

# Sustainability and Climate Action for Libraries and Our Communities



ALA President Patty Wong | February 2022

# Speakers



## Uta Hussong-Christian

*Associate Professor and Science Librarian,  
Oregon State University*

**Past Chair**, Sustainability Round Table

**Member**, Council Committee on Sustainability

**Co-author**, Council Resolution on Carbon

Neutral Conferences



## Michele Stricker

*Deputy State Librarian, New Jersey State Library*

**Author/Project Manager**, *Disaster Preparedness &  
Community Resiliency Toolkit*

**Founding Member**, New Jersey Cultural Alliance for  
Response



## Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, Moderator

*Executive Director, Mid-Hudson Library System*

**Chair**, Council Committee on Sustainability

**Co-Founder**, Sustainable Libraries Initiative

**Author**: *Sustainable Thinking; Resilience; Libraries and  
Sustainability* (ALA Editions)



**2018: Final Report of the ALA Special Task Force on Sustainability**

**2019: Adopted Sustainability as a Core Value of the Profession**

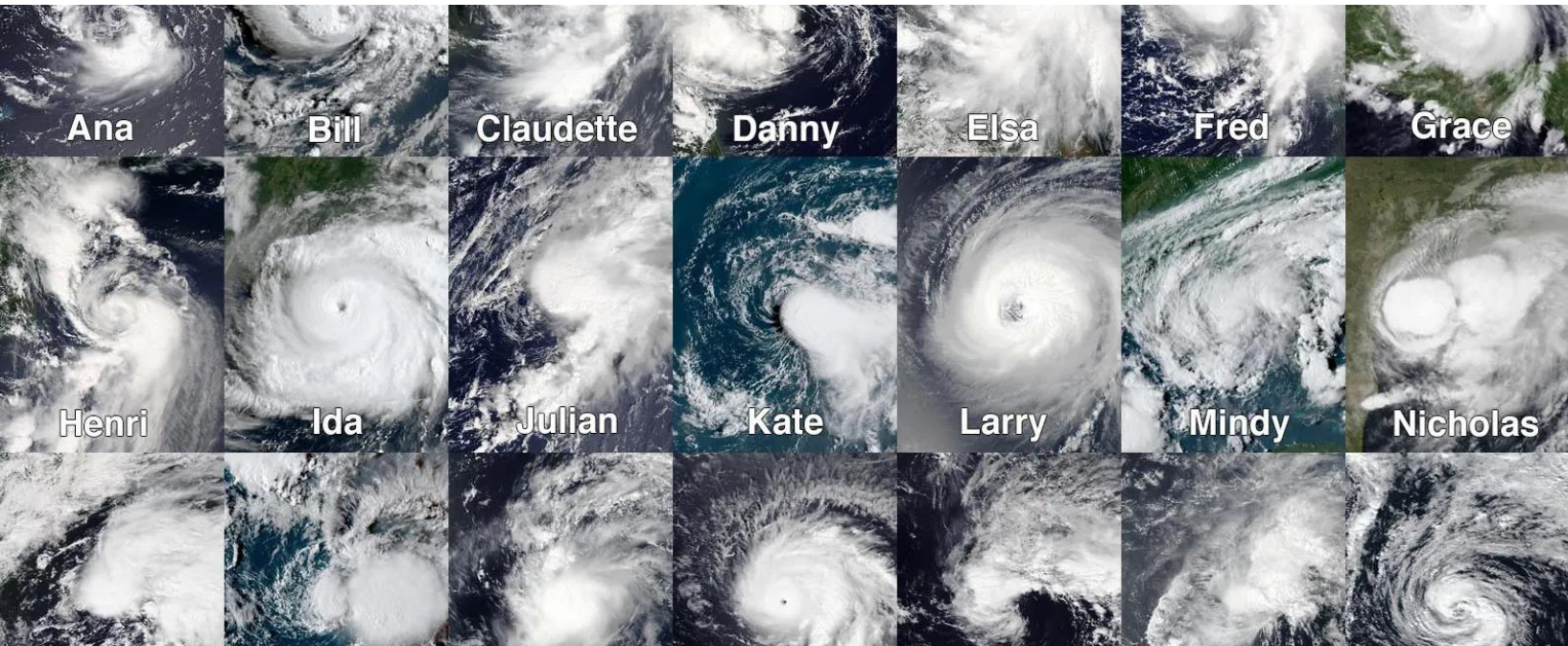
**2021:**

- Created the **Council Committee on Sustainability**
- **President Patty Wong** names Sustainability as a Presidential Priority
- Passed the **Resolution to Achieve Carbon Neutrality for ALA Conferences**

**2022:** ALA Editions publishes *“Libraries and Sustainability: Programs and Practices for Community Impact”*



Image Source: [SustainableLibrariesInitiative.org](https://SustainableLibrariesInitiative.org)



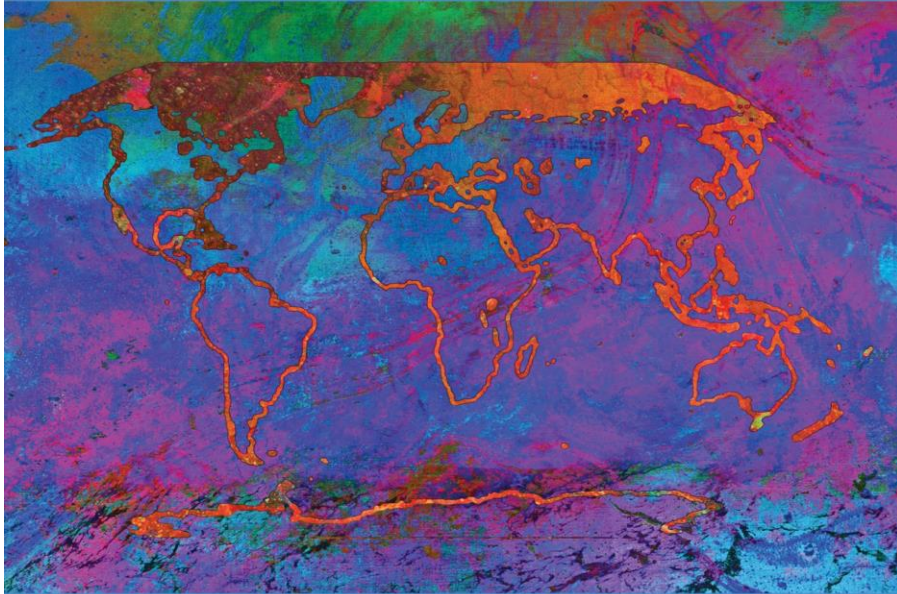
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INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON climate change

# Climate Change 2021

## The Physical Science Basis

Summary for Policymakers



WGI

Working Group I contribution to the  
Sixth Assessment Report of the  
Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change



“

# CODE RED

# FOR HUMANITY

**António Guterres**

United Nations Secretary-General, 9 August 2021



# Climate Action Now

## Identify Vulnerability

- Drought/Heat Wave
- Flooding
- Hail
- Hurricane
- Tornado Outbreak
- Severe Weather
- Wildfire
- Winter Storm/Cold Wave

*National Centers for Environmental Information, NOAA*

## Decarbonize the Library

*climate mitigation*

Decarbonize Library Infrastructure  
by **reducing greenhouse gas**

**emissions:**

- Energy Efficiency
- Switch to Renewable Energy
- Electric Vehicles
- Ethical Carbon Offsets

## Climate Justice

*climate adaptation*

**“Strengthen community resilience and livability:**

- Advance Food Justice;
- Advocate for Transportation Equity;
- Uphold Civil and Human Rights in Emergency Management; and
- Facilitate Participatory Democracy.”

*NAACP*