# The Robert Redford Conservancy for Southern California Sustainability at Pitzer College

Annual Report 2021-22





# A Note from the Director

The Robert Redford Conservancy for Southern California Sustainability at Pitzer College builds capacity for land conservation efforts, tackles environmental injustices, contributes to sustainability projects, and fosters climate resilience. We aim to build a different future for all through strategic partnerships, Indigenous and justice-based perspectives, and community collaborations. Our students are engaged in work for changeembedded within local municipalities and organizations, embarking on policy making and mapping projects, joining local land battles, and exploring the possibilities of sustainable agriculture both on our campus and off. Our location in the heart of the Bernard Biological Field Station and next to the California Botanic Garden keeps us close to native flora and fauna. Through networked connections, strategic hiring, and student research and action, we invest in place-based solutions that will make Southern California—and our planet—a healthier place. We have emerged from the pandemic with a strong set of partners, with several projects under our belts, and with new funding and exciting projects on the horizon.

### **Susan Phillips**

Professor of Environmental Analysis Director, Robert Redford Conservancy Associate Dean, Pitzer College

# **Our Purpose**

# **Mission**

The Redford Conservancy transforms environmental systems through the power of interconnection and the power of community.

## **Vision**

By building local capacity for environmental justice and climate resilience, we envision Southern California as a place for forward-thinking conservation, sustainable lifeways, green innovation, and healthy, just, and equitable communities.

# **Pitzer College Core Values**

We amplify the core values of Pitzer College, including environmental sustainability, interdisciplinarity, social responsibility, and student engagement.

# Redford Conservancy Pillars of Engagement



**Land Conservation** 



**Sustainable Policy** 



Regenerative Agriculture



**Indigenous Partnerships** 



**Environmental Education** 

# **By The Numbers 2021-2022**

	35 Community partners	Fostered new relationships with social justice, land use and environmental partners and expanded our work in cities of the Inland Empire and beyond.
	300 Environmental education students	Promoted stewardship, raised awareness and mentored Pitzer and 5-C, students as well as K- 12 students in Claremont and Pomona.
•••	805 Followers	Engaged new social media followers and promoted messaging through various outlets
888	2300 Outreach	Raised awareness through media sources, educational conferences and community engagement

# Programs by the Numbers



# 9 Course Development Awards

Embedding environmental sustainability throughout the curriculum in multiple disciplines



# 9 Senior Thesis Awards

Supporing students engaged in applied research for environmental change



# 13 Redford Conservancy Student Fellows

A group of 12-15 students dedicated to environmental work



# 9 Member Board of Friends

A group of environmental champions (parents, alumni) that support the RRC



# 3 Redford Fellows in Applied Research

Temporary positions for mission-aligned scholars and practitioners

# **Initiatives**



# **Ecodocumentaries**

Change-making stories through film in collaboration with Intercollegiate Media Studies and community partners.



# Student Garden

Supporting a reimagined and revitalized student-run campus growing and learning space



# Fighting for Farmland

Land conservation with an agrarian twist. With CCAEJ, Sierra Club, and the Southern California Agricultural Land Foundation.



# Sustainability Dashboard

Mapping environmental opportunities and challenges in Southern California. Developing data analysis and visualization to argue for sustainable development in Southern California. With Radical Research, LLC. and multiple partners



# Leadership in Environmental Education

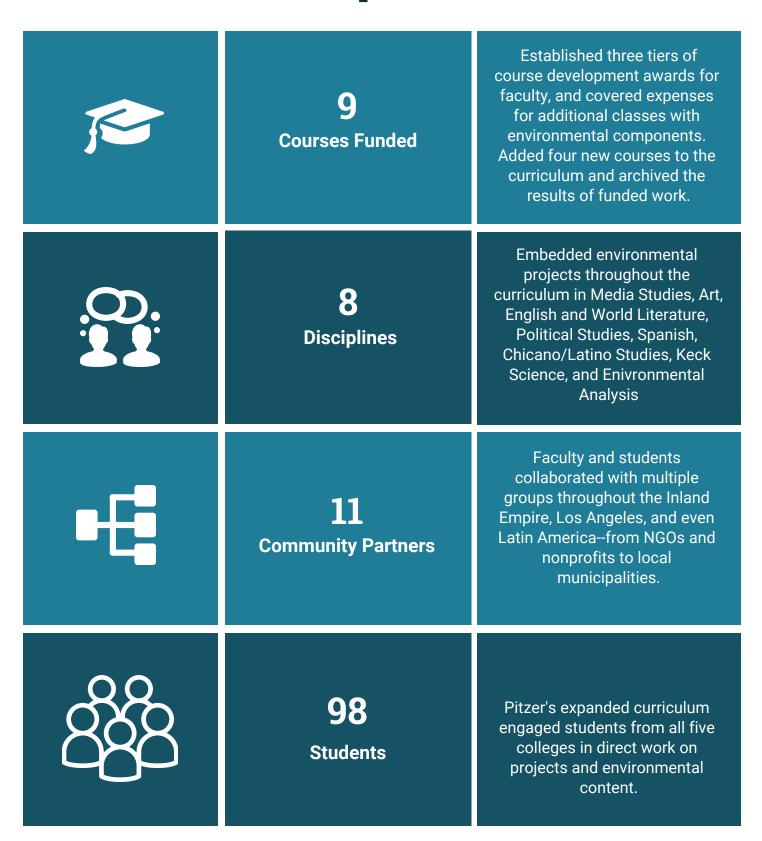
Place-based environmental education for K-12 youth. With Pomona College, elementary schools in Claremont and Pomona, and the Bernard Biological Field Station



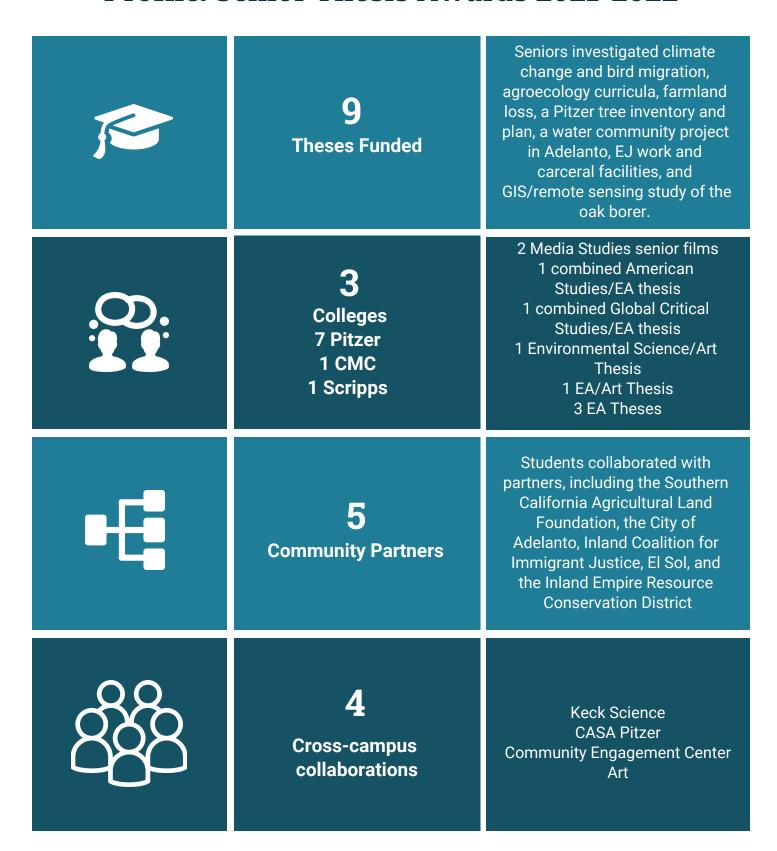
# Barbara Drake Memorial Library

A collaborative project with the Drake family and Tongva tribal members based on the book collection of the late elder Barbara Drake

# **Profile: Course Development Awards 2021-2022**



# **Profile: Senior Thesis Awards 2021-2022**



# Profile: Redford Conservancy Student Fellows Projects



With partner Inland Empire Resource Conservation District

Agricultural Land Mitigation Policy Memo: Mechanisms to save at-risk farmland



With partner Inland Urban Forest Council

Working paper on Phytoremediation: Tackling air quality through urban forestry



With partners Sierra Club My Generation Campaign and People's Collective for Environmental Justice

Organized "The Right to Breathe:" A conference on air quality; presented original research.



With the family of Barbara Drake

Inventory of the Barbara Drake Memorial Library: The book collection of beloved Tongva elder Barbara Drake.

# **Space Utilization**



7

# Classes held



6

# Retreats hosted



8

**Events** 

# Who We Are



9

**Member Board of Friends** 



3

**Full time staff** 



15

**Pitzer Student Fellows** 



3

**Applied Research Fellows** 

# **Funding Opportunities**

# Support our work!



Target: \$100k

# Student Garden



Target: \$200k

# Dashboard, Data Visualization, Mapping



Target: \$100k

# **Ecodocumentary Program**



Target: \$100k

# **Indigenous Partnerships**



Target: \$100k

# **Environmental Education**



Target: \$15M

# **Endowment Building**

For more information, email **rrc@pitzer.edu** or the staff members below. We look forward to hearing from you!

# Susan A. Phillips, Director

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