

Phoenix J Eskridge-Aldama

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Areas of Interest: Political ecology & environmental sociology; climate obstruction & the climate change countermovement; green growth, degrowth, & post-growth debates; energy policy & subnational climate governance; legislative discourse analysis; campaign finance & environmental voting behavior

EDUCATION

Northern Arizona University School of Earth and Sustainability Expected Completion May 2026

PhD in Earth Sciences and Environmental Sustainability

Dissertation Topic - Subnational climate obstruction: A case study of Arizona

University of Arizona Honors College

Graduation May 2021

BA in Environmental Studies

Minors in Geosciences, Government and Public Policy, and Spanish

PUBLICATIONS

Eskridge-Aldama, P., Vaughn, A., Stern, A., & Grams, E. (in review). *Dissent and obstruction: A systematic literature review of the climate countermovement*.

Eskridge-Aldama, P. (2025). State-level climate obstruction and discourses of climate delay: Insights from Arizona. *Frontiers in Climate*, 7. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fclim.2025.1566033>

Eskridge-Aldama, P., Stern, A., Vaughn, A., & Stuart, D. (2025). Green growth or degrowth? Possible outcomes for climate and society. *Highlights of Sustainability*, 4(2), 69–94. <https://doi.org/10.54175/hsustain4020005>

Stern, A., Vaughn, A., Wauben, N., **Eskridge-Aldama, P.**, & Stuart, D. (2024). [Review of the book *Solving the climate crisis: Frontline reports from the race to save Earth*, by J. J. Berger]. *Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13412-024-00937-x>

GRANTS

Northern Arizona University Green Fund Project Grant

Apr 2025

For project titled *Lighting Audit*

Proposal Co-Author; in the amount of \$17,143.67

Climate Social Science Network Seed Research Grant

Apr 2023

For project titled *Subnational climate obstruction: A case study of Arizona, USA*

Principal Investigator; in the amount of \$12,272.00

Northern Arizona University Green Fund Project Grant

Apr 2023

For project titled *Physical Sciences Energy Efficiency and Thermal Comfort Window Film Installation*
Project Lead; in the amount of \$18,124.83

HONORS & AWARDS

- Northern Arizona University Sustainability Leadership Graduate Student Award (2023)
- Henry Hooper Student Fund Award (2022)
- Graduated *summa cum laude* with Honors from the University of Arizona (2021)
- College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Student Success Award (2021)
- Melvin E. Hecht Senior Award (2020)
- Magellan Scholar Award (2020)
- Highest Academic Distinction awarded by the University of Arizona College of Social and Behavioral Sciences (2020, 2019, 2018)

TEACHING

Northern Arizona University School of Earth and Sustainability

Course Instructor

June 2023 – Jul 2025

- Taught the "ENV 115 - Climate Change" online course as the sole instructor for three summers
- Presented introductory climate change information and assessed learning through various quizzes, exams, and other assignments for a class of sixteen undergraduate students
- Developed a syllabus and curriculum based on the course textbook
- Recorded and uploaded dynamic and engaging video lectures
- Graded all course assignments and provided final official grades

Guest Lectures

Oct 2024 – Mar 2025

- GSP 362 - Climate Change and Society
 - Course Professor: Dr. Brian Petersen; Department of Geography, Planning, and Recreation; Northern Arizona University
 - Lecture Title: *Climate Change Solutions*
- ENV 115 - Introduction to Climate Change
 - Course Professor: Dr. Diana Stuart; School of Earth and Sustainability; Northern Arizona University
 - Lecture Title: *Social Drivers of Climate Change*
 - Lecture Title: *A World of Energy*

Teaching Assistant

Aug 2021 – May 2022

- Instructed weekly lab sessions for a junior/senior-level environmental science and policy class
- Tailored, administered, and graded class assignments
- Assisted students with environmental science senior capstone projects

PRESENTATIONS

State-level climate obstruction and discourses of climate delay: Insights from Arizona Aug 2025
Oral presentation at the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting at Hyatt Regency Chicago, Chicago, IL

Shade Mesa: Transforming the City Streetscape Apr 2023
Oral presentation at the First Annual City of Mesa Collegiate Capstone Competition, Media and Immersive Experience Center at Arizona State University, Mesa, AZ

Visioning the Future We Want to Build Mar 2023
Keynote panel oral presentation at the Second Annual Climate Teach-In, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ

State level climate obstruction: The case of Arizona House Bill 2686 Feb 2023
Oral presentation at the Eighteenth Annual Environmental Professionals of Arizona Conference, Salt River Project PERA Club Conference Center, Tempe, AZ

Evaluating climate-related lobbying within the Arizona State Legislature Apr 2022
Poster presentation at the School of Earth and Sustainability Graduate Research Symposium, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ

Evaluating quality of life for residents of manufactured housing in Tucson, Arizona: Effects of urban green space Aug 2020
Oral presentation at the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Consortium's Summer Colloquia, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

SERVICE

School of Earth and Sustainability Digging into Graduate School May 2023 – Present
Vice-President

- Design and implement a peer mentoring and information distribution program which increases access to resources about graduate school for undergraduate students
- Oversee and participate in subcommittees to solve issues of inequality and exclusion across Northern Arizona University campuses, particularly in STEM fields and within higher education

Northern Arizona University Sustainability Advisory Board Mar 2023 – Present
Appointed Inaugural Member

- Provide the university president and president's cabinet with recommended policies, strategic investments, and university actions to advance sustainability and reach carbon neutrality by 2030
- Maintain awareness of and provide insight regarding current and proposed campus sustainability initiatives

Northern Arizona University Climate Action Committee

Jan 2023 – Present

President

- Created, organized, and currently lead the committee, which is a graduate student organization interested in reducing the carbon footprint of the university through tangible, visible, and research-based campus sustainability projects
- Led efforts to obtain the Northern Arizona University Green Fund Project Grant for an energy efficiency thermal regulation project titled *Physical Sciences Energy Efficiency and Thermal Comfort Window Film Installation*, approved March 2023, which is expected to reduce the energy usage of a campus building by approximately two percent
- Develop various grant proposals for tangible sustainable projects and continually monitor their effectiveness and impact through a variety of qualitative and quantitative research methods
- Participate in various environmental groups around campus including the Environmental Caucus and Green Fund meetings to facilitate university-wide collaboration
- Work to promote the group and recruit new members through social media, physical flyers, class presentations, and tabling events

University of Arizona Students for Sustainability

Sep 2018 – May 2021

Energy and Climate Committee Co-Chair

- Led a committee of sixteen people with an interest in the energy and climate-related aspects of sustainability to design and implement projects such as the installation of solar panels and lighting efficiency upgrades for university buildings
- Identified university and local-scale environmental problems and implement creative solutions
- Participated in environmental advocacy, including climate strikes and educational outreach

University of Arizona Honors Student Council

Jan 2019 – May 2019

Council Member

- Developed, organized, and participated in charitable fundraising events, including percentage nights at local businesses, carwashes, bake sales, and scavenger hunts
- Planned and attended educational and community-building field trips
- Addressed areas of interest and concern for honors students in weekly council meetings

EMPLOYMENT

Northern Arizona University Graduate Student Government

President

May 2025 – Present

- Serve as chief advocate for the NAU graduate student body, representing student interests to university administration, the Arizona Board of Regents, and state and federal decision-makers
- Act as the primary spokesperson of the Graduate Student Government (GSG), guiding communication strategies and engaging with media and institutional stakeholders
- Chair all Executive and General Assembly meetings, setting agendas and facilitating policy discussions aligned with graduate student priorities
- Appoint representatives to national, regional, and university-wide committees to advance graduate student advocacy and representation
- Lead strategic planning initiatives, form and dissolve ad hoc committees, and ensure alignment with the evolving needs of the graduate student community
- Submit regular presidential reports and year-end summaries to maintain transparency and institutional knowledge
- Maintain operational oversight by co-signing financial disbursements and coordinating with the Office of Graduate & Professional Studies on budgeting matters
- Oversee leadership transitions by preparing role descriptions, onboarding documents, and succession plans for incoming officers

Vice President, Internal Affairs

Jul 2024 – May 2025

- Represented graduate student interests by serving on university-wide committees and presiding over GSG in the President's absence
- Appointed and coordinated graduate student representatives across campus governance bodies, ensuring consistent advocacy and engagement
- Acted as liaison to student organizations and campus partners, strengthening GSG's campus presence and internal networks
- Delivered regular reports, maintained organizational continuity through transition documents, and supported strategic planning efforts

Director of Climate Action

May 2022 – Jul 2024

- Founded and led a graduate student group focused on campus sustainability projects, securing funding through NAU's Green Fund to implement climate solutions
- Coordinated cross-campus sustainability efforts by partnering with SES, CSS, SUS, and other environmentally-focused programs to advance graduate-led climate action
- Engaged graduate students in sustainability initiatives and research opportunities aligned with NAU's carbon neutrality goals
- Represented GSG in institutional climate efforts by overseeing participation in the Climate Action Committee and Environmental Caucus

- Collaborated with external partners including the Flagstaff Sustainability Program and NAU's Office of Sustainability to promote impactful, community-rooted climate action

University of Arizona Thrive Center

Aug 2018 – May 2021

Peer Mentor

- Met individually with a caseload of 22 low-income, first-generation sophomore college students on a bi-weekly basis to create a sense of community and increase retention rates
- Created and conducted workshops on professional and academic skills for underclassmen
- Conducted and participated in individual and group meetings using in-person and digital formats

Friends of Ironwood Forest

May 2019 – Feb 2020

Educational Outreach Intern

- Collaborated and coordinated with board members and schoolteachers to plan and host outdoor events for children of various age groups in an environmentally protected area
- Promoted protection and awareness of the Ironwood National Monument through digital and physical information distribution
- Observed and took part in non-profit organization functions, including drafting funding proposals and attending board meetings

University of Arizona Bio/Diversity Project

Jan 2018 – May 2018

Instructional Aide Intern

- Coordinated and communicated with a partner schoolteacher, two internship supervisors, and a peer intern to create satisfactory place-based and identity-based environmental lessons
- Delivered weekly lesson plans to a kindergarten class at a school in a low-income neighborhood
- Chaperoned field trip events and outdoor activities to enhance student understanding of biodiversity and the Sonoran Desert

SKILLS

- **Research & Analysis:** Qualitative coding and analysis (NVivo and ATLAS.ti); statistical analysis and data visualization (R)
- **Languages:** Semi-fluent in Spanish (speaking, reading, writing)
- **Communication & Advocacy:** Grant writing, academic writing, public speaking, outreach and engagement
- **Project Management:** Sustainability initiative planning, interdisciplinary team leadership, cross-sector collaboration