



# Sustainability Institute

Los Angeles Community College District

Fall, 2018 Newsletter

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Don't forget to visit us at:

<http://www.sustainablelaccd.net/>

<https://www.facebook.com/SustainabilityInstituteLACCD/>

- DAS and campus academic senates approve the resolution for sustainability officers.
- Raymond Wells leads LACCD's membership in SCMI
- George Leddy awarded the Safe Schools Environmental heroes award
- John Grimmer suggests a good climate change book
- October 20: From the Mountains to the Sea
- Water test kits available

## DAS and campus academic senates approve the resolution for sustainability officers.

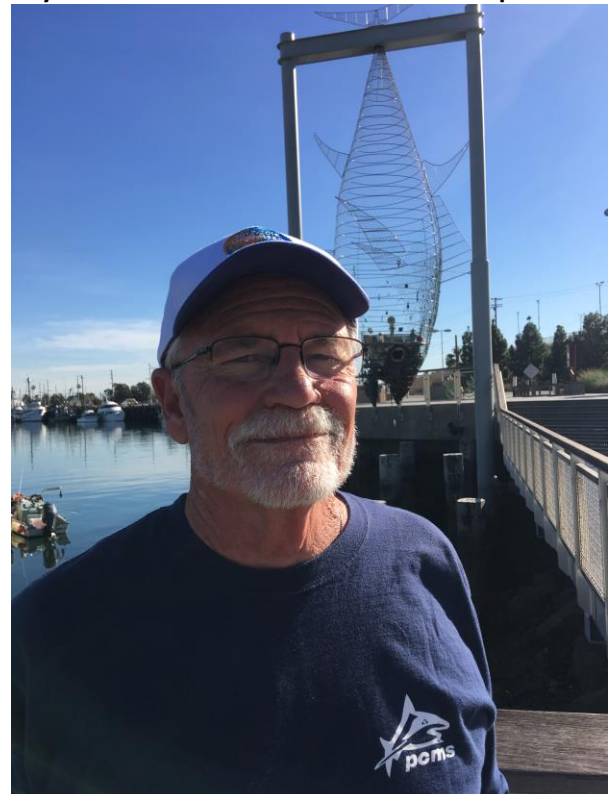
[A student initiated resolution to amplify the LACCD's commitment to sustainability has moved forward in the District's system](#) to come before the Board of Trustees on the fall Seeking support from faculty across the district, Valley College student Meyrav Revivo launched her resolution following statewide student meetings that included support for the creation of sustainability officers at each community college campus. She started her resolution at Valley and eventually at other campuses where academic senates gave their ringing endorsements. Eventually the measure was taken up by the District Academic Senate and passed May 10<sup>th</sup> at the City College meeting.



[California Safe Schools](#) has been on the forefront of fighting chemical exposure particularly children in schools, parks, and playing fields. [Robina Suwol](#), CSS pioneered the campaign that took many dangerous chemicals off school grounds including pesticides and

herbicides and rodenticides. CSS has been doing that ever since. [This year of the six awardees](#), the SI's very own George Leddy. "CSS celebrates George Leddy for his remarkable efforts as an Adjunct Professor of Environmental Science at Los Angeles Community College. George's strong moral compass has greatly influenced thousands of lives, and his incredible leadership has led to greater protection of human health, the environment and our ecosystem."

## Raymond Wells leads LACCD's membership in SCMI



Professor Raymond Wells from Pierce now chairs our SCMI faculty advisory committee which includes Patrick Lyons from Valley and Randy Adsit from East LA College. Raymond Wells sporting his [Pierce College](#)

*Our logo: The District learning tree is embedded in the "triple bottom line" of sustainable development: social justice, political equality and environmental sustainability. The SI endorses this approach to environmental education.*

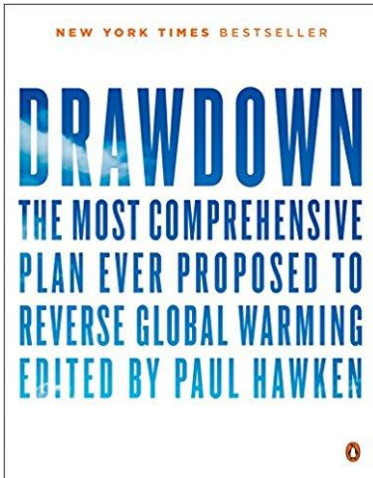


[Marine Science Program](#) t-shirt at San Pedro fishing wharfs.

Attention is rekindled in the fate of the world’s ocean due to extreme overfishing, suffocating plastic pollution, radiation, and the death of coral reefs due to climate change and acidification. As we face a rapid decline in the health of the sea, the LACCD continues its investment in marine education through our membership in the [Southern California Marine Institute](#).

**John Grimmer suggests a good climate change book**

This week, the [New York Times published the report](#) findings of the IPCC on climate change threats and mitigation goals. Last month John Grimmer presented us with a book that has been on the New York Times Best Seller list for 2017. It’s Paul Hawken’s [Drawdown—The Most Comprehensive Plan Ever Proposed to Reverse Global Warming](#). Hawken’s anthology includes well known writers and scientists.



The book comes [highly recommended](#) for its relative optimism in planning our way out of global warming. The 115 articles are drawn from a broad range of disciplines and approaches. From their website: “Drawdown maps,

measures, models, and describes the 100 most substantive solutions to global warming. For each solution, we describe its history, the carbon impact it provides, the relative cost and savings, the path to adoption, and how it works. The goal of the research that informs *Drawdown* is to determine if we can reverse the buildup of atmospheric carbon within thirty years. All solutions modeled are already in place, well understood, analyzed based on peer-reviewed science, and are expanding around the world.”

There are many issues in this large format book to disagree with, such as the role of nuclear power in a decarbonizing approach to our energy system. But there is no doubt that this book makes a valuable con-

tribution to the ongoing serious discussion on climate change challenges and solutions.

**October 20: From the Mountains to the Sea**



The *Cabrillo Marine Aquarium*, *Civicas Women's Civic Action Network* & *Flowproject.la* present [A Room Where it Happens: LA H2O from Mountains to Sea](#)

The Aquarium is hosting a Cross-Sector Conversation about water issues, technological actions and civic resources, including an environmental education expo inspired by CA's \$9 billion Water Bond & LA's Storm Water Tax initiatives on the November Ballot.

An expert panel includes leaders in the civic water sector including: Angela Barraco, CEO, River LA; Ann Carpenter, co-Founder/CEO, Braid Theory; Cynthia Hirschhorn, Founder, flowproject.la; Dr. Jenny Jay, Professor, IoES at UCLA; Jenny Krusoe, ED, AltaSea, Dr. Shelley Luce, President/CEO Heal the Bay with introductions by Julianne Kalman Passarelli, Ph.D., Cabrillo Marine Aquarium and Dr. Melissa Turcotte, Environmental Engineering Specialist with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works. **Saturday, October 20, 2018 2:00pm-4:00pm Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, San Pedro**

**Water test kits available**

After a long wait, the SI now has the water test kits acquired through a grant from the Metropolitan Water District. These kits are now at Valley College but can be sent through inter-campus pouch to other campuses.

A [detailed list of the kit descriptions](#) can be seen on our website under SI Projects. We would like the data to be gathered at known collection sites along the LA River Watershed and the data to be available online. By Spring we will have a coordinated approach with [Friends of the LA River](#) and the [Council for Watershed Health](#).