

# 2023 KIETS Climate Leaders Program Fall Symposium

## Think and Do: Climate Challenges and Solutions



**NC STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Thursday,  
September 28, 2023**

**12:30 – 1:00 pm Registration and Innovation Showcase/Poster Setup (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)**

**1:00 – 2:15 pm Welcome and Keynote Speaker (Duke Energy Hall)**

Lonnie Johnson – President and Founder of Johnson Research and Development Co. Inc. (Inventor, Entrepreneur, Aerospace Engineer and inventor of the Super Soaker!)

*Dr. Johnson will share his efforts around entrepreneurship, research and development of clean energy technologies. He will also share his perspective on how the approaches to and conversations around energy have changed and advice for pursuing one's dreams and making an impact.*

**2:15 – 3:45 pm Session 1: Clean Energy Options (Duke Energy Hall)**

*Presentations followed by discussion around energy options for decarbonization such as wind, nuclear, and bio-fuels, workforce development opportunities, and more.*

Jennifer Mundt – Assistant Secretary for Clean Energy Economic Development, NC Department of Commerce

Jason Hou – Associate Professor, College of Engineering, NC State University

Daniela Jones – Assistant Professor, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, NC State University

Introductions by Henry Ssembatya – 2023 CLP Scholar, NC State University, College of Engineering and College of Natural Resources

Moderated by Adria Wilson – Director, U.S. Policy and Advocacy, Breakthrough Energy

**3:45 – 4:00 pm Break**

**4:00 – 5:30 pm Session 2: Energy Actions (Duke Energy Hall)**

*Presentations followed by discussion on ways individuals can contribute to and participate in the clean energy transition.*

Autumn Proudlove – Associate Director of Policy and Markets, NC Clean Energy Technology Center

Matt Abele – Interim Executive Director, NC Sustainable Energy Association

Jennifer Weiss – Co-Director, NC Clean Energy Fund

Introductions by Ishita Kamboj – 2022 and 2023 CLP Scholar, NC State University, College of Engineering

Moderated by Steve Kalland – Executive Director, NC Clean Energy Technology Center

**5:30 – 6:30 pm Continued on Next Page**

# 2023 KIETS Climate Leaders Program Fall Symposium

## Think and Do: Climate Challenges and Solutions



**NC STATE UNIVERSITY**

### **Thursday, September 28, 2023**

**5:30 – 6:30 pm**    **Innovation Showcase/Poster Session and Reception** (*Duke Energy Hall & IEI Commons*)

Visit over 30 student and faculty posters and more than 15 tables displaying innovative ways to address the symposium's climate challenges and solutions themes (Energy, Carbon, Food, Adaptation) and more.

**6:30 – 7:30 pm**    **Reception/Dinner/Networking** (*Duke Energy Hall*)

### **Friday, September 29, 2023**

**8:00 – 9:00 am**    **Registration and Breakfast** (*Duke Energy Hall*)

**9:00 – 10:00 am**    **Welcome and Keynote Speaker** (*Hunt Auditorium*)

Ariana Eily – Lecturer, Elon University Department of Biology; Art of a Scientist Exhibit

*Dr. Eily will discuss the value of art serving as a tool to connect science and society, while providing action items for people wanting to begin or continue with the process.*

**10:00 – 10:15 am**    **Break** (*Duke Energy Hall*)

**10:15 – 11:45 am**    **Session 3: Carbon and Climate** (*Hunt Auditorium*)

*Presentations followed by discussion on a variety of ways to capture and utilize CO<sub>2</sub>.*

Raghubir Gupta – President and Co-founder, Susteon

Joe Sagues – Assistant Professor, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, NC State University

Sonja Salmon – Associate Professor, Wilson College of Textiles, NC State University

Introductions by Julia Cunniffe, 2023 CLP Scholar, NC State University, College of Engineering and College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Moderated by Fanxing Li – Alcoa Professor, College of Engineering, NC State University

**11:45 – 12:15 pm**    **Continued on Next Page**

# 2023 KIETS Climate Leaders Program Fall Symposium

## Think and Do: Climate Challenges and Solutions



**NC STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Friday,  
September 29, 2023**

**11:45 – 12:15 pm**     **Climate Leaders Program Cohort Lightning Talks** (*Hunt Auditorium*)

*Lightning talks presented by members of the 2023 Climate Leaders Program. Presentations will be on their research and/or internship approaches to climate change.*

**12:15 – 1:15 pm**     **Lunch** (*Duke Energy Hall*)

**1:30 – 3:00 pm**     **Session 4: Food and Climate** (*Hunt Auditorium*)

*Presentations and discussions on improving food production, security, and environmental outcomes through sustainable farming methods, life cycle assessment, and identifying new local market opportunities.*

Alan Franzluebbers – Co-Director of Agriculture Research Services, USDA Southeast Climate Hub

Minliang Yang – Assistant Professor, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, NC State University

Ryan Bethea – Owner, Oysters Carolina

Introductions by Kalle Simpson, 2023 CLP Scholar, NC State University, College of Natural Resources and College of Veterinary Medicine

Moderated by Tal Ben-Horin – Assistant Professor, College of Veterinary Medicine, NC State University

**3:00 – 3:30 pm**     **Networking Break** (*Duke Energy Hall*)

**3:30 – 5:00 pm**     **Session 5: Adaptation to Extreme Weather** (*Hunt Auditorium*)

*Presentations and discussions on the importance of adapting to weather changes in a way that equitably protects human and environmental health and safety.*

Gwen Collman – Climate Change & Health Initiative, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

Maureen Sullivan – Former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Environment)

Joseph Roise – Professor, College of Natural Resources, NC State University

Introductions by Genevieve Myers – 2023 CLP Scholar, College of Natural Resources

Moderated by Erin Seekamp – Goodnight Distinguished Professor, College of Natural Resources, NC State University, Director – Coastal Resilience and Sustainability Initiative

**5:00 - 6:30 pm**     **Reception** (*Duke Energy Hall*)

*Join us for a closing reception to continue to network and reflect upon how we can work across disciplines to address climate challenges and solutions.*