

Wednesday, August 15, 2018

ACEEE Summer Study at Asilomar, California

We're scaling up ACEEE's City Scorecard: Here's how

The last few years have been an exciting time to work on energy efficiency policy in cities. Others have wavered on climate change and clean energy commitments, but local leaders have continued to push ahead. Each edition of ACEEE's City Energy Efficiency Scorecard has shown city improvement, and our 2017 Scorecard was no exception. More than half the communities assessed took steps in the right direction. More mayors and lawmakers in large cities are turning to energy efficiency to cut energy costs for residents and businesses, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and make their communities more resilient. Municipalities have also pledged to do more over the last couple of years, from committing to We're Still In to joining the US Climate Mayors coalition and signing the Chicago Climate Charter.

While all these pledges and policies are exciting, we hope to give a clearer picture of actual progress in saving energy and reducing emissions by expanding our City Scorecard, beginning with the 2019 edition. How are we doing that? We're converting the report into an annual report—rather than biennial—so we can give a more frequent snapshot of local efforts. We're also increasing the number of cities, from 50 in 2017 to 75 in 2019 and 100 in 2020. By evaluating more cities, we'll gain a better understanding of the local energy efficiency landscape across the country.

What else? We'll take steps to assess the extent to which policies are delivering savings. For example, how are cities progressing toward their sustainable transportation goals? And

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Dave Ribeiro,
Senior Researcher,
ACEEE

The Violence of Extraction

Our Tuesday night plenary speaker is from the bayou of Southern Louisiana. She is from a Creole community that dates back to the Eighteenth Century. Hurricane Katrina and the BP oil spill changed her life. She was a lawyer and now she is a fighter for equity. "We didn't need to control our own energy because of CO2 emissions; we needed to control our own energy because we were left to die, to fend for ourselves."

Collete Pichon Battle said that Katrina and the BP oil spill were not accidents—they were consequences. They were consequences of violent extraction—the socio-economic principle that has been the basis of wealth generation in our country. From the beginning of the nation we have extracted work from slaves and dignity from Native Americans. We extract people from their homes and neighborhoods and lock them up in prison; more than any other nation in the name of profit.

The economic principle of extraction violently takes oil from the ground. It violently destroyed the marshlands that have protected New Orleans from storm surge. Extraction of oil



beneath the bayous lower the land as the sea levels rise because of global warming.

"It's whisky time," Battle said. "You're going to hear some things that hurt." We take data from poor households and then try to get them do things in a more energy efficient way. "Black people already turn of the lights!", she said. It's not enough to replace what was extracted. We must also address the impact of the force that did the extraction. And we need to include the

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Scaling Up, continued

what have been the impacts and outcomes of benchmarking programs in communities? We'll also broaden our approach to capture more clean energy efforts. Rather than focusing solely on energy efficiency, the Scorecard will assess commitments and activities to encourage renewable energy.

Is that all? Not quite. Simultaneously, we'll increase our focus on equity, expanding metrics that capture the extent to which city actions are equitable and just. By doing so, we will better track if cities are delivering energy efficiency in a way that supports all residents.

Add it all together, it means a lot of changes—and a lot of work for ACEEE. But the result will be a more comprehensive

snapshot of local efforts to reduce emissions, save energy, and advance clean energy goals.

To get inspiration, I'll be hanging out in the Resilient, Sustainable Communities panel. Every Summer Study, I learn a bunch from the top-notch presentations. Presenters cover many of the topics we discuss in the Scorecard from tracking progress toward clean energy goals to innovative financing models to workforce development. If you haven't visited the panel yet, I hope to see you there soon!

Dave Ribiero, Senior Researcher, ACEEE

Headline from a Washington Post article from March 8:

"The otter seemed 'cute' — until it leaped on her kayak and lunged at her face."

Wednesday afternoon kayakers, beware!

Overheard at Paolo Bertoldi's informal session:

"One of the most important things to do for energy efficiency is to stop doing stupid stuff."

—Jim McMahon

Awards Galore at the Tuesday Evening Plenary



This year marked the inaugural Dr. Arthur H. Rosenfeld Urban Cooling Achievement Awards, presented by Dian Grueneich, board member of Global Cool Cities Alliance. The individual award went to Dr. Vishal Garg of the International Institute of



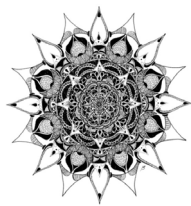
Information Technology in Hyderabad for his work on bringing to cool roofs to India. The organizational award went to Climate Resolve for their work in Los Angeles. The award was accepted by Ignacio Fernandez.

ACEEE Board Chairperson Penni McLean-Conner, who just took over from ACEEE co-founder Carl Blumstein, presented Carl with a resolution from the board thanking him for 40 years of service to the organization. A video of Carl sharing his wisdom was shown, and he offered additional inspiring words from the podium.

Last but not least, Steve Nadel presented three ACEEE Champions of Energy Efficiency in Buildings Awards, to Danny Parker, Principal Research Scientist at the Florida Solar Energy Center; Richard Cowart, Principal at the Regulatory Assistance Project (Max Dupuy of RAP accepting); and Tammy Agard, co-founder of EEtility (Jen Amann of ACEEE accepting).



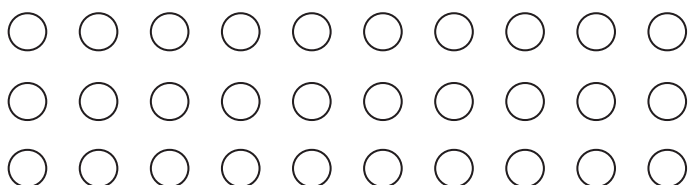
Treat yourself to a relaxing massage!
Kathy Sinnott returns to Summer Study
to continue the tradition of offering
rejuvenating massages throughout the
week. The Massage Room is located
in the Oak Knoll 2nd floor living room.



Rates are \$60 for 30 minutes, \$100 for 60 minutes, and
\$130 for 90 minutes. Call/text Kathy to schedule your
appointment: (831) 246-0769.

ANNOUNCEMENTS ABOUND!

- *Jordana Rubin, originally scheduled for Wednesday 10:30 am session, has moved to Friday 8:30 am session.*
- *Michael Baechler, originally scheduled for Friday 8:30 am session, has moved to Wednesday 10:30 am.*
- *If you attended the Monday 4–6 “Existing Buildings Deep/Broad Retrofits” Informal Session and want the notes, or to join ongoing discussions, please email higgins@newbuildings.org with your contact info.*



Last Call! **40th Anniversary Video Booth**

Help us celebrate ACEEE's upcoming 40th anniversary by telling your story on camera. We want to know why you got involved in energy efficiency and where you see the field going over the next 40 years. Come to Surf n' Sand during your lunch break (12:00-1:30) on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday.

SPECIAL EVENT RATES!

Summer Study attendees receive a special **\$100 registration discount** for the **Behavior, Energy & Climate Change conference** (October, Washington, DC), which is the premier international event on how human behavior and decision-making can spur the transition to an energy-efficient, low-carbon future. To register, go to the BECC website beccconference.org and choose the “SS” registration rate and enter code “Sustainable.” This offer ends Thursday, August 16.

SSB attendees can also take advantage of **early-bird rates** this week to register for two new exciting ACEEE events: the **Rural Energy Conference** (October, Atlanta) and the **Conference on Health, Environment and Energy** (early December, New Orleans.) You can register on ACEEE's conference website aceee.org/conferences.

Monterey Bay Aquarium Dessert Reception is tonight!

7–11 pm

Free transportation to the Aquarium begins at

7:00 pm from the flag pole area next to the **Hearst Social Hall.**

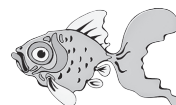
Bring your Aquarium ticket, included in your registration packet.

Additional tickets are available for purchase until 11:00 am today in the Summer Study Office in **Surf and Sand.**



Goin' My Way?

Check out the Ride Share Board in Surf and Sand to find your way home, or find a passenger.



Important Correction about the Aquarium Event!

Event ends at 11 pm, not 9 pm.

Extraction, continued

poor and the marginalized from the beginning of the research, the beginning of the projects, the beginning of the programs, the beginning of every process that will affect the lives of the poor.

To lower someone's energy bill is not enough. We have to ease the structural burden of which the unaffordable bill is just a symptom.

Battle quoted a proverb: "If you've come to help me, you are wasting your time. If you've come because you understand that your liberation is tied to my liberation, then let us work together." The message may have hurt at times. No one wants to hear that they got their PhD not through hard work alone but through a structure that made getting a PhD an option.

We're not helping ourselves unless we are helping each other.

THANK YOU TO ACEEE's CONFERENCES TEAM FOR ORGANIZING A DYNAMIC #SUMMERSTUDY18!



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: KIM MATHADOR, REBECCA LUNETTA, LYNN PYLE

Applications are now being accepted for the 2018 C3E Poster Competition!

Female undergraduates, graduate students, and postdoctoral researchers currently undertaking research in clean energy are invited to apply! Entrants with the most compelling posters will be invited to attend the 2018 C3E Symposium on December 3–4, 2018 at Stanford University to showcase their work.

The C3E Poster Competition, now in its seventh year, is an opportunity for student and early-career researchers to participate in networking at the C3E Women in Clean Energy Symposium while sharing their research. The poster competition also exposes C3E attendees to cutting-edge research in a variety of clean energy fields.

Applications and posters are due September 17, 2018 at www.C3Eawards.org. Learn more about eligibility and requirements by going to <https://c3eawards.org/posters/>.

- *Asilomar Beach Clean Up: Wednesday, August 15th from 2–4. Zero waste snacks and beverages will be provided.*

- *Eric Werling wishes to play music with other acoustic musicians. Please send an email to Eric: eric.werling@ee.doe.gov*

Got Something to Report?

If you have any announcements, updates, or information related to events here at ACEEE, email them by 3:30 pm to ljackson@homeenergy.org. *The Grapevine* will also appear on the ACEEE Blog at www.ACEEE.org/blog.



the grapevine

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