



GSELS Symposium
March 22 – March 24
Miami Dade College (MDC) Wolfson Campus

Wed. March 22

- Closing night of the Stand Up, Rise Up Film Festival: [Revolution](#), featuring distinguished speakers and panel discussion following the film. 5:30 – 8:30 pm, Room 7128

Thurs. March 23

- GSELS Faculty Presentations – Room 2106 (see detailed description next page)
 - 8:00 – 8:55 am – Professor Maria Zabala, *Performative Design in Architecture*
 - 9:00 – 9:45 am – Professor Claudia Scalise, *Art in Action*
 - 9:50 – 11:05 am – Professor Chris Migliaccio, *Energy in Costa Rica: Power in a Sustainable Society*
 - 11:15 – 12:30 pm – Professor Ben Augustyn, *The Environment, the Economy, and You: A Love Triangle*
- Student and Community Group Exhibits/Displays in the Bldg. 2 Breezeway

Fri. March 24

- Panel Discussion: Women Working Toward a Resilient Future, in conjunction with Women’s History Month. 11-11:50 am, Room 7128
 - Dr. Stephanie Tashiro, City of Miami, 100 Resilient Cities
 - Meg Daly, The Underline
 - Zelalem Adefris, Climate Resiliency Program, Catalyst Miami
- Council of All Beings, 12-1 pm, Location TBA
- Community Forum: The Future Lies in Living in Harmony With Nature - From Sabal Trail Pipeline and Climate Change to a Sustainable Future for Florida. 1:00 – 3:00 pm, Room 7128

PRESENTERS

Professor Maria Zabala is an Associate Professor at MDC School of Architecture. She holds a Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Miami, and a Master of Science In Advanced Architectural Design from Columbia University. This presentation showcases how Professor Zabala introduces architecture students to the process of design as it is informed by a number of factors. The observation of environmental considerations, the intrinsic behavior of materials, and natural systems and performance help guide students in their own process of exploration and discovery as the fundamental approach to their own design decisions.

Professor Claudia Scalise holds a Master of Fine Arts degree from University of Miami and a bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Florida International University. Her artwork has been featured in numerous solo and group gallery and museum exhibitions, and her background includes teaching painting and drawing at Palmer Trinity School, University of Miami, and MDC. This presentation will provide an introduction to GSELS projects from this past year through a variety of projects that explore issues in sustainability from an aesthetic perspective.

Professor Chris Mgilaccio is a Professor of Environmental Science & Ecology, and holds the MacGregor Smith Endowed Teaching Chair in Environmental Ethics. He's been active in EEI since it's genesis in 1992. He's been traveling in Costa Rica for over 25 years and has taught EEI courses there for faculty and students. This presentation will explore how Costa Rica powers well over 90% of its national energy needs from renewable energy resources.

Professor Ben Augustyn has a B.A. in Anthropology from the University of California, Berkeley, an M.A. in Anthropology from the Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich, Germany, and an M.A. in Sociology from Florida International University, where he is working on his PhD in Immigration Studies. He currently teaches Anthropology and Sociology at Miami Dade College Wolfson Campus. His presentation will discuss our current economic ideologies of neoliberalism and consumerism, the role we play in the current economic arrangement as consumers reliant on low-wages and debt, and some ideas and practices for resisting and redirecting these ideologies for a more socially and environmentally sustainable future.

PANELISTS

Zelalem Adefris is the Climate Resilience Program manager at Catalyst Miami. She received her degree in public health studies at Emory University where she first became passionate about the connection between race and environmental issues.

Meg Daly is Founder and President of Friends of the Underline, a non-profit organization leading the initiative to transform the underutilized land below Miami's Metrorail into a 10-mile, urban trail and linear park. Meg is also a member of Miami Dade County Neat Streets and Bike 305 Executive Committee and a board member of Transit Alliance.

Dr. Stephanie Tashiro PhD is Deputy Chief Resilience Officer for the City of Miami. She is a leader in the City of Miami Emergency Management in the areas of Disaster Planning, Hazard Mitigation, Disaster Recovery and Emergency Management.