

## **Breakout Sessions for Focus the Nation, UC Berkeley**

### **Track: *Policy Debates***

#### *Presidential Candidate Debate: Who is Prepared to Make the US a Climate Action Leader?*

Participants of this session will be randomly sorted into groups, and assigned one of the top six presidential candidates. Each group will be provided with comprehensive information related to their candidate's platform on climate change. Upon giving the opportunity for groups to learn their candidate's positions, session facilitators will moderate a debate between the groups, with each group acting in their candidate's persona. Taking place one week before the primary elections, the outcome for participants will be a deeper understanding of where candidates in their favored party fall. The session deliverables may include Op-Ed pieces to local newspapers and letters to individual candidates.

#### *Where (at what institutional level(s)) do we focus our energy for changes towards sustainable/efficient transportation?*

Participants of this session will have the opportunity to develop ideas and recommendations towards improving the sustainability of transportation. Participants will be divided into working groups and will be provided with background materials on transportation policy considerations at that State, Regional, and Municipal levels. The facilitators of the session will pose focus questions to assist groups in understanding the key pressures and challenges associated with improving transportation efficiency and sustainability. The session will culminate with a policy recommendation exercise where working groups will be given a specific challenge to address. This session is open to a general audience and does not require any advanced knowledge of the transportation sector or policies. The session deliverables may include Op-Ed pieces to local newspapers and policy memos to local, state, or regional decision makers.

### **Track: *Local Action***

#### *The Green Initiative Fund – Speed Dating*

Last Spring, the Berkeley student body voted in favor of a \$5 per student per semester fee referendum, The Green Initiative Fund (TGIF), from which grants will be made for projects to improve environmental sustainability on UC Berkeley's campus.

Do you want to play a role in deciding how the money is spent? Do you have an idea for improving the environmental sustainability of the Berkeley campus? Do you want to meet someone who has an idea? This session will facilitate the mixing and meeting of participants who are interested in developing a TGIF grant proposal. Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to participate and to collaborate on proposals.

*Cal Climate Action Partnership: Reducing Cal's Climate Impact*

What's already being done to shrink the campus climate footprint? What should we do next?

In the spring of 2007, Chancellor Birgeneau committed the campus to the CalCAP goal of reducing campus emissions to 1990 levels by 2014. Facilitators of this session organized a student run course to explore the options for meeting and exceeding this goal, and setting the stage for more dramatic cuts in the future. The students have learned from guest speakers, case studies, and their own analyses that the more ambitious and inclusive campus plans are, the more successful they are likely to be. Participants of this session will learn about the key findings of the CalCAP course as background for a discussion focused on developing ideas for campus projects that will help Cal live up to its reputation for national leadership in sustainability.