

CIRES Town Hall

Thursday, October 24, 2024



University of Colorado **Boulder**



Agenda

Welcome - Waleed

Announcements - Lauren Lipuma

Strategic plan initiatives update

Overview - Maggie Tolbert

Imperative #1: Proposal mentoring pilot program - Jen Kay

Imperative #4: Science illustration contest - Lauren Lipuma

Climate Resilience @ CIRES - Becca Edwards and Twila Moon

Q&A





Welcome

Waleed Abdalati, CIRES Director



Announcements

Lauren Lipuma, CIRES Communications

Guidance for Election Day

CU Boulder **does not grant administrative leave** to employees on Election Day, so CIRES employees and supervisors are encouraged to find flexibility in scheduling or flexing time to allow for voting-related activities.

Most polling stations are open from 7 am to 7 pm, and employees are encouraged to vote before or after scheduled work hours when possible or participate via mail-in ballot.

CU Boulder Today has more information on campus locations for registration, voting, and ballot drop-off. The CIRES admin blog has guidance on engaging in political activities up to and during the election.

Nomination period open: 2025 Outstanding Performance Awards

Info

The CIRES Outstanding Performance Awards aim to recognize novel, high-impact efforts that illustrate remarkable creativity or resourcefulness within three distinct categories: Science and Engineering, Science Service, and Administrative Service.

Timeline

Nomination period: ends Feb. 3, 2025

Letters of support due: Feb. 21, 2025

Award winners directly notified by: March 24, 2025

Awards presented: CIRES Rendezvous in May 2025

Nominate someone

<https://insidecires.colorado.edu/opa/nominate.php>



Strategic Plan initiative updates

Maggie Tolbert/CIRES Associate Director

CIRES strategic plan initiatives

CIRES updated its strategic plan in 2021 and organized it into four imperatives: broad goals we want to achieve from 2022 through 2027.

Imperative #1

Advance our robust and creative research capabilities to further knowledge in the environmental sciences and the realization of its benefits.

Imperative #2

Strategically link research groups and improve the mobility of our people and ideas to enhance innovation and interdisciplinarity across CIRES.

Imperative #3

Advance diversity, justice, equity, and inclusion through robust workforce development programs to promote excellence while inspiring engagement, innovation, collaboration, and leadership at all levels.

Imperative #4

Enhance the impact, accessibility, and reach of our science and data to the broader scientific community, NOAA, educators and students, policy makers, and the general public.

CIRES Strategic plan initiatives

Spring 2024: Called for volunteers for Strategic Champions from campus and DSRC, one committee for each imperative

Summer 2024: Committees met and started gain familiarity with the imperative and identify unmet goals. Began to brainstorm ideas for new initiatives

Fall 2024: SI Champions presented ideas and budgets to Strategic planning committee for feedback

Now: Ready to engage with wider CIRES audience to implement new initiatives

May 2025: Final presentations at Rendezvous





Imperative #1 new initiative

Proposal mentoring pilot program

Jen Kay, CIRES Fellow

About the program

Why

Imperative #1: Advance our **robust and creative research capabilities** to further knowledge in the environmental sciences and the realization of its benefits.

What

Begin a pilot program in spring 2025 that **pairs new proposal writers seeking feedback with one or several senior scientists** who may know about the call for proposal and have themselves secured funding in the past. The feedback is expected to be on general guidelines and overall strategy but does not need to go into the scientific and technical details of the project.

Goals

Secure more funding for CIRES research by having seasoned scientists who are well-versed in grant writing provide big-picture guidelines to new proposal writers.

Information sessions for the pilot program

Are you interested in being a part of a new pilot mentoring program for proposal writing in spring 2025? Mentees should have a proposal they want feedback on (e.g., CIRES IRP, NOI for a longer proposal). During spring 2025: 2 one-on-one mentor-mentee meetings, proposal review by mentors using rubric, wrap-up lunch for all mentor-mentee pairs. Estimated time commitment ~8 hours total.

Come to an information session to learn more about being a mentor or a mentee.

Please RSVP here: <https://forms.gle/u1tNqcBhATrEqZJM9>

Wednesday November 13 9-10 am

CIRES Fellows Room in Ekeley

Wednesday November 20 9-10 am

CSL conference room (2A305)

Questions: Please contact Alex (alexandre.baron@noaa.gov) and Jen (jennifer.e.kay@colorado.edu)

RSVP QR code



A blue-tinted photograph of a mountain valley. In the foreground, three hikers with large backpacks are walking away from the camera on a dirt path. The middle hiker is carrying a red bag. The background shows steep, rocky slopes and a snow-capped mountain peak in the distance.

Imperative #4 new initiative

Science illustration contest

Lauren Lipuma, CIRES Communications

About the contest

Why

Imperative #4: Enhance the **impact, accessibility, and reach of CIRES science and data** to the broader scientific community, NOAA, educators and students, policymakers, and the general public.

What

The contest will challenge CIRES researchers to **create illustrations or visualizations** of their science or a scientific concept for a **general, non-science audience**. Illustrations could be infographics, maps, data visualizations, videos, animations, timelapses, or any other kind of visual that is not a photograph.

CIRES will offer trainings on various topics to help researchers develop their visualization skills in preparation for the contest.

Goals

To give CIRES researchers the opportunity to **share their science outside of academia**, improve their communications and visualization skills, and create visualizations of CIRES science that can be shared broadly in news stories, on social media, in fact sheets, and through other media.

Why focus on illustration?

Vision trumps all other senses

We learn and remember best through imagery

Most new internet content is image-based

Science lends itself to visual media

Questions

Please contact Lauren Lipuma (lauren.lipuma@colorado.edu) or Jessica Knezha (jessica.knezha@noaa.gov)



Trainings and timeline

November 2024	Training: Communicating outside of academia; video and animation
January 2025	Training: Graphic design and illustration Information session about the contest itself
February 2025	Training: Data visualization
March 2025	Contest opens "Office hours" sessions with experts for one-on-one help and feedback
April 2025	Contest closes, judging begins
May 2025	Winners announced and illustrations displayed at Rendezvous

Upcoming events for imperatives 1 and 4

Visit the [CIRES events page](#) for full details

Thursday, November 7

Training session for illustration contest: Communicating outside of academia, intro to video and animation

Time and location: 1 - 2:30 pm in the CIRES Auditorium and via Zoom

Snacks provided!

Wednesday, November 13

Breakfast information session for proposal mentoring pilot program

Time and location: 9 - 10 am, CIRES Fellows room (Ekeley S274)

Breakfast provided!

Training session for illustration contest: Communicating outside of academia, intro to video and animation

Time and location: 1 - 2:30 pm in room GC402 at NOAA DSRC and via Google Meet

Wednesday, November 20

Breakfast information session for proposal mentoring pilot program

Time and location: 9 - 10 am, room 2A305 at NOAA DSRC



Climate Resilience @ CIRES

Twila Moon/ NSIDC Deputy Lead Scientist & Science
Communication Liaison

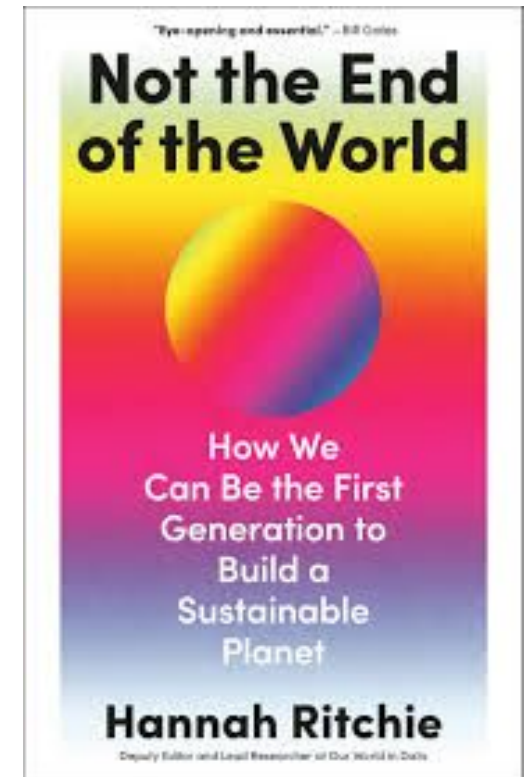
Becca Edwards/CIRES DEI Director

Climate Anxiety

Last spring, we offered a talk last spring by climate psychologist Leslie Davenport, “The Intersection of Climate Change and Mental Health.” [The slides and recording are available to all.](#) Leslie talked about emotional resilience and the importance of making choices regarding the information that one consumes about climate change.

Hannah Ritchie offers these ideas:

- We face big and important environmental challenges.
- You will have to hold multiple thoughts at the same time.
- Minimizing risk and damage is not inevitable, but it is possible.
- We cannot afford to be complacent.
- You are not alone in this.



Climate Resilience @ CIRES

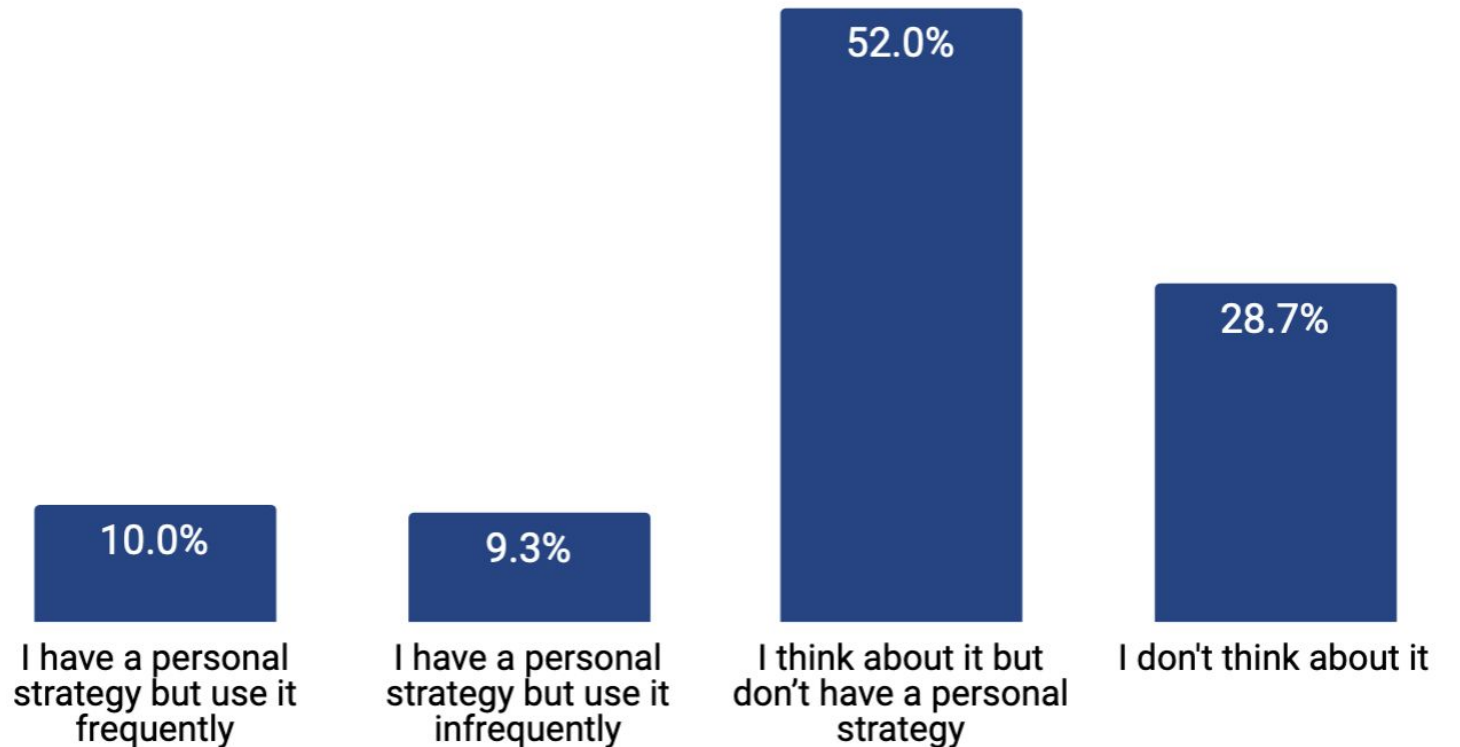
We have defined **climate resilience** as "the ability to retain focus on our work at CIRES, with attention to being open-minded and empathic, in the face of challenging climate change conditions, media reports and data collection."

Let's work together to design climate resilience strategies for ourselves and our communities!

First Zoom poll @ Town Hall:

How would you describe your progress towards using a personal strategy to build your climate resilience?

150 responses, see results →



Climate Resilience @ CIRES

Second Zoom poll @ Town Hall:

What types of resources and content would be most supportive to you?

Resources: *"resources that provide steps we can take that are relevant to us here in Colorado and more focused on us specifically rather than global/general," "podcasts," "articles," "well-vetted online resources," "good news stories help."*

Events: *"Climate Action day," "group event," "lunch chats"*

Newsletter: *"would love a weekly or bi-weekly email with resources or events on campus that are geared towards action in groups, and with resources like podcasts that we could access on our own," "reminders of the impact CIRES is having in the face of climate change and opportunities to hear from each other and be inspired"*



Climate Resilience @ CIRES

Supporting personal and community
climate well-being

You can contribute to the website and use it as part of your climate resilience strategy. You can use the form to add your resources or indicate your interest in helping design a CIRES Climate Action event in Spring 2025.

Website: <https://cires.colorado.edu/institutional-programs/climate-resilience-cires>

Form: <https://forms.gle/xZBa4wmVJjX3XBNY8>

Climate Conversations

- An activity to stimulate discussion about climate change has been developed which is called the "Climate Conversations Card Game."
- The goal is to facilitate conversations between people through shared empathy and experiences, working through their own relationships with climate change while envisioning a climate resilient future.



During this hour, we will break into small groups and use the cards to create conversations. There are various levels of cards, so each participant can choose the type of conversation that they wish to have.

Monday, November 4, 11am-12pm, DSRC Outreach Classroom

Tuesday, December 3, 3-4pm, Ekeley W240



Thank you! Questions?



University of Colorado **Boulder**



A woman with long brown hair, wearing a grey hoodie, is sitting at a desk in an office. She is looking towards the right and gesturing with her right hand. In front of her is a laptop displaying a web application. To her left, the profile of a man is visible. To her right, the back of a woman's head with long blonde hair is visible. The background shows an office environment with a door and a whiteboard.

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A dense forest of tall, thin trees, possibly birches, with a blue tint overlay. The trees are arranged in a regular pattern, creating a sense of depth and perspective. The ground is covered in fallen leaves and twigs.

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