**TAíNA MARI DIAZ-REYES, MDIV, MA**

Senior Global Futures Scientist, Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory™

Arizona State University

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**EDUCATION**

**Arizona State University**

• Doctor of Philosophy student, School of Sustainability, College of Global Futures

• Committee:

Faculty advisor and committee chair: Dr. Melissa Nelson- full professor of Indigenous Sustainability in the School of Sustainability, Arizona State University

Member: Dr. Michael Kotutwa Johnson- faculty in the School of Natural Resources and the Environment; Assistant Specialist, Indigenous Resiliency Center, University of Arizona

Member: Dr. David Martinez- full professor in the School of Transborder Studies; faculty in American Indian Studies, Arizona State University

• Member, Dr. Melissa Nelson’s EarthDiver Lab, a research collaborative for Indigenous graduate students in STEM

**Wake Forest University**, MDiv. and M.A. in Sustainability, December 2019

• Specialization in ecotheology, liberation theology, cultural diversity, and food systems

• Thesis title: “Ecological Relationality and Models of Sustainability: Towards a Social, Intergenerational, Multi-species Environmental Ethic Through the Evaluation of Cultural-Spiritual Ecosystem Services”

Faculty advisor: Drs. Kevin Jung and Katherine Shaner- professors in the School of Divinity, Wake Forest University

Committee chair: Dr. Elizabeth O’Donnell Gandolfo- associate professor in the School of Divinity, Wake Forest University

Member: Dr. Stan Meiburg- director of the Sustainability Graduate Programs

Member: Dr. Rowena Kirby-Straker – faculty in the Department of Communications, Wake Forest University

**George Washington University**, B.A. *Cum Laude*, May 2016

• Major in Geography with an emphasis on Human/Cultural Geography, Society and Environment, Natural Resource Management; Regions of interest: Latin America, the Middle East/North Africa, South Asia

Faculty advisor: Joseph Dymond – Department of Geography, Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, George Washington University

• Minor in Sustainability with an emphasis on sustainable food systems

Faculty advisor: Lisa Benton-Short – professor in the Department of Geography and director of the Sustainability minor in the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, George Washington University

**University of New South Wales**, Sydney, Australia. Exchange study abroad program with the George Washington University, Fall 2014

**Extracurricular Education Programs**

• Hispanic Summer Program, two-week immersive 3 credit courses

“Latino Religious Expressions,” Professor: Dr. Cristian de la Rosa. Southern Methodist University Perkins School of Theology, Dallas, TX. June 2018.

“Interreligious Diversity in the Latinx Community,” Professor: Dr. Harold Morales. Oblate School of Theology, San Antonio, TX. June 2019.

• WFU School of Divinity travel courses

“Jews, Christians, and Muslims in the Holy Land,” Wake Forest University School of Divinity travel course to Palestine. December 2016 - January 2017.

“Ecotones of the Spirit,” Wake Forest University School of Divinity travel course to Tucson and Patagonia, AZ. March 2017.

“Religions of Egypt” pilgrimage, Wake Forest University School of Divinity travel course to Cairo, Alexandria, and Luxor, Egypt. December 2018 – January 2019.

* ASU Global Education Office spring travel course

“Egypt: Impact of Global Food Economies on Local Sustainability and Development,” Cairo and Fayoum, Egypt. March 2023.

* Earth Systems Science for the Anthropocene (ESSA) Immersive, Interdisciplinary, Identity-based Team Science Experience (IIITSE)

[Weaving Relations](https://globalfutures.asu.edu/essa/iiitse/), collaborative research experience with Indigenous communities in Northern California. March - July 2023.

**BOOKS**

*Shouts and Whispers: Radical Meditations for Lent*. Wake Forest University Divinity Students and Guests, Katherine Shaner (ed.). Wake Forest University Press, 2017.

**LECTURES AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

Guest, Sustaining (in)Justice podcast. [S1E16: Power and Privilege in Food Systems and Religion](https://sustaininginjustice.substack.com/p/s1e6-power-and-privilege-in-food). April 5, 2024.

ESSA Scholar presenter, “An Ecology of Indigenous Culinary Culture.” [ESSA Annual Symposium](https://cdn.globalfutures.asu.edu/essa/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2023/10/ESSA-scholar-presentation-abstracts-.pdf), November 3, 2023.

Lecturer, “TEK, Policy, and the Borderlands” lecture for Discovery Seminar: Environmental Justice Across Borders course, Arizona State University. Tempe, AZ. Fall 2023.

“Food and Environmental Justice” lecture.

Panelist, presentation by Connecting Cultures/Conectando Culturas – Bilingual Teacher Training Program for the Peruvian Amazon – FORMABIAP Indigenous delegation, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC. October 2023.

Guest, “The Power of Identity: Bringing Our Whole Selves to Research” episode of the [Resilient Futures Podcast (formerly Future Cities)](https://www.buzzsprout.com/125676/13494672). September 1, 2023.

Guest, episode 2 of the Indigenice Tea podcast. Student project for the Indigenizing Food Systems Humanities Lab course. April 2023.

Lecturer, “Indigenous Geographies of Food and Power” lecture for Indigenizing Food Systems Humanities Lab course. Arizona State University. Tempe, AZ. Spring 2023.

Lecturer, “Indigenizing Spaces and Reconnecting Across Space: Local to Global Indigenous Futures Thinking,” invitation for the Arizona State University School of Sustainability’s ongoing Sustainability Research Seminar series. February 8th, 2022.

Lecturer, Indigenous spirituality and ecotheology, guest lecture for Introduction to Theology, Dominican University. Fall 2022.

Panelist, ELCA Hunger Advocacy Fellows “Faith in Action,” tandem ELCA World Hunger Conference and Becoming Conference. Chicago, IL. August 27, 2022.

# Panelist, “Fighting for Food: AZ Food Security Crisis” panel, Arizona Coalition for Change. Virtual. July 18th, 2022.

Lecturer, “Lands, Soil, and Earth,” Indigenizing Food Systems Humanities Lab course. Arizona State University. Tempe, AZ. Spring 2022.

Discussion leader, ELCA Young Adults #NoPlasticsForLent initiative weekly guided discussion groups. March 2022.

Presenter, “Ecotheology,” Forum at University Lutheran Church in Tempe, AZ. February 27, 2022.

“Liberation theology.” April 3, 2022.

“Truth and Healing Movement” Pts I and II. October 2023.

Presenter, “Illuminating Indigenous Worldviews and Practices in Sustainability Research.” Grant finalist presentation for ASU Women and Philanthropy. Musical Instrument Museum. Phoenix, AZ. February 24, 2022.

Panelist, Sparkhouse *Dialogues on Race* webinar, North Carolina Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. November 11, 2021.

Moderator, “Transforming our faith communities on climate” panel, National Faith + Climate Forum, ecoAmerica American Climate Leadership Summit. April 27, 2021.  
  
Opening prayer, meeting of Ecumenical Women at the United Nations 65th Commission on the Status of Women (CSW65), “Women in Public Life: Equal Participation in Decision-Making.” March 15, 2021.   
  
Interview, “[Week 1: Racial equity](https://www.youtubeeducation.com/watch?v=hUuAPiAPdxQ),” No Plastics For Lent series, ELCA Young Adults. February 24, 2021.

Blog post, “[Justice Alongside Indigenous Peoples](https://blogs.elca.org/youngadults/272/).” February 23, 2021.   
  
Speaker, “Session 1: Getting started with ELCA Advocacy,” ELCA World Hunger Leadership Gathering. January 21, 2021.  
  
Panelist, Discipleship in Democracy: Leadership Academy Session webinar, **Metropolitan Washington D.C. Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.** October 29, 2020.  
  
Panelist, ELCAvotes bilingual webinar, hosted by **Asociación de Ministerios Latinos de la ELCA. October 14, 2020.**

Panelist, “Do you want to know how your vote matters?” webinar, hosted by Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. October 7, 2020.

Lecturer, “Religion, Spirituality, and Sustainability,” recorded video for REL101 Introduction to Religion. Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC. Spring 2020.

Lecturer, “Latin American liberation theology; Gender in Latin America,” for REL103B Introduction to Latin American Christian Traditions. Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC. Fall 2019.

“Ecotheology, ecofeminism, and *Laudato Si’* in Latin America.”

Speaker, “Student Experience: 30 Years of Doing Theology *Latinamente,*” Hispanic Summer Program 30th Anniversary Celebration. Oblate School of Theology, San Antonio, TX. June 28, 2019.

Sermon on Matthew 6:19-20 for Ash Wednesday Service. Little Chapel, Salem College, Winston-Salem, NC. March 6, 2019.

“Servin’ from the bottom, now we here,” a sermon on Mark 9:30-37. Delivered to Wake Forest University School of Divinity, Winston-Salem, NC. September 20, 2018.

Sermon for Holy Week. Peace Haven Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, NC. March 28, 2018.

**CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

2023 National Diversity in STEM (NDiSTEM) Conference **- Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in STEM (SACNAS)**

**Session submission, “Weaving relations through STEM - immersive team science experiences for Indigenous and Latine identifying graduate scholars” with the Earth Systems Science for the Anthropocene Graduate Scholars Network.**Oregon Convention Center. Portland, Oregon. October 26-28, 2023.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Arizona State University,** Tempe, AZ

Instructor, *Sustainable Food Systems*, Fall 2024 (upcoming)

Instructor, *Sustainable Food Systems*, Session B, Summer 2024

Co-instructor, *Egypt Food Economies, Sustainability, and Development.* Spring break study abroad course. March 2nd-10th, 2024

Teaching assistant,*Humanities Lab Course: Indigenizing Food Systems*, Spring 2023

Teaching assistant, *Sustainability – Systems Thinking*, Fall 2022

Teaching assistant,*Humanities Lab Course: Indigenizing Food Systems*, Spring 2022 Presiding lecturer onbiocultural diversity for *Perspectives in Sustainability*,Fall 2022

**Wake Forest University,** Winston-Salem, NC

Undergraduate Courses:

Teaching assistant,*Introduction to Christian Traditions in Latin America,* Fall 2019

Guest lecturer, *Introduction to Religion,* Spring 2020

**InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, George Washington University chapter,** Washington, DC

Women’s Bible Study, Fall 2015 — Spring 2016

**AWARDS**

E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation Fellowship, 2016-2019. 

**GRANTS**

**Amplifier Student Mini-Grant** (PI: Taína Diaz-Reyes, Co-PIs: Kirby Skoric, Mohadeseh Mousazadeh Miandehi)  
Name of Funding Organization: Seize the Moment Committee, Humanities Lab, Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory, Arizona State University  
Amount Awarded: $610  
Period of Grant Award: Fall 2021 semester  
Title of Project: “The Heritage of Seed and Story: Narrative and Legacy in the Food System”

**College of Global Futures (CGF) Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Belonging Initiatives grant**, (Team members: Haven Bills, Taína Diaz-Reyes, Sara El-Sayed, Esteve Giraud, Ame Min-Venditti, Eve Whitaker)

Name of funder: CGF Administration and JEDI Committee, Arizona State University

Amount awarded: $1900

Period of Grant Award: Spring 2023-Spring 2024

Title of project: “Connecting Community Through Food”

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

**Graduate Research Associate,** Arizona State University School of Sustainability, Tempe, AZ. August 2021-present

**Indigenous Knowledges Focal Area,** Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory

**Food Justice Research Group at ASU**

**Earth Systems Science for the Anthropocene (ESSA)**

**Collaborator and Conference planning committee**, “Inclusion across the Nation of Communities of Learners of Underrepresented Discoverers in Engineering and Science: Gathering to Create a Culturally Appropriate Biomimicry Pathway to STEM for Indigenous Students.” *Funded by National Science Foundation grant*. Fall 2023-Spring 2024.

**Project Coordinator,** Native American/North American Shared Sacred Story writing group, Shared Sacred Story project, Fetzer Institute. June 2022-present

**Mentor and Project Supervisor,** Sustainability Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) Program, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ. Fall 2022-Spring 2023

**Graduate Teaching Assistant,** Arizona State University School of Sustainability, Tempe, AZ. January 2022-present

**AIS 494/598, HCR 231, HUL 494, SFS 498/594, SOS 498/594 Indigenizing Food Systems** (Drs. Melissa Nelson and Myla Vicenti-Carpio)

**SOS220 Systems Thinking** (Dr. Michael Schoon)

**Hunger Advocacy Fellow,** Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Advocacy Network, Washington, DC. September 2020 – July 2021

**Graduate Teaching Assistant,** Wake Forest University Department for the Study of Religions, Winston-Salem, NC. Fall 2019

**REL103 Introduction to Christian Traditions in Latin America** (Dr. Elizabeth Gandolfo)

**Chaplain Intern**, Salem College, Winston-Salem, NC. Fall 2018 — Spring 2019

**Adult Farm and Garden Intern,** Anathoth Community Garden and Farm, Cedar Grove, NC. Summer 2017

**Water for All Campaign Researcher,** Food & Water Watch, Baltimore, MD. Summer 2018

**Student Sustainability Coordinator,** Wake Forest University School of Divinity, Winston-Salem, NC. Fall 2016 — Spring 2017

**PATHWAYS Program Intern**, US Census Bureau Geography Division, Suitland, MD. June 2014 — August 2016

**Climate Justice Organizer**, Sierra Club, Washington, DC. January 2016 – May 2016

**National Office Intern**, Student Conservation Association, Arlington, VA. September 2013 — April 2014

**Canvasser,** Greenpeace, Washington, DC. June 2013.

**AFFILIATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS**

**Member,** Native American and Indigenous Studies Association. January 2024-present.

**Member**, Society for Ecological Restoration (SER). September 2023-present.

* Primary chapter: Southwest (US) Chapter
* Additional section memberships: International Network for Seed-Based Restoration, Large-scale Ecosystem Restoration, SER-Natural Regeneration Network

**Member**, American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES). June 2022-present.

**Member**, American Association of Geographers (AAG). May 2022-present.

* Affinity Group: Graduate Student
* Specialty groups: Cultural and Political Ecology, Latinx Geographies, Geographies of Food and Agriculture, Human Dimensions of Global Change, Geography of Religions and Belief Systems, Biogeography, Indigenous Peoples, Critical Geographies of Education

**Member,** CHISPA Arizona. April 2023-present.

**Member**,Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics & Native Americans in Science (SACNAS). April 2022- present.

* Mentor Activation for Students (MAS) Program. Fall 2022.

Mentor: Dr. Maria De Freece Lawrence (Ramapough Lenape Nation)

**Member**, Women’s Council of Indigenous Doctoral Students (WCIDS), Arizona State University. March 2022- present.

**Executive committee member and founding board member**, Hispanic Summer Program Alumni Network. November 2021-present

* Events and programming coordinator (elected), Spring 2023-Spring 2025

**Member**, Food Justice Research Group, Arizona State University. August 2021-present.

**Research associate**, August 2021-May 2022.

**Research associate and member**, Earth System Science for the Anthropocene (ESSA) Graduate Scholars Network, Arizona State University. August 2021-present.

**Inaugural cohort member**,“Weaving Relations: Immersive, Interdisciplinary, Identity-based Team Science Experiences” program. Spring 2023-Fall 2023.  
*Grant funded through the National Science Foundation’s Racial Equity in STEM program.*

**Creation Care Ambassador**, ecoAmerica’s Blessed Tomorrow. September 2020-present.

**Member,** Ecological Society of America (ESA). May 2022-May 2023.

* Chapter: Southwestern Chapter
* Sections: Traditional Ecological Knowledge, Environmental Justice

**EXTRACURRICULAR AND VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

**Small group leader**, ELCA Young Adult Gathering in New Orleans, LA. July 15-21, 2024.

**Member,** ELCA Alumni Network. February 2024.

**Member**, ELCA Young Adults Steering Committee. July 2023-present.

“…8 young adults to serve year-long terms to help steer young adult ministries within the church in line with our vision statement, as well as uplift ideas, ongoing ministries, and more. Born out of a desire to include more voices in steering the Young Adult Ministry team, the steering committee will help advise our team in staying true to our vision statement of ‘Called to radically affirm and empower all young voices for Holy strategic disruption and divine justice.’”

**Planning committee member**, Women’s Council of Indigenous Doctoral Scholars’ 2023 Indigenous Scholar Symposium. March-April 2023.

**Delegate**, COP27 LWF Youth delegates, Lutheran World Federation, September 2022-November 2022.

**Planning team member**, ELCA World Hunger Leadership Gathering conference. March 2022-August 2022.

**Discussion lead**er, ELCA Young Adults #NoPlasticsForLent initiative. March-April 2022.

**Member**, Alliance of Indigenous Peoples, Arizona State University. September 2021-present.

**Student member**, Lutheran Campus Ministry- University Lutheran Church, Arizona State University. September 2021-present.

**Member**, Graduate Christian Fellowship, Arizona State University. September 2021-present.

**Member**, Task force to Bishop Elizabeth Eaton on the Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. September 2020-July 2021.

**Member**, WFU School of Divinity Chapel Committee. Fall 2017 — Spring 2019

**Participant preacher**, Wake The Pulpit. WFU School of Divinity. Fall 2018.

**Volunteer**, National Park Service, Fort Dupont Park, Washington, DC. September 2014 — January 2015

**Youth Counselor**, Maranatha Fellowship and MACDM Camps and Retreats, College Park, MD. June 2010 — April 2017

**CREATIVE WORKS**

[**Liminal Liberation**](https://liminalliberation.com/)(building the site)

**Latindigenous**

[Blog](https://latindigenous.wordpress.com/)

Online space created for Latinx peoples as “a place to unravel and uncover their beautifully complicated identities. From lost languages to lost religion, lost foodways to lost medicine, lost connection to African or Indigenous heritage… discovering, recovering, and embracing our full selves are each monumental tasks that require a starting point. The hope for this site is to serve as that starting point. Creating a podcast for Latindigenous is a personal journey and the fulfillment of a dream. Join the journey of discovering who we are by wrestling with and embracing those raíces that feed our being- and do it in community, or as many of us say… en conjunto.”

[Podcast](https://rss.com/podcasts/latindigenous/) (upcoming)

**Poetry and art**

[*Sonoran Sirena (and her Sonoran Coral Garden)*](https://www.instagram.com/sonoransirena/), multimedia art and poetry

**Films and other projects**

## [*The Heritage of Seed and Story: Narrative and Legacy in the Food System*](https://humanities.lab.asu.edu/seize-the-moment/amplifier/2021/fall/seed-and-story)*.* Film submitted to the ASU Humanities Lab Seize the Moment variety show. Fall 2021.

“Increasing food sovereignty and preserving tradition are important elements of sustainability, especially when traditional modes of knowledge transfer have been undervalued and excluded within the academy. Working with Indigenous farmers and growers across the Valley, this film project will demonstrate how sharing traditional knowledge and telling oral histories can be used to create more sustainable food systems, strengthen intergenerational relationships, and encourage dialogue between farming communities.”

#### [*Sounds of Belonging*](https://www.soundsofbelonging.org/) project. Audio submission and collaboration with the Narrative Storytelling Initiative at ASU. Fall 2022-present.

#### “**Sounds of Belonging** invites individuals from Indigenous communities and others to record a soundscape and share their story about a beloved place that gives them a sense of belonging. The project is intended to open up the world of sound and insight from disparate locations. We believe that if each of us can listen to our world—and to each other—we can increase empathy and understanding. Our hope is that “Sounds of Belonging” can help make the vast landscape of our planet closer and more intimate.”

**ACADEMIC INTERESTS**

sustainable food systems, traditional ecological knowledge (TEK), global/multinational indigeneity, concepts of indigeneity, justice, food and seed sovereignty, Indigenous geographies, food geopolitics, biogeography, place-making, cultural diversity, migration, environmental justice, human geography, decolonizing methodologies, decolonial mapping, climate resilience, science and religion, U.S. Southwest, agriculture, bio/geocultural engagement, U.S.-Mexico Border, arid desert environments, ethnoecology, ethnobotany, multispecies relationships, intergenerational learning, rights of nature, agroecology, environmental quality and management, ecogastronomy, governance and transterritoriality, cosmologies, ecotheology,  sociocultural anthropology, tribal law, international Indigenous cooperation/movements, geographies of pain, memory, ethics, Latin American and American Indian liberation theologies, cosmogeneology, Indigenizing foodways, borderlands, de-bordering, food mobility, seed and land rematriation, Indigenous Latin America, ancestral trade networks, identity formation, storywork, data sovereignty, culturally sustaining/relevant pedagogy, culinary history, ethnogastronomy, Indigenous archaeology, decolonizing education, meaning making, Indigenous futurism

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Websites:**

* [LinkedIn](http://www.linkedin.com/in/tainadiazreyes/)
* [Academia](https://tainadiazreyes.academia.edu/)
* [ASU iSearch](isearch.asu.edu/profile/2899759)

**Technology:**

Expert use of Microsoft Office, G Suite, Canva, YouTube, social media; facility with Prezi presentation software; facility with Canvas, Blackboard, Moodle, and Sakai; familiarity with Adobe Creative suite, Audacity, Band Lab, and video editing software