An interdisciplinary Climate Action Training program for graduate students at UC Irvine

Steven Allison
Associate Professor
Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Earth System Science
allisons@uci.edu
The climate challenge

• Society requires solutions to complex problems
Meeting the challenge: graduate education

- Students need practical training
- Preparation for diverse career options

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Honey, maybe it would help your job search if you thought about your life goals.

I mean, what sort of career did you have in mind when you went to grad school?

What did you envision doing with your Ph.D.?

What do you want to be when you grow up?

Retired.
CAT program goals

- Train graduate students with transferrable skills
- Prepare for careers in climate action
- Build partnerships within and outside UC Irvine
Interdisciplinary cohort

- Biological sciences (2)
- Urban and regional planning (2)
- English (2)
- Anthropology
- Sociology
- Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
Program elements

- Climate Data Science short course
- Climate Action Seminar
- Internships with partner organizations
- Climate Action mini-symposium
New partnerships

• NOAA
• Southern CA Coastal Water Research Project
• Southern CA Public Radio
• UCI Sustainability Initiative
• Cities of Irvine and Newport Beach
Looking forward

- National Science Foundation training grant
- Institutionalize program elements
- Place trainees in relevant careers