Climate Leaders Program
2023 Scholar/Faculty Fellow Teams

Students and faculty members selected as part of the 2023 cohort of the Climate Leaders Program are approaching climate change in innovative ways to improve water quality, biodiversity, agriculture, carbon capture/sequestration, energy and material alternatives, landscape and building design, public policy, and environmental justice and equity. The teams will work with their internship partners to develop solutions that mitigate and adapt to the challenges of climate change. Learn more at climateleaders.kenan.ncsu.edu
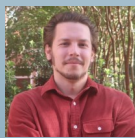
Ryan Anderson
Master's student - 2024
Dr. Gavin Smith
Professor

College of Design

Climate Change Interests: Resilient design and its ability to create unique and adaptable spaces and the application of nature-based solutions in hazard-prone areas.

Leo Brody
PhD student - 2024
Dr. Fanxing Li
Alcoa Professor
University Faculty Scholar

College of Engineering

Climate Change Interests: Utilization of renewable resources for sustainable fuels and chemicals production.

Julia Cunniffe
PhD student - 2025
Dr. Joe Sagues
Associate Professor

**College of Engineering,
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences**

Climate Change Interests: Bioprocess research creating value-added products, implementing carbon capture and sequestration.

Ryen Frazier
PhD student - 2024
Dr. Ronalds Gonzalez
Associate Professor
University Faculty Scholar

College of Natural Resources

Climate Change Interests: Environmental and economic implications of replacing synthetic materials, reutilization of waste materials, or engineering alternative raw materials.

Kaleb Goff
PhD student - 2026
Dr. Seema Sheth
Assistant Professor

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Climate Change Interests: Biodiversity, plant ecology, biogeography of mountain plants, conservation biology, long-term monitoring, climate refugia, international collaboration.
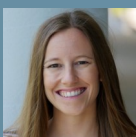
Ishita Kamboj
PhD student - 2024
Dr. Veronica Augustyn
Associate Professor
University Faculty Scholar

College of Engineering

Climate Change Interests: Energy storage research to develop strategies and direct funding for renewable energy generation, sustainable sourcing, and energy justice.

Kaitlin Karaffa
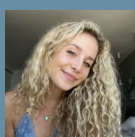Master's student -2024
Dr. Kathie Dello*
Dr. Sarah Larson**

College of Sciences

Climate Change Interests: Aiding in development of climate mitigation policies and assessing public perception of climate change.

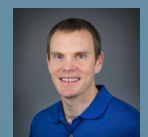*NC State Climate Office Directory   **Assistant Professor

Shannon Levkovitz
Undergraduate - 2024
Professor Tsai Lu Liu
Professor, Dept. Head

College of Design

Climate Change Interests: Intersection of design, community, and science, addressing sustainability in the built environment and understanding the value of material sourcing.
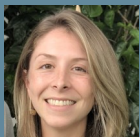
Genevieve Myers
Undergraduate - 2025
Dr. Lincoln Larson
Associate Professor

College of Natural Resources

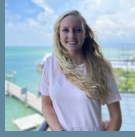Climate Change Interests: Environmental justice, particularly sustainable development and equitable urban greening.

Hayden Rudd
PhD student - 2024
Dr. Elizabeth Nichols
Professor

College of Natural Resources

Climate Change Interests: Studying extreme weather impacts on groundwater water quality by combining analytical chemistry techniques and machine learning.
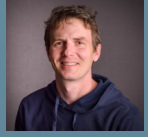
Kalle Simpson
Master's student - 2024
Dr. Tal Ben-Horin
Assistant Professor

**College of Natural Resources
College of Veterinary Medicine**

Climate Change Interests: Global change and human health risks from expanding coastal aquaculture production

Henry Ssembatya
PhD student - 2025
Dr. Jordan Kern
Assistant Professor

**College of Engineering
College of Natural Resources**

Climate Change Interests: Extreme weather event system dynamics, decarbonization of sectors impact on the power grid, renewable energy integration, long-term climate impacts.
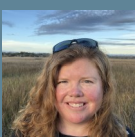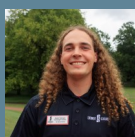
Andrew Waaswa
PhD student - 2024
Dr. Joy Morgan
Assistant Professor

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Climate Change Interests: Agrarian community adoption of climate-smart agricultural (CSA) practices and CSA's impact on natural resources and the environment.
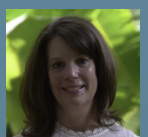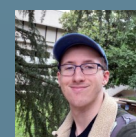
Adam Wampler
Undergraduate - 2024
Dr. Erin Seekamp
Goodnight Distinguished
Professor

College of Natural Resources

Climate Change Interests: Restoration ecology, carbon sequestration, community engagement with green space, green space equity and access, and wetland and riparian management.

Noah Weaver
Master's student - 2024
Professor Anne Spafford
Professor/Associate
Department Head

College of Design

Climate Change Interests: Exploring the capabilities of ecology-integrated design within urban environments to create resilient and equitable living spaces.