



OpenMinds

NextGen Overview

2026



OUR MISSION

More energy. Less emissions. Fast.

- 125+ volunteer experts
- 501(c)(3)
- Disciplined non-partisan selection process
- 360° systems engineering approach

WHAT MAKES US UNIQUE



Energy AND climate



Cross-functional expert team

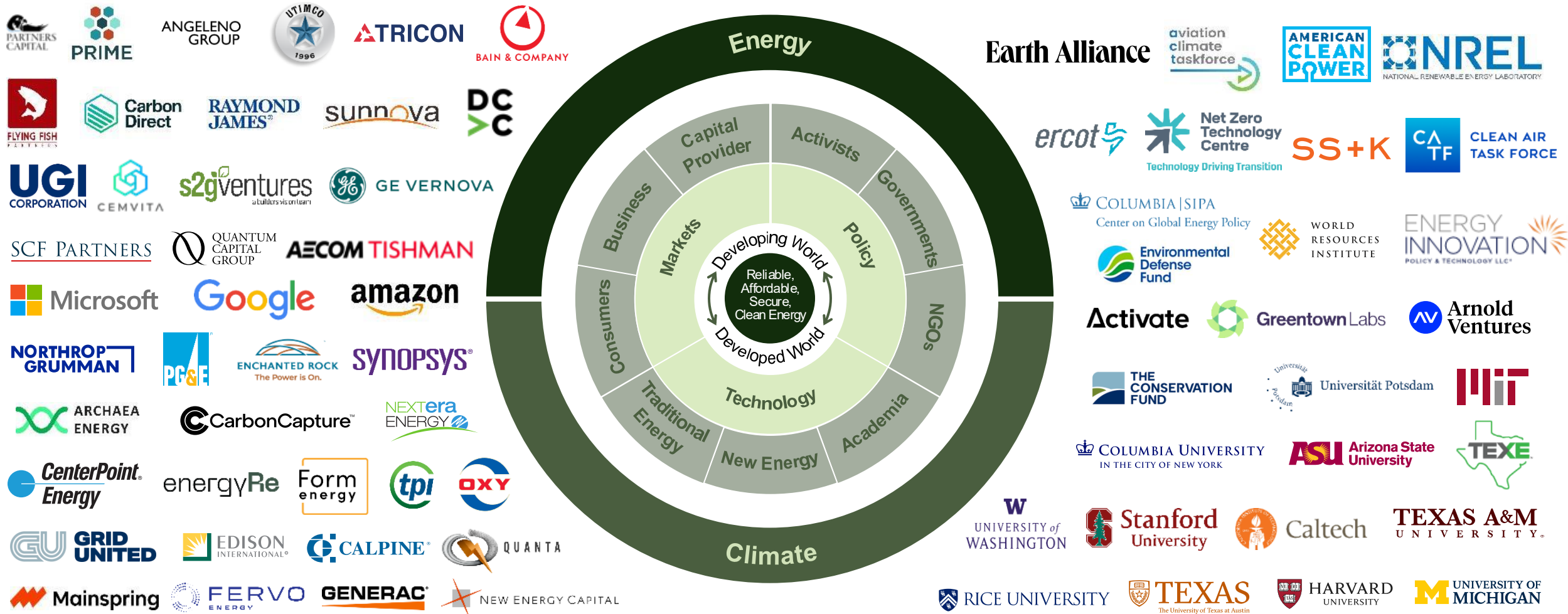


Data-driven solutions framework



Impact progress by 203X

The OpenMinds Network





Mission

More energy, less emissions – fast.

Goals

Unite

key current & future global leaders on the need to solve for affordable energy access while quickly reducing emissions

Accelerate

progress with a practical solutions pathway and develop key initiatives to remove bottlenecks

Impact Levers

Communicate to Drive Targeted Action and Highlight Progress

**Align
Existing Leaders**

**Develop
Future Leaders**

**Design
Solutions Pathways**

**Lead
Impact Projects**

Top 10 Solutions

Abate Methane

Renewables

Coal-to-X Switching

**CCUS in Electricity
and Industry**

**Transportation
Energy Efficiency**

**Industrial Efficiency
and Electrification**

Electric LDVs

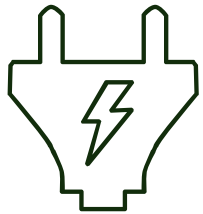
Heat Pumps

**New and Existing
Nuclear**

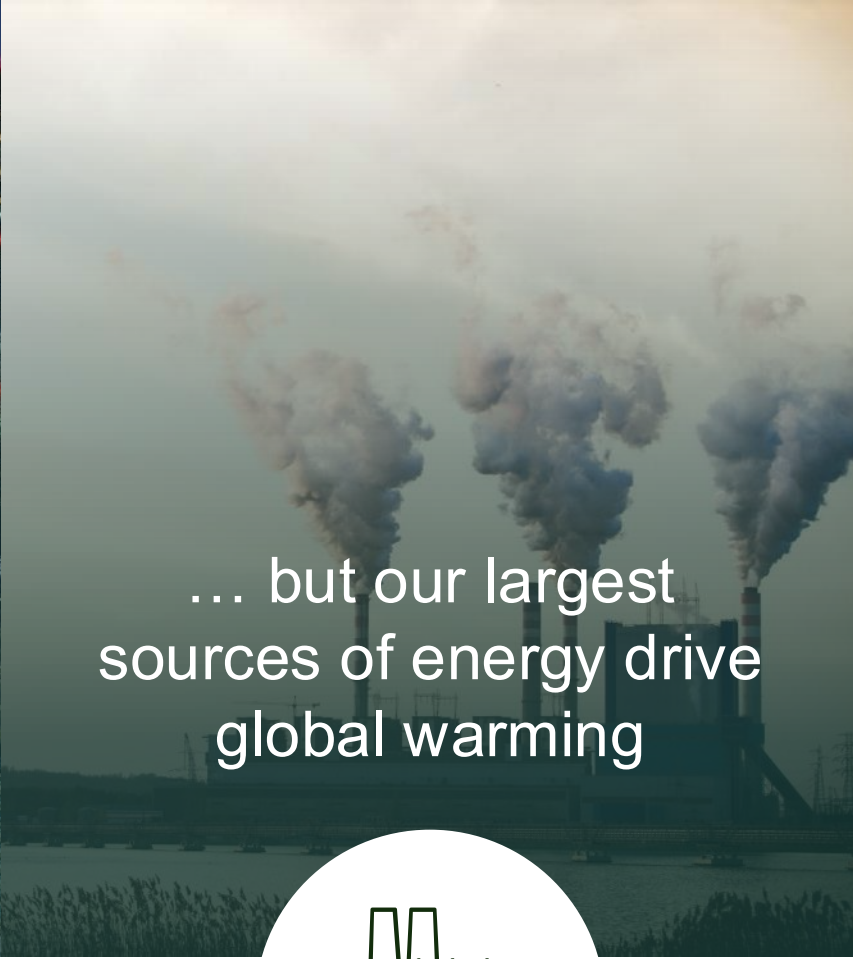
Buildings Efficiency



Human flourishing
and economic growth
require energy ...



**More
energy**



... but our largest
sources of energy drive
global warming



**Less
emissions**



**This is the
Dual Challenge**

NextGen Leaders Program: Mission & Vision

MISSION:

Identify, empower, and connect the next generation of purpose-driven global energy and climate leaders to act on the Dual Challenge of **more energy, less emissions - fast.**

We are not just preparing leaders for the future. We are mobilizing changemakers who will redefine it.

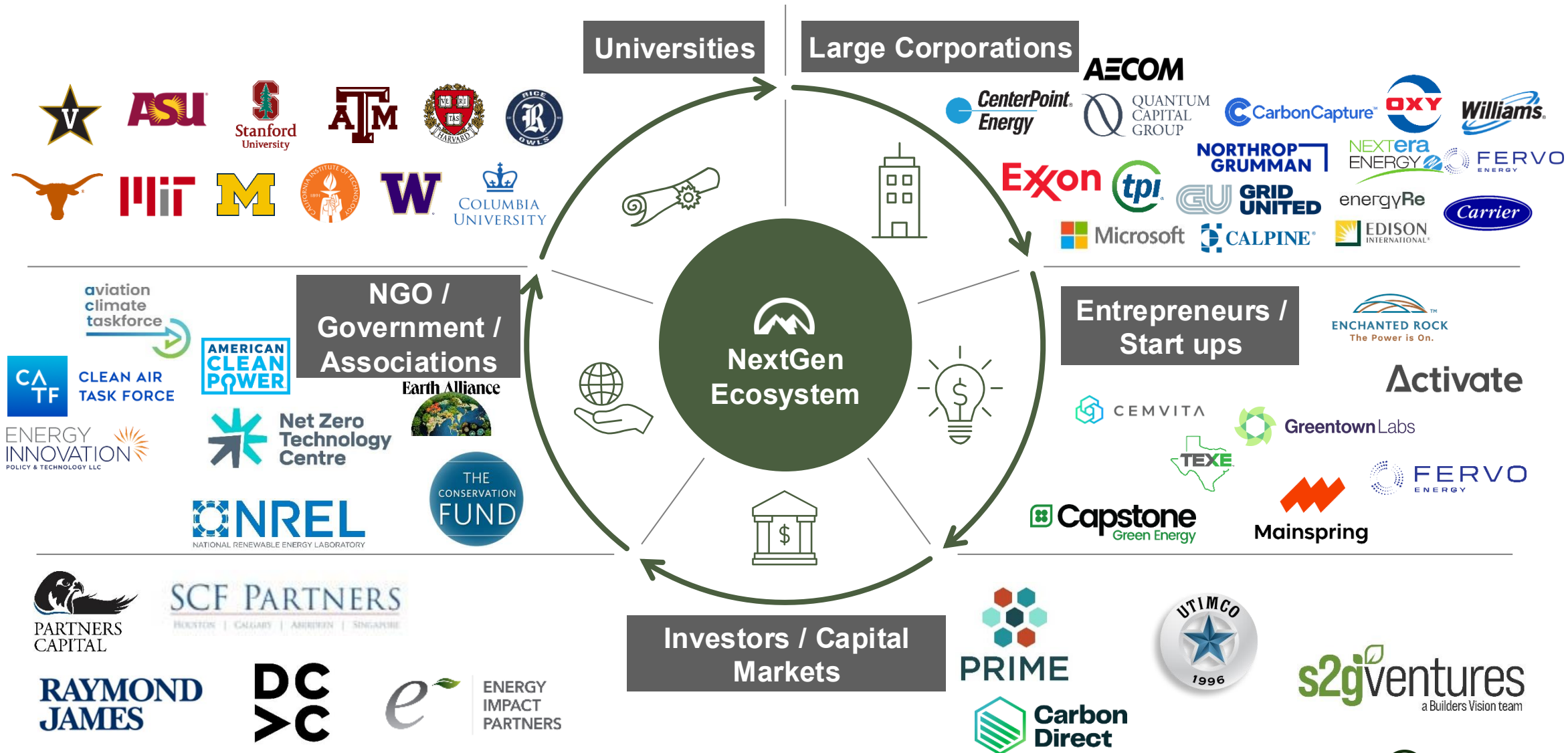
- Best-in-class talent from **leading universities**
- **Diverse** backgrounds and capabilities
- **Impactful** real-world experience
- Rigorous **ongoing training**, networking, and mentorship
- Interconnected **community and voice**
- **Lifelong commitment**



VISION:

*Over the next decade, NextGen will be a community of **300+ exceptional leaders** catalyzing the next generation for significant global energy and climate impact by shaping policy, transforming markets, founding companies, and scaling ideas into action.*

Interlocking Communities Will Contribute and Benefit from NextGen Engagement



2024 Was Our Inaugural Cohort



Frank Agwuncha
Columbia University
Masters – Sustainability
Management



David Brown
MIT
MBA – Entrepreneurship



Tam Kemabonta
Arizona State University
PhD – Sustainable
Energy



Hannah Mae Merten
Harvard University
MBA/Masters – Public
Policy



Oyindamola Pedro
MIT
MBA – Sustainable
Fuels



Cameron Andrews
University of Texas
MPA – Policy



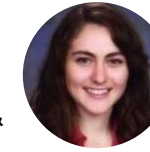
Dennis Cha
Harvard University
MBA – Energy Transport



Vivek Kesireddy
Texas A&M
PhD – Petroleum
Engineering



Hannah Murdoch
Stanford University
MBA/MS – Environment &
Resources



Kimberly Sinclair
University of Washington
PhD – Earth and Space
Sciences & Astrobiology



Edward Apraku
Stanford University
PhD – Environmental
Engineering



Anita Chandrahas
Harvard University
Post-Doctoral Fellowship
– Biomedical Science



César Lasalde-Ramírez
Caltech
PhD – Energy Storage



Kristina Nabayan
Columbia University
PhD – Materials Science
& Engineering



Amanda Studebaker
Stanford University
MBA/MS – Environment &
Resources



Ainee Athar
Stanford University
MBA/MSc –
Environmental Resources



Debjyoti Chatterjee
University of Texas
PhD – Electrical &
Computer Engineering



Daniela Marin
Stanford University
PhD – Chemical
Engineering



Ian Naccarella
Harvard University
MBA – Electric Vehicles



Andrew van Baal
University of Michigan
MS – Sustainable
Systems



Victor Awosiji
Stanford University
PhD - Earth & Planetary
Sciences



Isabelle Dunning
Columbia University
MS – Sustainability
Management



Karina Masalkovaite
Stanford University
PhD – Materials Science
& Engineering



Bianca Derya Neumann
University of Potsdam
MA – Political Science,
Environmental Policy



Yingxiao Zhang
University of Michigan
PhD – Climate Sciences
& Engineering



Ines Azoy-Parravano
University of Michigan
Bachelors – Computer
Science



Sam Hall
MIT
MBA – Energy & Climate
Technology



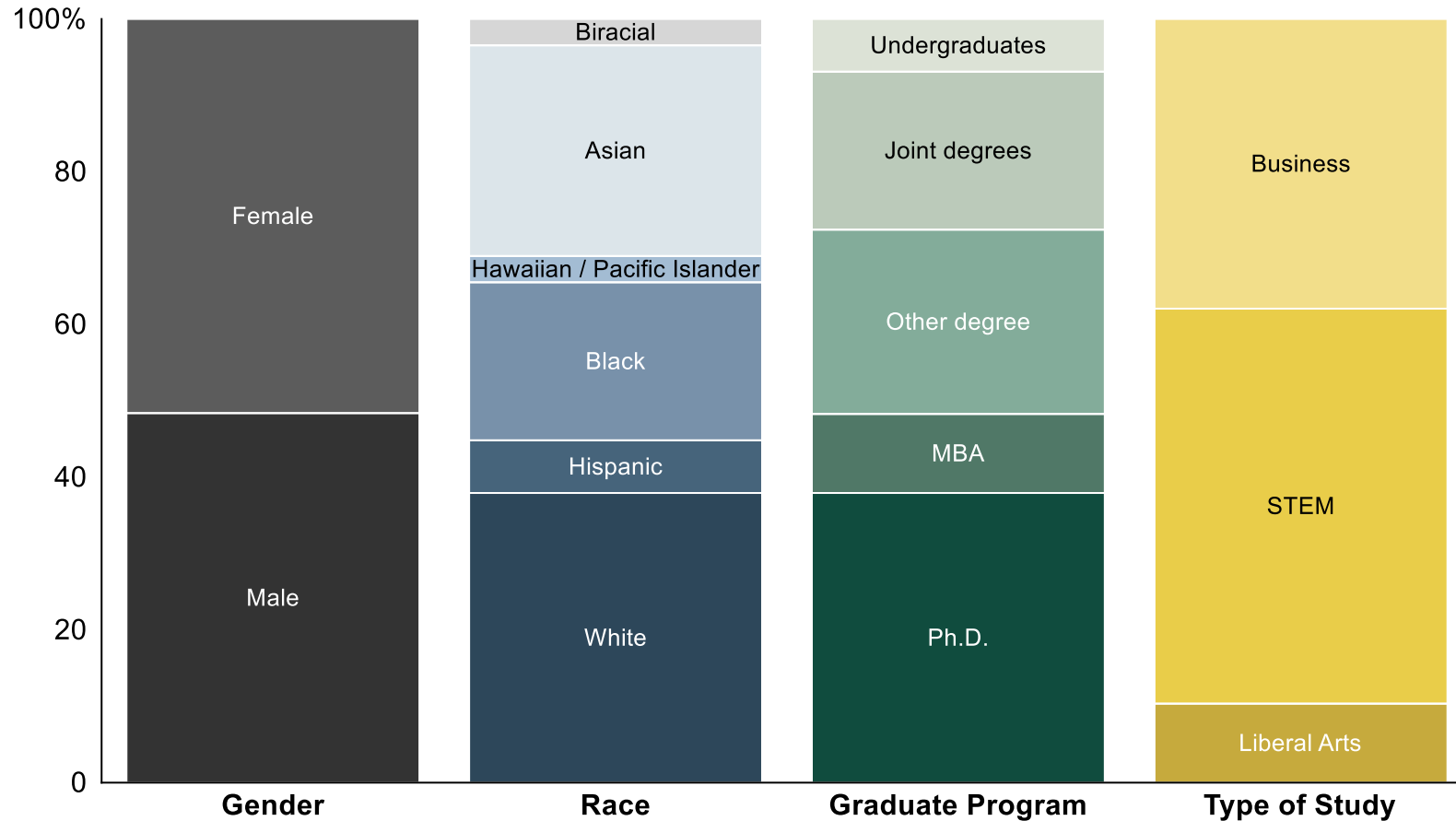
Hillary McKenzie
University of Michigan
MBA/MS – Sustainability



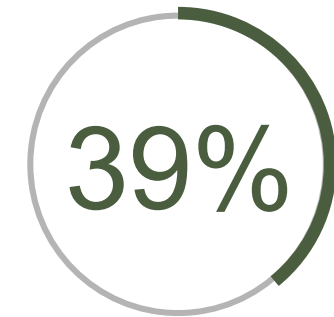
Yogi Nishanth
Harvard University
Masters – Sustainability
ALM

The 2024 cohort represents a very diverse group, from a variety of backgrounds, pursuing a wide range of degrees

of respondents (% of total)



First generation college students



Spoke non-English in their childhood home

2024 Cohort Was Highly Accomplished

Prior work experience includes...

40+ Leadership roles

35+ Publications from cohort members

10+ Work with non-profits

4+ Companies founded

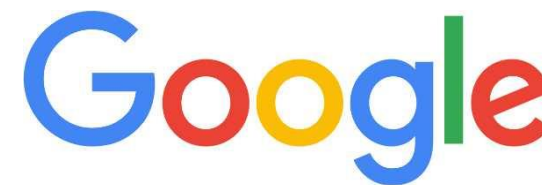
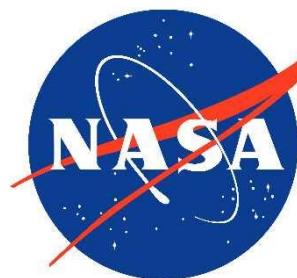
1 Veteran of the US Armed Forces



British Embassy
Brasilia



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR EUROPE



Pacific Northwest
NATIONAL LABORATORY



CHAN
ZUCKERBERG
INITIATIVE

aramco



2025 NextGen Cohort is Just as Incredible



Nuha Abousam
Harvard University
MBA – Grid Resilience



Dylan Ackerman
Stanford University
MBA/MS – Environment & Resources



Haamid Adam
MIT
MBA – Venture Capital:
Climate & Deep Tech



Heladio Amaya Colación
Tecnológico de Monterrey
MSc – Applied Economics



Adeshina Badejo
Texas A&M
PhD – Petroleum
Engineering



Adin Becker
Harvard University
MPA/MA – Urban Planning



Shashwati Da Cunha
UT Austin
PhD – Chemical Engineering



Marco De Sousa
Texas A&M
PhD – Chemical
Engineering



Oliver Edelson
Stanford University
MBA/MS – Environment & Resources



Michael Ettlinger
University of Michigan
MEng/MS – Ener. Syst.
Eng./Sust. Syst.



Andres Fierro Lopez
UT Austin
PhD – Computational
Nuclear Engineering



Megan Hung
MIT
MBA – Entrepreneurship



Mansi Joisher
MIT
PhD – Electrical Eng. and
Computer Science



Robert Juckett
University of Michigan
MBA/MS – Sustainability



Emma Kerr
Stanford University
PhD – Energy Science and
Engineering



Iuliia Kukula
Arizona State University
PhD – Sustainable Energy



Andrew Lin
Rice University
PhD – Chemical
Engineering



Amy Liu
University of Washington
PhD – Atmospheric and
Climate Science



Sofia Mantilla Salas
Stanford University
PhD – Earth and Planetary
Sciences



Brighton Mogaka
Arizona State University
PhD – Systems
Engineering



Carson Muscat
Stanford University
MBA/MS – Environment &
Resources



Katelyn Parsons
University of Michigan
MBA/MS – Environment &
Sustainability



Milenia Rojas Mendoza
Stanford University
PhD – Chemical
Engineering



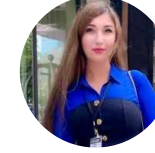
Gursheel Sahni
Columbia University
MS – Sustainability
Management



Sam Sandefer
Vanderbilt University
BS – Mechanical
Engineering



Rishav Sen
Vanderbilt University
PhD – Electrical and
Computer Engineering



Mahsa Shabani
University of Washington
PhD – Mechanical
Engineering



Caroline Shipley
Harvard University
MBA – Sustainability



Benjamin Strzelecki
Columbia University
MPA – Climate, Energy and
Environment



Serena (Thi) To
University of Calgary
MPP/MBA – Data Center
Policy



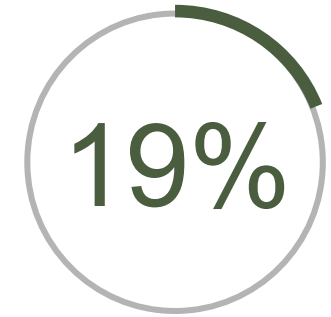
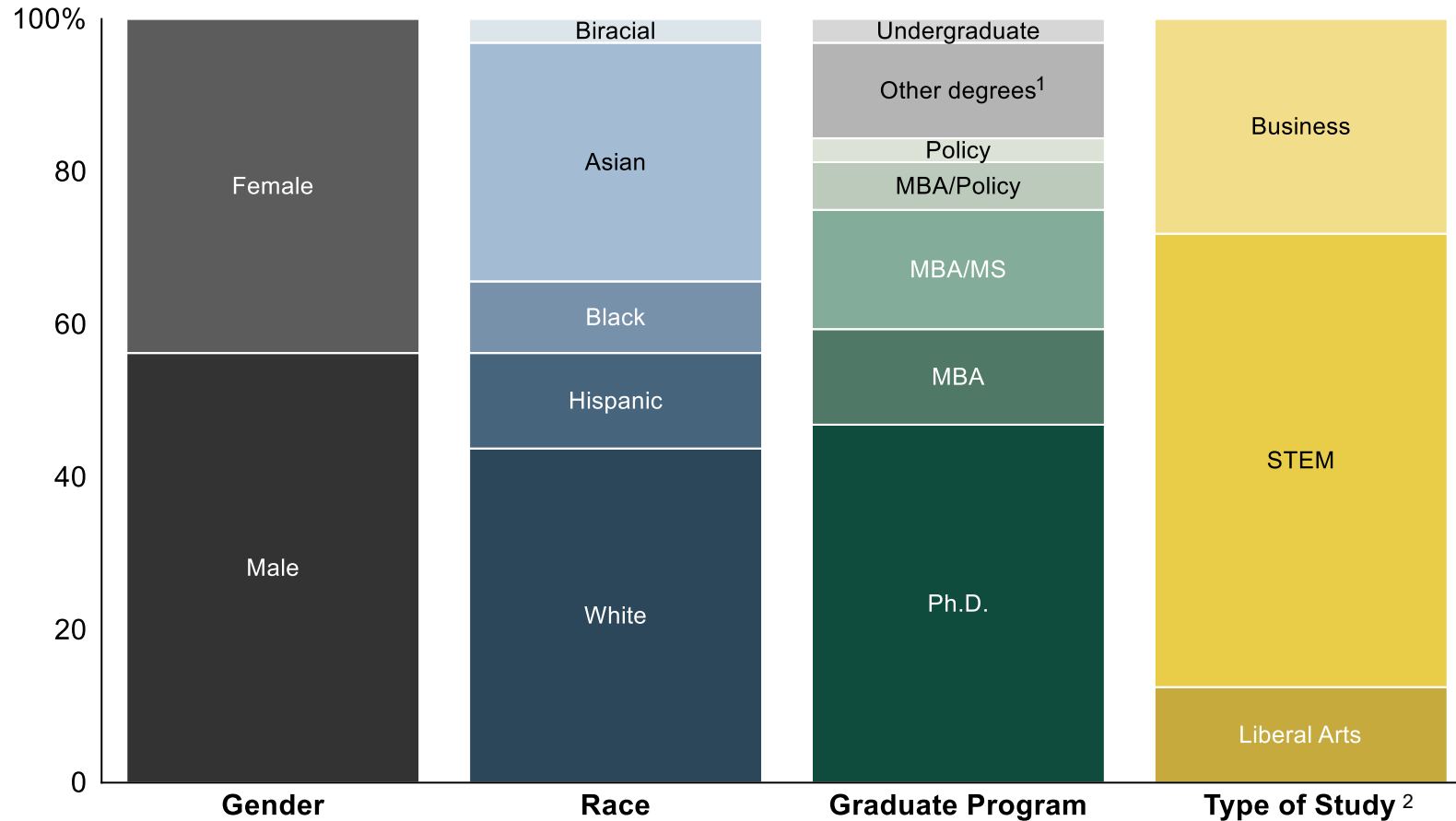
Liwei Yang
Stanford University
MS – Atmosphere and
Energy



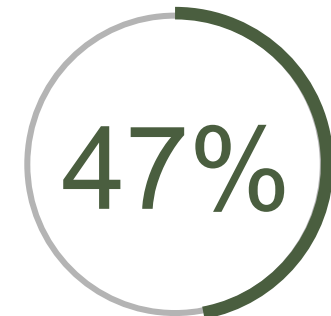
Christopher Yeh
CalTech
PhD – Computational and
Mathematical Sciences

The 2025 cohort represents a very diverse group, from a variety of backgrounds, pursuing a wide range of degrees

of respondents (% of total)



First generation college students



Spoke non-English in their childhood home

Note: 1) Other includes MS, MEng, and MSc degrees. 2) Business includes MBA and MBA/MS degrees, STEM includes PhD, MS, and BS degrees, Liberal Arts includes Policy, MBA/Policy, and MSc in Economics degrees

2026 NextGen SteerCo

Co-Leaders



Dr. Naomi Boness
Managing Director
Stanford Natural Gas
and Hydrogen
Initiatives



Dr. Robert Johnston
Director, ENR, and
Professor, U of Calgary

NextGen Representatives



Michael Ettlinger
Michigan MEng/MS
NG25



Andrew Lin
Rice University
PhD ChemE NG25



Sam Hall
Founder,
GrowthFactor
MBA MIT NG24



Amanda Studebaker
Senior Associate SCP
Stanford MBA/MS
NG24

Committee Members



Carrie Braddock
SLP MD
Stewardship/ Impact



Keila Diamond
Managing Director and
Head of ESG
Quantum Energy
Partners



Georgina Flatter
CEO
Greentown Labs



Dr. Neil Fromer
Executive Director
Resnick Sustainability
Institute, CalTech



Ira Joseph
Global Fellow
CGEP, Columbia
University



Dr. Shannon Miller
Founder & CEO
Mainspring Energy



Dan Recht
MD Activate Boston



Monika Simões
CEO & Founder
Energy Dialogues, Inc.



Ben Soltoff
Entrepreneur in
Residence
MIT's Martin Trust
Center for
Entrepreneurship



Dr. Mike Witt
Chief Sustainability
Officer
Northrop Grumman



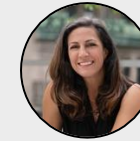
David Pruner
Executive Director
TEX-E

SteerCo Chair



Tom O'Toole
Executive Director
Kellogg School of
Management

NextGen Program Director



Kristin Barbato
Director of NextGen
Program

Our Steering Committee comprises leaders in industry, academia, and NextGen Leader representatives.

They serve as corporate and university liaisons as well as NextGen mentors and coaches.

This sounding board provides insights for our long-term vision and driving the impact our leaders can make to support the Dual Challenge.

Together We Build Systems to Drive Mission Success

Refine Strategy & Vision

Engage in high-impact initiatives that shape direction

- *SteerCo Leads*
- *Impact Project Members*

Promote Connectivity

Foster strong networks to enhance collaboration & impact

- *Connectivity Leads*
- *Cohort Buddies*

Assemble Top Talent

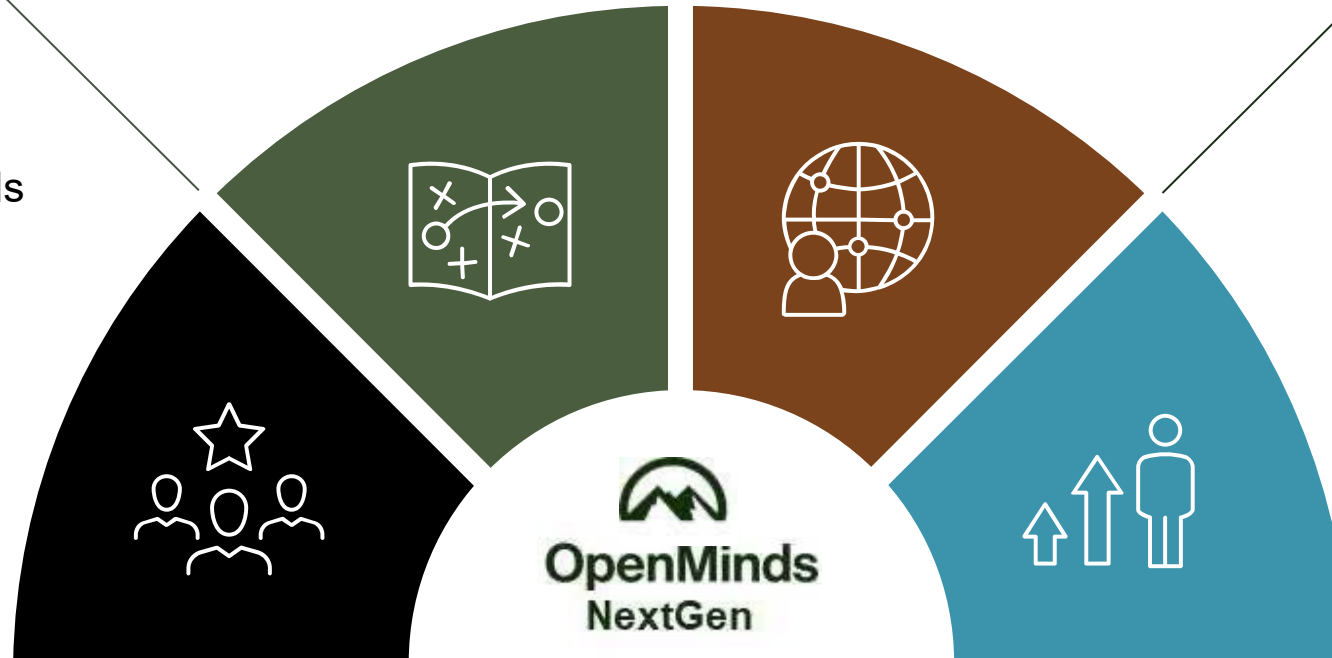
Unite exceptional individuals to maximize impact

- *School Recruiting Leads*

Self-Governance & Growth

Drive sustainable progress through effective leadership

- *SteerCo Leads*
- *Class Leads*



Elements of NextGen's Launch Year Orientation & Training



1 Immersive Bootcamp



5 Mentorship



2 Sponsored Projects









4 Networking Events



3 Education & Development



NextGen Cohort 2025: Dual Challenge Sponsored Projects

Topic	Sponsor	Overarching question
Carbon Capture Utilization & Sequestration (CCUS)	 CALPINE®	Where is opportunity for moonshot cost reductions , and what is the best path to pursue ?
Geothermal	 FERVO ENERGY	What is oftaker willingness to pay for dispatchable geothermal electricity?
Methane	 Williams®	How do we implement a traceability system to track methane emissions across supply chains? How can deployment of this be accelerated in the US?
HVAC Battery Deployment	 Carrier CenterPoint Energy	How can we accelerate the adoption of battery-enabled residential HVAC systems in the next 6-12 months to unlock a distributed capacity resource?
Nuclear	 Microsoft	What are the critical areas to accelerate advanced nuclear technology ?
Dual Challenge Progress	 OpenMinds	How do we build a global scorecard on the Dual Challenge and the Top 10 Solutions?

NextGen Leadership Teams

Cross-cohort Leadership Teams of NextGeners across critical areas of community-building functions and initiatives for self-governance, OpenMinds goals, and impact to the broader market

Campus Recruiting



Job Recruitment



Speaker Series



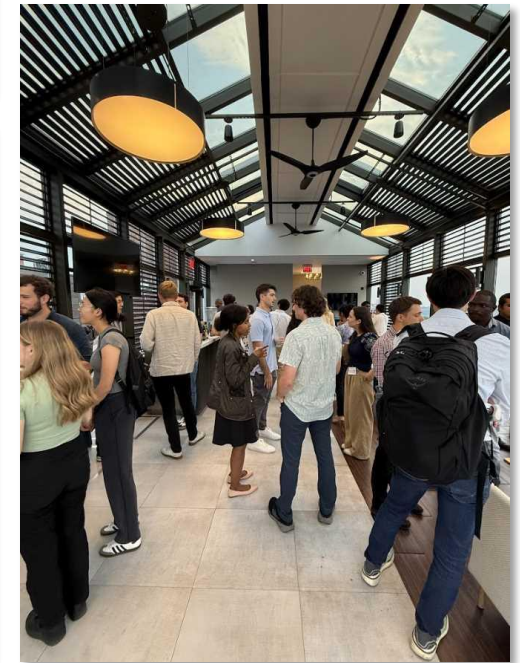
Networking Events



Marketing & Comms



NextGen Bootcamp Highlights!



Apply by January 30th!

OpenMinds NextGen Leaders Program:
Our mission is to identify, empower, and create a community of the next generation of energy and climate leaders to lead global impact on the Dual Challenge.

Apply to become a OpenMinds NextGen Leader:

Application opens: December 15th, 2025

Deadline: January 30th, 2026

<https://forms.gle/Z3NKcP4E9QDCJFzG7>



What the program entails

- ✓ **Interactive immersion** through a **3-day bootcamp** with other students, industry experts, and policymakers
- ✓ **Leadership opportunities** to launch and **run cross-functional projects** that make a direct impact with leading corporations
- ✓ **1:1 mentorship** with OpenMinds top experts in the climate and energy industry
- ✓ **Networking** with leaders from energy, climate academia, policy as well as students from top universities across US & Europe
- ✓ **Education** on the Dual Challenge of energy + climate
- ✓ **Building a community of exceptional leaders** catalyzing action on the Dual Challenge for the next generation
- ✓ **Self-governance teams** for marketing, speaker series, job recruitment, and regional networking events

Student Launch Year Expectations



Commit ~2-5 hours per week on average across program elements



Participate in the bootcamp and share your expertise with other attendees



Drive projects for OpenMinds and remain an active member of the broader NextGen Leaders group

We look forward to growing this incredible network!

Learn more about OpenMinds, the Dual Challenge, and our Top 10 solutions



<https://openminds203x.org/>



David Baldwin

Co-founder, OpenMinds
dbaldwin@scfpartners.com



Jeff Katz

Co-founder, OpenMinds
jgkatz@me.com



OpenMinds

**Solving for the
Dual Challenge.**