

Environmental Peacebuilding Research Award

Award for Environmental Peacebuilding in Practice

Al-Moumin Award for Thought Leadership in Environmental Peacebuilding

Environmental Peacebuilding Lifetime Achievement Award

7:30pm – 8:00pm
Intermission

8:00pm – 9:30pm

House of Cohen—A Concert for Compassion, featuring Perla Batalla

A concert tribute to Leonard Cohen by his renowned back-up singer Perla Batalla, recipient of the United Nation's Earth Charter Award for "extraordinary devotion to social and economic justice" and the Premio Fronterizo Award for "healing work in the world," and other musicians who toured with him.

The Environmental Peacebuilding Association is grateful to the Awards Committee—Philippe Le Billon (chair), Saleem Ali, and Rebecca Farnum—for their care and diligence in soliciting, reviewing, and selecting the awardees. Rachel Stern provided invaluable support throughout the process.

This gala was part of the First International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding, which was made possible through the generous support of the following institutions:



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Anonymous