

Olivia Taylor-Gao

olivia2000s@berkeley.edu * 408-838-5563 * linkedin.com/in/olivia-taylor-gao * oliviataylorgao.com* U.S. Citizen

EDUCATION - *University of California, Berkeley*

August 2023 – May 2027

B.S. in Environmental Economics and Policy, B.A. Cognitive Science, Minor Sustainable Business and Policy

- **Relevant Coursework:** Climate Change Economics, Computational Structures in Data Science, Investing for Sustainability
- **Certifications:** Berkeley Student Leadership Academy Certificate, Berkeley Skydeck Certificate (Startup accelerator program)
- **Coursera:** Foundations of Project Management, AI Fundamentals for Non-Data Scientists, Work Smarter with Microsoft Excel
- **Awards:** **1st Place, McClaw Hackathon** (2026); **1st Place, UEA Case Competition** (2025); **Runner-Up, Girls Into VC Berkeley Summit** (2025); **SCET Student Innovation Fellow (Silver)** (2024); **1st Place, EGAL Case Competition** (2024); **2nd Place, International Protégé Opera Competition** (2022).

WORK EXPERIENCE

UC Berkeley, Rausser College of Natural Resources – Research Assistant

May 2026 – Present

- Processed 1,000+ ecological samples, analyzed R datasets, and built drought study infrastructure supporting multiple research projects.

Handshake – AI Evaluation Specialist (Contract)

May 2026 – Present

- Evaluated and ranked large language model outputs, delivering expert feedback to improve accuracy, reasoning, and response quality.

Rooh - Cofounder (AI communication coaching platform) • Berkeley SkyDeck Pad-13 • Google for Startups *Jan 2025 – November 2025*

- Designed product vision and UI/UX for an AI communication coaching platform, defining core product features, onboarding, AI feedback systems, engagement metrics, and customer experience.
- Co-managed 7 interns across product, design, marketing, and engineering, coordinating deliverables and development.

Intuitive Surgical - Environmental Compliance Summer Intern

May 2025 - Aug 2025

- Performed climate risk analyses for 10+ manufacturing and office sites to support California and EU climate disclosure compliance.
- Developed grid greening models assessing renewable energy integration and long-term energy transition impacts.
- Conducted facility inspections and prepared 1000+ MDR compliance records supporting audit readiness and regulatory reporting.
- Contributed to Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) reporting by compiling and validating sustainability data.

UC Berkeley, Rausser College of Natural Resources - (Research Assistant)

February 2025-May 2025

- Evaluated biodiversity credit frameworks using an 80+ question scientific assessment framework, comparing methodologies across additionality, leakage, durability, and conservation value.
- Researched documentation and coordinated with organizations to obtain missing data for comparative biodiversity credit analyses.

NewBeex - Market Research and Business Development

September 2024 - May 2025

- Built the NewBeex landing page and Telegram-based community platform end-to-end, creating the onboarding experience, community architecture, and user flows in collaboration with the founder.
- Conducted market research and user interviews to validate customer needs and inform product strategy and go-to-market planning.

UC Berkeley, Sutardja Center for Entrepreneurship and Technology - Innovation Fellow

August 2024 - November 2024

- Ranked 9th of 51 fellows, earning Silver Tier recognition in UC Berkeley SCET's competitive entrepreneurship fellowship.
- Developed startup strategies by completing weekly innovation challenges, collaborating with interdisciplinary teams, and learning from founders, investors, and industry leaders.

UC Berkeley, Rausser College of Natural Resources - Research Assistant/Intern

May 2024 - August 2024

- Thematically coded 50+ oral-history interviews with generational East Coast fishermen to trace industry-wide trends.
- Distilled findings into 5 critical areas of tension, contributing to a research paper on fishing and coastal resource policy.

Echandia (European battery provider for marine applications) - Business Development Intern

December 2023 - May 2024

- Researched Trade Agreement Act and BABA requirements and identified 50+ manufacturing facilities and 15 grants to shape North American market entry, presenting findings to the executive team.
- Co-authored a press release with the Washington Governor's Office announcing a planned Washington facility; developed marketing targeting 15+ maritime groups and represented Echandia at an industry trade show.

UC Berkeley Housing and Dining Sustainability - Intern

August 2023 - December 2023

- Helped run a menu survey for 1,000+ students, coordinate Earth Week movie; ran waste audits and co-created training for 100+ staff.

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Berkeley Student Cooperative - Board Member

April 2025 - Present

- Serve on the board of the largest U.S. student housing cooperative (1,100 members), overseeing \$15M revenue and \$200M+ assets.
- Authored and co-authored 20+ proposals across finance, food services, occupancy, recruitment, and governance, informed by 100+ stakeholder interviews; 10+ passed committee and board being implemented.

Berkeley Student Leadership Academy - Alumni Fellow

January 2024 - Present

- Served on the advisory board and delivered time-management and branding workshops to 100+ members; Spotlight BSLA fellow.

Berkeley Environmental Economics and Policy Society - Secretary

December 2023 - Present

- Co-led workshops and speaker events for 400+ members, featuring speakers from professors to cross-industry alumni.

UC Berkeley - Library Security Rover Work Leader

December 2023 - Present

- Coordinate security staff and personally enforce the Library Code of Conduct across 4 libraries on a 45,000+ student campus.

Berkeley Student Cooperative - Academic Coordinator

June 2024 - May 2025

- Ran academic programming; professor speaker series, Cloyne's first alumni event, workshops; drawing 20–100 attendees each.