



2022 Higher Education Climate Leadership Summit Abstract Submission

[Second Nature](#) and the [Intentional Endowments Network](#) are inviting the Climate Leadership Network and friends from all disciplines, backgrounds, and perspectives to submit proposals for the 2022 Higher Education Climate Leadership Summit February 6-8, 2022 at the University of Miami, Florida.

This event is the premier gathering of higher education leaders driving responses to the climate crisis.

This Request for Participation is open through Tuesday, August 31, 2021.

Submitting a proposal means you wish to contribute your expertise to the Higher Education Climate Leadership Summit. Strong sessions will help people across our networks – in higher education, finance, climate solutions, nonprofits, and government – face today’s intersecting crises and accomplish their climate, resilience, and justice goals.

Preference will be given to sessions that include and highlight the experiences and perspectives of people directly affected by climate impacts and social inequity as well as traditionally underrepresented people, perspectives, and solutions.

How to Submit a Session Proposal

We recommend planning out your proposal first, prior to visiting the online proposal submission form.

Once you have planned out your proposal, you can enter it into the actual online proposal submission form to officially submit it!

What Makes a Good Session?

A strong session will meet the following key criteria:

- Helps participants move forward on one or more of the themes (Neutrality, Policy, Racial Justice, Community, Student Leadership, Knowledge) – see more about the thematic tracks below.
- Offers concrete action items, tools, resources, examples, best practices, or takeaways.
- Acknowledges the intersectionality of climate justice, carbon neutrality, sustainable finance, social equity, racial equity, higher education affordability and equity, resilience, and more.
- Reflects and/or contributes to racial justice.

- Helps to connect participants with peers, and in particular to make connections across traditional silos.
- Serves the current needs of key stakeholders in higher education, finance, and climate solutions – advancing existing goals, meeting current challenges, aligning with current workloads.
- Provides an inclusive platform for speakers, panelists, facilitators, and participants to bring diverse identities, life experiences, and professional expertise to discussion, planning, and action.
- Includes and highlights the experiences and perspectives of people directly affected by climate impacts and social inequity as well as traditionally underrepresented people, perspectives, and solutions.

Topic Areas We are seeking, but not limited to, submissions from the list of topics and examples outlined below:

- Neutrality: Energy, Efficiency, Offsets, Net Zero Endowment Portfolios
- Policy: Campus DEI Policies, Investment Policy Statements, Sustainable Retirement Options for Faculty/Staff, Active Ownership/Shareholder Engagement, Engaging with State/Local/National/Global Policies
- Racial Justice: cross-listed with other tracks, explicit focus on racial justice (ie, Racial Equity Investing; Engaging on Just Transition Policies; Engaging Students of Color; Shareholder Engagement for Racial Justice; etc.)
- Community Resilience and Investment: Campus-Community Partnerships, Community Impact Investing
- Student Leadership: Student-managed Investment Funds, Sustainable Finance Curriculum, Student and Young Trustees
- New Knowledge: Leading Research in Scope 3, GHG Accounting, Defining Investment Portfolio Metrics

What Are The Next Steps If My Session is Selected?

Session organizers will work with the Second Nature and IEN teams to develop a final session plan based on space available, and broader program considerations. Second Nature and IEN will request that you invite and confirm diverse and engaging speakers/facilitators, and participate in a session prep call with the organizers. Session organizers are expected to register for the full Higher Education Climate Leadership Summit, and will receive a 20% discount code for registration.

Submission Forms

Step 1: Enter the Session Lead's Details

*First Name

*Last Name

- * Title
 - * Organization
 - *Email Address
 - * Phone.
- Biography (text box 3,000 characters remaining)

Presenter Details

Add any other authors who worked on this submission.

Please describe how EACH of your Speaker's perspective, expertise, identity, life experience, etc. contribute to the session's diversity and value for participants.

Step 2: Enter Your Submission's Details

* Session Title

* With which of the Summit theme(s) does your session help participants move forward? We expect sessions to be intersectional, so please check all that apply.

- Neutrality
- Policy
- Racial Justice
- Community
- Student Leadership
- Knowledge
- Other

* Abstract Summary

1000 characters remaining

* Learning Objectives

300 characters remaining

* Abstract Details

2500 characters remaining

* Presentation Type

What kinds of sessions will be offered? We anticipate offering 4 types of sessions:

- **Keynote - (INSPIRE):** 1-2 speakers, 30-45 mins, engaging formats (Ask Me Anything, Fireside Chat, etc.), may be broadcasted to virtual audience
- **Panel or Roundtable - (INFORM):** 2-5 speakers, 30-90 mins, share examples of best practice, new ideas, key concepts with space for questions. May also be offered virtually.
- **Workshop - (SUPPORT & EMPOWER):** 1 or more expert facilitators, 45-150 mins, share tools, strategies, and information, work through activities with participants, solve problems together, create new tools, etc. Must include concrete tools, action plans, or takeaways. May also be offered virtually.
- **Next Level Conversation - (EXCHANGE):** Table-top discussions in 30 minute blocks, repeated 3-4 times, to allow participants to rotate and learn about a variety of topics.

Proposals should be framed as conversations with presenters acting as hosts and are intended to allow participants to learn about cutting edge solutions and ideas. Not offered virtually.

Please upload any additional materials that support your submission
Accepted File Formats: Word, Excel, PDF, JPG, PNG, PPT

Step 3: Provide Additional Submission Details

* How will your session reflect and/or contribute to racial justice?

800 characters remaining

* How will your session reflect and/or contribute to promoting other elements of social equity and their intersections with climate and with each other (gender equity, LGBTQ+ equity, disability justice, indigenous rights, migrant rights, worker rights, intergenerational equity, etc.)?

800 characters remaining

* For which audience segments do you anticipate this session being valuable? Check all that apply.

- College/University Trustees
- Higher Education / Foundation Chief Investment Officers
- Higher Education Chief Financial Officers
- Other Senior Higher Education Administrators
- Sustainability Directors, Implementation Liaisons, Sustainability office staff
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion staff
- Community Engagement office staff
- Development Officers, Fundraising, Alumni Relations office staff
- Higher Education Faculty
- Endowment Investment Committee Members
- Investment Consultants
- Asset Managers
- Endowment Investment Office staff
- Climate Solution providers (for- or non-profit)
- Government officials

* Please describe (by audience segment checked above, if it varies) what you expect the participants to take away from this session (learning objectives, action items, tools) and how the session will achieve those outcomes

500 characters remaining

* How would you characterize this session? Please check all that apply

- Introductory / "101 Level" / General Audience

- Intermediate / Advanced / Requires some previous experience to participate fully
- Requires capacity to do breakout groups
- Requires capacity to use real-time collaboration tools (whiteboard, etc.)
 - Please describe in more detail
- Requires capacity to use real-time polling tools
- Has other specific technical requirements
 - Please describe in more detail
- Would need to set a maximum capacity for session

Thank you for your contribution!