

BOARD ON ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE AND SOCIETY

Seminar on Environmental Justice: From Global to Local

June 22, 2022 - 1:00 pm ET

Speaker Bios

Uni Blake is a Senior Scientific Advisor at the American Petroleum Institute. She specializes in regulation, compliance and policy issues related to chemical substances in surface and ground water resources, as well as air. She has developed both general and site-specific Best Management Practices for Environmental and Community Stewardship which includes designing and developing Water and Air Quality Monitoring Programs and community and stakeholder engagement strategies. Her current work and research interests include evaluating the relationship between air and water quality and public health, Risk Assessments, Public Health Assessments and Health Impact Assessments. Her portfolio includes leading strategic discussions and connecting the dots in cross-functional issues related to Environmental Justice, Just Transition and Social Performance.

Ann Marie Chischilly is the Vice President of the Office of Native American Initiatives (ONAI), which is tasked with advancing Northern Arizona University (NAU) strategic goal to become the nation's leading university serving Native Americans. Before coming to NAU, she served for over ten years as Senior Assistant General Counsel to the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC), where she assisted GRIC in implementing the historic Arizona Water Settlement Act and founded the GRIC Renewable Energy Team. Ms. Chischilly is an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation. She earned her Juris Doctorate (J.D.) degree from St. Mary's University School of Law, and a Masters in Environmental Law (LL.M) from Vermont Law School

Gerald Torres is Professor of Environmental Justice at the Yale School of the Environment, with a secondary appointment as Professor of Law at the Law School. A pioneer in the field of environmental law, Torres has spent his career examining the intrinsic connections between the environment, agricultural and food systems, and social justice. His research into how race and ethnicity impact environmental policy has been influential in the emergence and evolution of the field of environmental justice. His work also includes the study of conflicts over resource management between Native American tribes, states, and the federal government. Previously, Torres taught at Cornell Law School, the University of Texas Law School, and the University of Minnesota Law School, serving as an associate dean at both. He is also a former president of the Association of American Law Schools and served as deputy assistant attorney general for the Environment and Natural Resources Division of the U.S. Department of Justice during the Clinton administration.