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CENTER



CHANGE
THE WORLD

Is it just science?



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
SANTA CRUZ

DIVISION OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCIENCE AND JUSTICE RESEARCH CENTER

OUR MISSION

Is the science just? This fundamental question is at the heart of everything we do. The Science and Justice Research Center (SJRC) works to infuse science with commitments to justice. We believe science is not just about what happens at the lab bench; it shapes the nature of our present and future. We inform and train a new generation of leaders who can create science and technology that are responsive to diverse needs and address vital concerns:

- Whose lives are supported by investments in science and technology?
- Whose lives remain marginalized or even erased?
- How can scientists and engineers learn to interact more with other forms of knowledge and practice?
- How can collaboration lead to new research questions that push toward justice?



SJRC Training Program Certificate Reception



Ríos Vivos (Living Rivers) movement participants use their bodies to protest dam construction

OUR WORK

SJRC adds justice to the core sensibilities of science to tackle complex, pressing problems, including racism, health and social inequities, and the destruction of ecologies and ways of life. We provide collaborative spaces where natural scientists, engineers, social scientists, artists, policy makers, healthcare practitioners, and community members come together to holistically address critical issues and identify new paths forward.

Graduate and Undergraduate Training

The Science and Justice Graduate Training Program trains students in interdisciplinary inquiry and teaches the pragmatics of engaged collaboration. Students learn leadership skills from world-class experts, including our lively SJRC community of affiliated scientists, researchers, and scholars from the social sciences, physical and biological sciences, engineering, humanities, and the arts. Students also learn how to engage in critical and ethical analysis, and how to collectively address the moments where questions of science meet questions of justice. Our growing undergraduate curriculum links students interested in health, science, and justice to relevant courses, research, and career opportunities.

IS IT JUST DIALOGUE?

Decisions about science, technology, and public policy shape the future. SJRC faculty, fellows, and students are generating media and convening debates that bring justice alive in a techno-scientific age. These vital public platforms allow for new connections across disciplinary and social divides, and bring new voices to scientific and public dialogue.

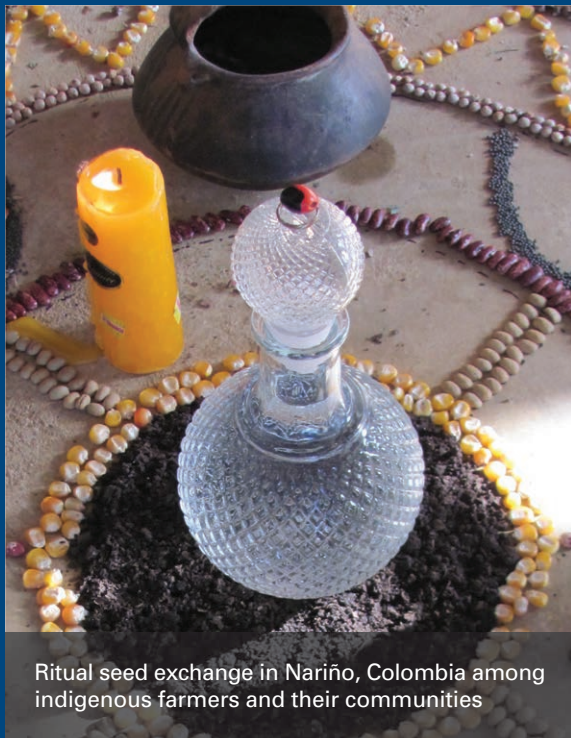
- **The SJRC Working Group:** Through public events on campus and across the state, the SJRC Working Group serves as an incubator for addressing issues that raise questions concerning both science and justice.
- **Engaging in Media:** The SJRC community is shaping dialogues online and in print through commentaries and editorials in scientific journals and national news outlets.

JUSTICE SPARKS OUR RESEARCH

SJRC affiliates pursue local, regional, national, and international research collaborations on issues that inform and affect institutional and public policy.

Working for Social and Ecological Justice

SJRC Professor Kristina Lyons' research in Colombia examines how aerial fumigation and the war on drugs affect rural communities and ecologies. Accompanying a small farmer from Putumayo to testify in The Hague in 2016, Dr. Lyons utilized her work in challenging the International Criminal Court to recognize ecocide committed by states and multinationals, and to address the inseparable nature of social and ecological justice.



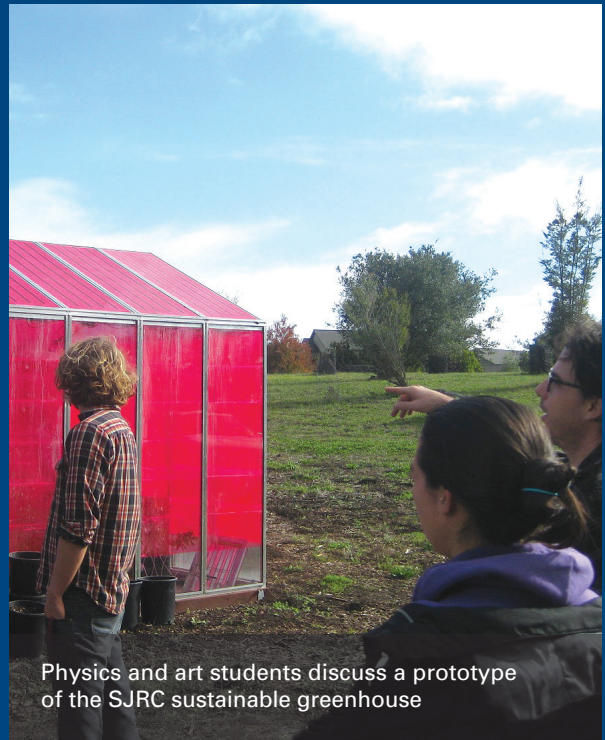
Ritual seed exchange in Nariño, Colombia among indigenous farmers and their communities

Just Data

Patients' bodies and health data have become the economic engine of biomedical and biotech economies. Working across the UC system, SJRC faculty and students are pushing biomedical and science policy leaders to move beyond the narrow questions of privacy and consent, posing fundamental questions about what the just ends of biomedical research and health care should be in the 21st century.

Working for Reproductive Justice

Our undergraduate researchers are connecting justice to research, and history to the present. Sociology major Laura Lopez mapped the history of eugenics and eugenic sterilization practices in California by creating an online tool to view the past and present reproductive injustices across the state.



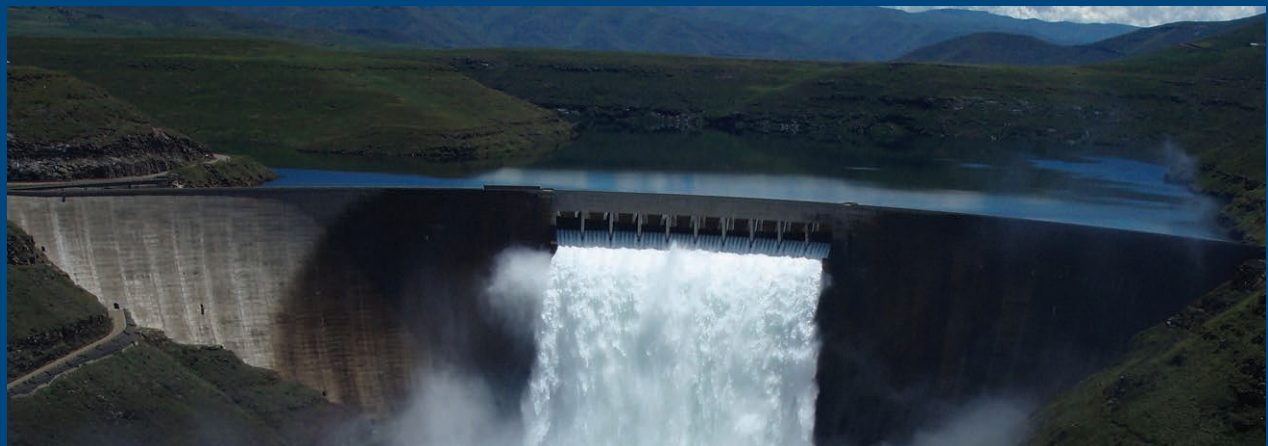
Physics and art students discuss a prototype of the SJRC sustainable greenhouse

THE DIFFERENCE IS YOU

Your support creates a vibrant future for the Science and Justice Research Center at UC Santa Cruz. With your help, we can:

- Endow our Science and Justice Fellows program to train the next generation of leaders
- Establish a named center endowment to support programmatic needs, faculty research, and student education
- Build pathways from research and dialogue to policy change and social transformation
- Foster much needed dialogue at UCSC and globally, and address key justice issues as we build next-generation science and technology
- Build a dynamic digital platform to serve as a hub for cross-institutional and transnational collaboration

Our donors and funders make a more just world possible. **Thank you!**



“ Understanding and addressing the challenges of knowledge and justice in the current moment requires fundamental new thought, imagination, and resources. ”

— Jenny Reardon, Director, Science & Justice Research Center

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Contact the Social Sciences Development Office
at 831-459-3857 or by email at socsci@ucsc.edu.



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THE ORIGINAL
AUTHORITY
ON QUESTIONING
AUTHORITY