



The
Climate Change Leadership Institute

December 9, 2024

Mr. David Holway
C/O K. Wayne Yang
Muir College, Provost Office
9500 Gilman Drive #0106
La Jolla, CA 92093-0106

Dear Mr. Holway (and to all those at UCSD who created, oversee and participate in the Jane Teranes Climate Change Education Requirement),

Congratulations to you all for earning the 2024 Climate Education Award for your extraordinary leadership in establishing a climate change course requirement for all undergraduate students at the University of California San Diego (UCSD). You are pioneering a dynamic pathway to support young people (as well as older undergraduate students) in learning about and helping mitigate the climate crisis. You are spawning educational empowerment with climate change across a range of disciplines. And you are listening to the student body who in overwhelming fashion have been calling for greater climate curriculum and for this requirement, and now are so excited that this initiative is underway.

At this crucial time when the climate crisis remains unresolved, as Professor Sarah Gille of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography says: “we can potentially create a [new] generation of college graduates who are better prepared for the future.” Indeed, as a recent LinkedIn survey demonstrates, the demand for green skills in professional settings is at an all time high.

We commend you for the versatility and thoughtfulness that has gone into creating this curriculum which includes climate science, human impacts, mitigation strategies and project based learning. It is with these last two pillars that we are especially hopeful and we would like to dedicate the seed grant that comes with this award to go to Muir College Innovation Fund in support of climate/sustainability related undergraduate student research and experiential learning.

In closing, we at the Climate Change Leadership Institute want to thank all of you who played a roll in establishing this innovative and integrity oriented climate education program. UCSD’s climate change curriculum requirement will stand on it’s own in excellence and hopefully inspire other universities around the nation to follow suit.

With enduring appreciation,

Robb Hirsch
Founder & Executive Director