Michael Allen

Professor and Chair, Plant Pathology and Microbiology; Director, Center for Conservation Biology

Allen’s research interests focus on the regulation of community and ecosystem processes by soil organisms with special emphasis on mycorrhizal fungi. His current research concentrates on global change dynamics and structure of undisturbed areas, and how that information can be utilized in the conservation and restoration of native ecosystems.

Juliann Emmons Allison

Associate Professor, Political Science; Director of Interdisciplinary Programs; Associate Director, Center for Sustainable Suburban Development, UCR

Joining the UCR faculty in 1997, her research and teaching interests emphasize political economy, environmental politics and policy, and community-based social change, especially as it relates to conflict resolution and environmental sustainability. Her research has been funded by the National Science Foundation, the California Energy Commission, the California Department of Transportation, the Energy Foundation and the Haynes Foundation.

Michael J. Bacich

Assistant General Manager of Customer Relations and Marketing for Riverside Public Utilities (RPU) and Sustainability Officer, City of Riverside.

His position oversees the management of business relations, public benefits, marketing, sustainability programs, customer service and field services related to metering. Since 1999, he has played an instrumental role in RPU’s marketing, media and public communications, public benefits, educational outreach, and sustainability efforts for the city. He is in charge of directing and coordinating the implementation of the city’s progressive Green Action Plan, an 18-point plan that addresses the city’s sustainable goals for photovoltaic power, greenhouse gas reduction and efficiency.
William R. “Rusty” Bailey

Mayor, City of Riverside

A native of Riverside, Mayor Bailey graduated from the U.S. Military Academy and has worked all of his life in public service. He took office as a Riverside City Councilman on Dec 11, 2007 and served in that role until he took office as Mayor on Dec 11, 2012. He has served as a helicopter pilot, platoon leader, and Company Executive Officer in the U.S. Army. He earned a two-year Presidential Management Fellowship and worked for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Executive Office of the President in Washington, D.C. He also served as a legislative aide for Riverside County Supervisor John F. Tavaglione, and worked at the Riverside County Economic Development Agency. Until his election in 2007, he was a member of the City of Riverside Cultural Heritage Board and is currently in his tenth year as a government teacher at Poly High School in Riverside.

Matthew Barth

Director of the College of Engineering Center for Environmental Research and Technology (CE-CERT); Yeager Families Chair and Professor of Electrical Engineering, UCR

A member if the UCR faculty since 1991, Barth conducts research in Electrical Engineering and at CE-CERT, where he also serves as Director. His research focuses on applying engineering system concepts and automation technology to transportation systems, particularly how it relates to energy and air quality issues.

Vincent Battaglia

Founder and CEO/President, Renova Energy Corporation

Vincent Battaglia is a founding member of the U.S. Green Building Council’s (USGBC) Inland Empire Chapter, as well as the founding chair of the USGBC Coachella Valley Branch. Prior to founding Renova, he helped initiate green building practices in Russia through a multinational that he created and ran from 1992 through 1998 before returning to the U.S. and working in commercial real estate. Incorporated in 2007 in Palm Desert, Renova Solar was named Inc. Magazine’s fourth Fastest Growing Solar Company in California in 2013, and was North America’s first accredited company by NABCEP, the non-profit organization that certifies energy professionals. With more than 50 employees, Renova Solar’s economic impact within the Coachella Valley is estimated at more than $18 million.
Rick Bishop

Executive Director, Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG), Riverside, CA.

In his position since 2000, Bishop develops and oversees programs addressing federal, state, and regional mandates on local governments in diverse such subject areas as transportation, housing, growth, environment and economy. Among his responsibilities is the Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF) Program, the nation's largest multi-jurisdictional development fee program that will provide approximately $4 billion in arterial and transit improvements during the next three decades. WRCOG is a joint powers authority comprised of each of the 17 cities in Western Riverside County, the County of Riverside, the Eastern Municipal Water District, and the Western Municipal Water District. The sub region's current population of 1.2 million is forecast to grow by 1 million in the next 20 years.

Rick Brown

President, TerraVerde Renewable Partners

Brown launched TerraVerde Renewable Partners, an energy and solar advisory firm, in 2009. He leads a team that has implemented energy cost reduction projects with an estimated cost savings of more than $124 million over the first 25 years of the systems’ operation, and has an additional 54 project sites under development. He played a key role in the successful passage of SB 585 (Kehoe), legislation that added $200 million to the non-residential category of the California Solar Initiative Rebate Program. He was also closely involved in the crafting of SB 73, legislation guiding development of California’s Prop 39 program. Previously, he successfully helped establish, build and eventually sell MMA Renewable Ventures (“MMARV”) to an international solar company. Earlier in his career, as managing partner of The Results Group, Brown provided consultation on organizational strategy and leadership to numerous public, private and non-profit organizations, including the California School Employees Association (CSEA), California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS), California State Teachers Retirement System (STRS), Kaiser-Permanente, Agilent Technologies, Association of Bay Area Governments and Earthjustice.
Jim Burke

*Senior Product and Service Coordinator, Sacramento Municipal Utility District*

During his 16-year career at SMUD, Burke has held positions as an advertising specialist; program manager for residential and commercial renewable power program that consistently earning top ten rankings nationally; commercial and residential power program manager for retrofit solar programs; program manager for innovative remote-sited residential solar program that increased annual residential solar capacity 4500% in six months; program manager for cellular site leasing program working with fortune 500 companies; and program manager for Solar Smart new homes program, where he designed and targeted marketing programs to bring qualified traffic to new home communities. He received The Green Power Pioneer Award in 2006 from the U.S. Department of Energy, The Environmental Protection Agency and The Center for Resource Solutions for developing and sharing marketing strategies that expanded the green power market internationally. Before joining SMUD, he served as vice president of Account Services at JHME Advertising, Design & Public Relations; vice president of Marketing at Team Results, a Direct Response services company; and marketing communications manager at INTRIX Systems Group, an application software development company.

John J. Cook

*Sustainability Coordinator, UCR*

Cook assists campus departments, research centers, business units, and organizations in developing and analyzing sustainability-oriented projects and initiatives. Since arriving at UCR in 2010, Cook has worked to further integrate sustainability across the campus and throughout the Riverside community. Prior to his position at UCR, he worked as a teacher at the Bogaziçi and Koç universities in Istanbul, Turkey; Northwestern University; Ohio University; and Columbia College in Chicago. He also is a LEED Green Associate with certificates in Green Business, Green Engineering, and Green Architecture from the Chicago Center for Green Technology.

Bernadette Del Chiaro

*Executive Director, California Solar Energy Industries Association*

Bernadette Del Chiaro was appointed to head the CALSEIA in July, bringing more than a decade of policy and communications experience on renewable energy issues -- particularly solar power -- in California. She previously was Director of Clean Energy and Global Warming Programs at Environment California, a citizen-based environmental advocacy organization. She was a leading voice of nearly all of the major clean energy policy initiatives in the last decade, including the Million Solar Roofs Initiative (SB1); California Solar Initiative; the Solar Water Heating Initiative (AB 1470); and the renewable portfolio standards established at the state and local levels. She has authored numerous clean energy reports and is quoted extensively in the media, including MSNBC, NPR, BBC World News, the New York Times, the Los Angeles Times and dozens of local and trade publications.
Anil Deolalikar

Professor of Economics and Founding Dean of the School of Public Policy, UCR.

His area of research specialization is the economics of child nutrition and health in developing countries. He has published four books and over 60 articles in the areas of child nutrition, health, poverty and social protection in developing countries. In 2002-03, he worked for the World Bank as Lead Human Development Economist (at their regional office in New Delhi, India) to direct a number of studies that addressed whether the countries of South Asia would attain the millennium development goals and what it would take to attain these goals.

Ron Durbin

Executive Director of the University of California Advanced Solar Technologies Institute (UC Solar)

UC Solar is a multi-campus research institute made up of faculty from the University of California’s Merced, Berkeley, Santa Barbara, Davis, San Diego, Riverside, Santa Cruz, Irvine and Los Angeles campuses. Headquartered at UC Merced, UC Solar creates technologies that make solar energy systems more efficient, more affordable, and easier to integrate. In addition, UC solar educates and develops tomorrow’s solar energy leaders and entrepreneurs. Before coming to UC Merced in 2007, Durbin spent five years at UC San Diego working in the information storage field at UCSD’s Graduate School of International Relations and Pacific Studies (IR/PS). He also worked in high tech, spending 10 years with San Diego-based QUALCOMM Inc.

Thomas P. Evans

Board Member, Western Municipal Water District

Thomas P. Evans joined the Western Municipal Water District board in January 2007. He is also chairman of the Engineering and Operations Committee. His term of office expires Jan. 5, 2015. He has 35 years of experience in water, electric and gas utility management, and in 2005, retired from the City of Riverside as interim City Manager. He also served the City of Riverside for four years as director of Public Utilities. He served as a director of the Southern California Public Power Agency and the Northern California Power Agency.
David Hochschild

Commissioner, California Energy Commission

David Hochschild was appointed by Governor Jerry Brown in February 2013. He fills the environmental position on the five-member Commission, where four of the five members by law are required to have professional training in specific areas - engineering or physical science, environmental protection, economics, and law.

Commissioner Hochschild’s career has spanned public service, environmental advocacy and the private sector. He first got involved in the solar energy field in 2001 in San Francisco as a Special Assistant to Mayor Willie Brown, where he launched a citywide $100 million initiative to put solar panels on public buildings. He co-founded the Vote Solar Initiative, a 60,000-member advocacy organization promoting solar policies at the local, state and federal level. He served as executive director of a national consortium of leading solar manufacturers, and worked for five years at Solaria, a solar company in Silicon Valley. In 2007-2008, he served as a commissioner at the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission.

For his work to advance clean energy, Commissioner Hochschild was awarded the Sierra Club’s Trailblazer Award, the American Lung Association’s Clean Air Hero Award and the Department of Energy’s Million Solar Roof True Champion Award.

Jim Kennerly

Policy Analyst and Solar Policy Outreach Coordinator, North Carolina Solar Center, North Carolina State University

Kennerly joined the N.C. Solar Center’s Energy Policy team in May 2013. He focuses mainly on research of government incentives, utility incentives and regulatory policies affecting clean energy development. He previously worked for the North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association (NCSEA) and ICF International. He has offered expert testimony before the North Carolina Utilities Commission, and is a graduate of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) Utility Rate School.
Michelle Kinman

*Clean Energy Advocate, Environment California*

Michelle Kinman’s role at Environment California is to manage priority campaigns for greater expansion of clean energy in California and a reduced reliance on dirty and unsafe energy resources such as oil, natural gas and nuclear power. She recently co-authored the reports, "California’s Solar Cities 2012: Leaders in the Race Toward a Clean Energy Future" and "Building a Brighter Future: California’s Progress Toward a Million Solar Roofs." She has been interviewed on numerous television and radio programs and quoted by news outlets including the Los Angeles Times, San Francisco Chronicle, San Jose Mercury News and the Associated Press. She co-founded and from 2003 to mid-2011 served as Deputy Director of Crude Accountability, an organization that works with communities negatively impacted by oil and gas development in the Caspian Sea region. She began working in the Caspian in 1997 to ensure that the concerns of local communities were heard and addressed by decision-makers in the international arena, particularly the World Bank and oil companies.

Sarah Kurtz

*PV Reliability Group Manager, National Renewable Energy Laboratory*

Sarah Kurtz obtained her PhD in 1985 from Harvard University and has worked since then at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, in Golden, CO. She is best known for her contributions to developing multijunction, GaInP/GaAs solar cells and for supporting the Concentrator Photovoltaic (PV) industry. Her work has been recognized with a jointly received Dan David Prize in 2007 and the Cherry Award in 2012. Currently, she is working to facilitate the growth of the PV industry through improved performance of PV in the field.

Ching Liu

*Executive Vice President, SolarMax Technology, Inc.*

Ms. Liu has more than 20 years of experience in global private equity investments. She was the Vice President and Premier Banking Manager of the Asian Segment at Wells Fargo Bank. In April 2000, she became the Vice President of Wealth Management at Merrill Lynch. She is an expert in asset-based financing and asset management for both private investors and Asian-based institutions.
Ronald O. Loveridge

Associate Professor of Political Science; Director, Center for Sustainable Suburban Development, UCR

Loveridge has 33 years of public service - as a Riverside City Council member from 1979 to 1994, and as Mayor from 1994 to 2012. A highly regarded regional, state and national leader, he was involved on the executive committee and board of the National League of Cities, where he also served as the organization’s President in 2010. He is a member of the National Academy of Public Policy, and his statewide and regional service includes board roles on the California Air Resources Board, California Forward Action Fund, California Competes, South Coast Air Quality Management District, Southern California Association of Governments, Western Riverside Council of Governments, and Inland Empire Economic Partnership.

Michael McCaffrey

Chief Financial Officer, SolarMax Technology, Inc.

Michael McCaffrey is the Chief Financial Officer of Riverside, CA-based SolarMax Technology, a leading provider of products, services and financing for renewable energy solutions to residential and commercial customers. He joined SolarMax in early 2013 and prior to this position, was the CFO of a solar and a green building materials company. Prior to joining the industry, Michael was an investment banker for 15 years, focusing on solar and clean technology where he executed over 50 transactions worth more than $5 billion.

Alex Martin

Manager of Public Affairs, First Solar

Alex Martin is Manager of Public Affairs at First Solar, a global leader in thin-film photovoltaic (PV) systems. He is responsible for managing project outreach and public affairs efforts for the company’s large-scale solar projects ranging in size from 21 MW to 550 MW in the Americas region including California, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada and Mexico. Previously, he developed and ran the marketing communications department at NextLight Renewable Power, a leading solar development company. Alex began his career in the sales department at Bank of America.
George Minter

Southern California Gas Co. Director of Policy and Environment

George Minter is a public policy professional with 35 years' experience in energy and environmental affairs, policy development, communications strategy, political advocacy, and community relations. For many years he was the director of public affairs for the Southern California Gas Company, the nation's largest natural gas utility. He then served as managing principal for LA-based public affairs firms Greer/Dailey/Minter and GM Public Affairs, assisting corporate clients in developing public policy initiatives and managing strategic communications programs to ensure approvals of large land use and energy projects. He has re-joined the Gas Company, and currently serves as Director of Policy and Environment. He has served as a board member of several civic associations and community organizations and was one of the founders of the Business Council for Sustainable Energy, a federal energy trade association and of the California CCS Coalition, a statewide advocacy organization.

Alfredo Martinez-Morales

Managing Director, Southern California Research Initiative for Solar Energy (SC-RISE), UCR

SC-RISE is an innovative collaboration between researchers, industry and government based at UC Riverside's College of Engineering - Center for Environmental Research and Technology (CE-CERT). His research at UCR’s Biomedical Science and Nanotechnology Laboratory focuses on materials synthesis and third generation photovoltaics. His current research includes concentrated photovoltaics (CPV), dye sensitized solar cells (DSSCs), ordered bulk-heterojunction (OBHJ) solar cells, and Lithium-ion battery technology. He has written or co-written numerous research articles on nanowire arrays, quantum dots and other findings in the fields of nanoelectronics and photovoltaics. His research honors and fellowships include the UC Dissertation-Year Fellowship and the National Science Foundation (NSF) East Asia and Pacific Summer Institutes Fellowship.

David Nahai

President, David Nahai Consulting Services LLC; former Commission President and General Manager, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

David Nahai is the President of David Nahai Consulting Services, LLC, which advises public and private entities in the renewable energy, energy efficiency and water sectors. He is also a partner at the law firm of Lewis, Brisbois, Bisgaard & Smith and co-chair of its energy, water, and real estate practice areas. He is the former Commission President and General Manager of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP). Nahai’s administration expanded LADWP’s renewable portfolio to 15% and paved the way for its attainment of the 20% level. Under his watch, the LADWP achieved multi-fold increases in energy efficiency levels, as well as record reductions in water consumption in the City of Los Angeles. Nahai is also the former Chair of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, where he served in the administrations of three California governors.
Mark Nelson

*Director of Integrated Planning and Strategy, Southern California Edison (SCE)*

Integrated Planning provides analysis, planning, and strategy development needed by SCE for effectively planning and integrating generation, distribution, and transmission assets to provide a safe and reliable power grid for SCE’s 5 million customers. He previously was the Director of Generation Planning & Strategy, responsible for the broad support of generation initiatives and regulatory efforts at SCE and the management of the Project Development Division. He was also Director of Retail Energy Operations for Edison Source, a deregulated affiliate. Prior to joining Edison, he held management and analysis positions with subsidiaries of MidAmerican Energy. A published author of energy-related books, he has also served as an adjunct professor of economics.

Richard T. Ogawa

*Founder, OGAWA p.c.*

Richard T. Ogawa is an attorney specializing in high technology companies. For more than 25 years, Ogawa has been involved in high technology, and more recently in cleantech; represented more than 200 companies, and has been associated with more than 1,000 patents, transactions, and financings. He is owner and operator of OGAWA p.c., a boutique legal firm in Silicon Valley. He serves as counsel for venture-backed companies funded by Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byer and Khosla Ventures. He was formerly a partner at Townsend and Townsend and Crew, LLP, and held a variety of engineering and management positions at NEC Electronics for eight years.

Edward Randolph

*Director of the Energy Division at the California Public Utilities Commission*

Prior to his current position, Randolph served as Director of the Office of Government Affairs, overseeing legislative affairs for the CPUC (2009-2011, and as Chief Policy Advisor to the Utilities and Commerce Committee in the California State Assembly (2003-2009). The CPUC Energy Division provides technical support to the Commissioners and their offices, and the Administrative Law Judges. It drafts resolutions for formal consideration by the Commission. The Energy Division through its Federal Policy and Ratemaking Section represents the Commission in Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and court proceedings. The division assists the Commission in its regulation of four types of Investor-Owned Utilities (IOUs): Electric, Natural Gas, Steam and Petroleum Pipeline Companies. Commission-approved tariffs (official rates and terms of service) for these four types of IOUs are maintained by the Energy Division.
Kevin Ross  
*Senior Project Development Manager, SolarCity*

Ross manages commercial-scale Solar PV project development in California for SolarCity's Commercial Division, focusing on Water & Waste Treatment Operations in the public sector. In the past nine years he has developed and implemented dozens of large commercial solar PV projects in California and Colorado, representing over 40 megawatts of renewable energy. He is an associate of the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) and has been the primary Account Manager for the ACWA Preferred Provider program since 2006. He has provided numerous educational presentations and webinars on solar PV project development processes, project financing methods, utility programs and incentives, and state/federal policy updates for ACWA and their member agencies. He is an industry authority on new and evolving utility programs and provides project-specific guidance for achieving successful ground-mount solar project installations. Before entering the solar PV industry, his career included 19 years of experience in the semiconductor industry, where he held positions in Business Development, Project Management, Controls Engineering, and Product Development.

Sadrul Ula  
*Co-Director, Winston Chung Global Energy Center, UCR*

Ula serves as Managing Director of the center, a new research center at UCR’s Bourns College of Engineering. He is working on the research, development and outreach aspects of electrical energy storage, power transmission and distribution, smart grids, solar photo-voltaic, solar thermal, concentrated PV, and concentrated solar, as well as wind energy.

V. John White  
*Executive Director, Center for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Technologies*

V. John White has been a writer, commentator, advocate, and leader of the green energy movement in California for 35 years. He is executive director and co-founder of CEERT, the Center for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Technologies in Sacramento, and principal of the environmental and energy lobbying practice, V. John White Associates, representing public interest environmental and local government organizations, and new energy technology companies. His career has been devoted to air quality improvement and clean energy development. As chief consultant to the California Assembly Subcommittee on Air Quality, he became the leading legislative expert on air quality technology and regulation, helping to draft the California Clean Air Act and subsequent clean air and energy statutes. He played a central role in the passage of the Pavley Clean Car bill, AB 32, and many of California’s renewable energy incentive and regulatory programs. He serves on a number of nonprofit boards and organizations.
Roland Winston

Director, UC Solar; Distinguished Professor, School of Natural Sciences, School of Engineering, University of California, Merced

In 2003, Winston joined the new University of California at Merced as a Professor and founding faculty member in the schools of Natural Science and Engineering. He is currently Distinguished Professor, and Director of UC Solar, or California Advanced Solar Technologies Institute. Dr. Winston's research and teaching focuses on concentrating solar energy systems and applied nonimaging optics. The concepts developed and the devices invented by him have formed the core of a new technology which carries the promise of making solar energy a truly viable energy source for society. Practical applications can be found in photovoltaics, natural lighting of buildings, water heating, space heating and cooling, desalination, cooking and in the collection of solar UV radiation for the photocatalytic treatment of contaminated wastewater. Nonimaging optics proved to be an important tool in several other areas including astrophysics, elementary particle physics, infrared physics and vision research. He has had over 200 articles published in scientific journals and over 60 patents.