The future of our planet demands that we recognize inequity and defend our communities against compound injustice. In this moment of grief, we are reminded that the system is not broken, but rather operating as designed — which begs the questions: Are you willing to hold accountable all of the systems built off white supremacy — from the fossil fuel industry to racist policing to the prison industrial complex — in defense of the planet? Are you willing to interrogate your complicity in the systems built on white supremacy and commit to dismantling it?

[Tamara Toles O’Laughlin, Grist, “If you care about the planet, you must dismantle white supremacy. It’s time for strong commitments to racial justice from every corner of the climate movement.” June 15, 2020.]
The 2021-2023 AIAA Diversity Plan

**OBJECTIVE 1:**
Increase awareness within the AIAA community of the importance of diversity and inclusion.

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This excellent new documentary movie, “The Hunt for Planet B,” is focused on scientists and their work on the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST), but it briefly comments on the contributions of diversity to projects such as the JWST. CNN uses a two-hour time slot to show the movie. The movie also comments on the climate crisis, including video of activist Greta Thunberg addressing a crowd of protestors. [Douglas Yazell, 11/25/2021]

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Grist

Midwest tribes awarded $6.6 million to build their own EV charging network

After years of battling pipelines, it’s another way to fight back against fossil fuels.

Jena Brooker
Midwest fellow

Published Nov 17, 2021

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CNN Films Takes the Hunt for Planet B to TV Ahead of NASA Space Mission

The Documentary Directed by Academy Award Nominee Nathaniel Kahn Will Premiere for Television on Saturday, Nov. 20 on CNN

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**GOAL 1:** DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION ARE WIDELY RECOGNIZED WITHIN THE AIAA COMMUNITY AS ESSENTIAL TO THE MISSION AND VISION OF THE INSTITUTE.

**OBJECTIVE 1:**
Increase awareness within the AIAA community of the importance of diversity and inclusion.

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But to astronomers who have criticized the naming decision, Webb is also known for holding a high-level position in the State Department during the ‘Lavender Scare’ of the 1950s, during which LGBTQ federal employees were identified and fired or forced to resign.”

By Scottie Andrew, CNN
Updated 4:39 PM ET, Fri November 19, 2021

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“COP26 was a snapshot of a world — agonizingly slowly but with gathering speed — moving to address a crisis. There’s no reason for anyone to stop pushing, but there’s also nothing wrong with acknowledging and celebrating the progress that’s been achieved by all the pushing so far.”

[David Roberts, VOLTS, November 15, 2021]
The forgotten oil ads that told us climate change was nothing

Since the 1980s, fossil fuel firms have run ads touting climate denial messages—many of which they'd now like us to forget. Here's our visual guide

by Geoffrey Supran and Naomi Oreskes

Illustration: Guardian Design

Supported by

the guardian .org

About this content

Thu 18 Nov 2021 05.00 EST

Distorting reality in the 2020s and beyond

A Shell TV ad last year featured birds in the sky, fields of wind and solar farms, the CEO of a Shell renewables subsidiary saying she's "made the future far cleaner and far better for our children", and not one reference to fossil fuels.

The truth behind the ad: Between 2010 and 2018, 98.7% of Shell's investments were in oil and gas. Such misrepresentations are industry-wide.

It's not our fault, it's yours

From 2004 to 2006, a $100m-plus a year BP marketing campaign "introduced the idea of a "carbon footprint" before it was a common buzzword", according to the PR agent in charge of the campaign. The targets of this campaign were the "routine human activities" and "lifestyle choices" of "individuals" and the "average American household". In 2019, BP ran a new "Know your carbon footprint" campaign on social media.

What on earth is a carbon footprint?

Reduce your carbon footprint. But first, find out what it is.

Both ads were published in various publications from 2004 to 2006.
AIAA Houston Section sister sections

France-USA: www.3af-mp.fr
France: Francis Guimera, preceded by Alain Chevalier
Houston: Douglas Yazell

Ethiopia-USA:
Ethiopia: Tulu Besha Bedada, PhD and Berhan Gessesse, PhD
Houston: Thomas Haregot

Peru-USA:
Houston: Jackelynne Silva-Martinez
Peru: Julio Valdivia, Saul Perez

AIAA Houston Section International Activities Committee (IAC)
Chair: Douglas Yazell

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French dictionary accused of ‘wokeism’ over gender-inclusive pronoun

Education minister condemns use of ‘iel’, saying inclusive writing is not the future of the French language.

Agence France-Presse in Paris

Wed 17 Nov 2021 11.31 EST

French presidential hopeful Éric Zemmour begins race hate trial

Far-right TV pundit on trial for calling unaccompanied child migrants ‘thieves, killers and rapists’.

Angelique Chrisafis in Paris and agencies

@achrisafis

Wed 17 Nov 2021 08.47 EST

Saluting ‘Captain Planet’: film explores Jacques Cousteau’s conservation legacy

French adventurer revolutionised underwater film-making and sounded early alarm over oceans’ destruction.

Kim Willsher

Thu 11 Nov 2021 04.00 EST
Gardens of Eden: the church forests of Ethiopia - a photo essay

The age of extinction is supported by

About this content
Mon 8 Nov 2021 02.00 EST

By Kieran Dodds

US, France and Germany tell nationals to leave Ethiopia as PM commits to battle

Western nations urge citizens to fly out as Abiy Ahmed vows to lead troops in war against advancing Tigray rebels

Staff and agencies in Addis Ababa
Tue 23 Nov 2021 13.53 EST
AIAA Houston Section Douglas Yazell: Diversity, Climate, History, and 3 Sister Sections: France, Ethiopia Peru; Saturday, 11/27/2021

‘A remarkable history’: inside the exhibition bringing Peru’s past to life

A British Museum show on ancient Andean civilisations is revealing new insights into their views of time, society and war.

"The subtitle of the exhibition [Peru: A Journey in Time] is both a prosaic description of a chronological examination of many different cultures over 3,500 years, but also an introduction to how Andean time was experienced. 'We generally think that we’re in the present, the past is behind us and the future is ahead of us,' explains its co-curator Jago Cooper. 'Whereas in Andean societies, the past, present and future are parallel lines happening contemporaneously. So the past isn’t dead, it’s happening at the same time as the present, which can therefore change it. And it is by accepting the interrelationship between the past and present that you can best plan for the future.'"
AIAA Region VII (International) and Region IV (four states + Mexico)
Fresh scrutiny for Mexico after arrest of suspect in NSO spyware case

Businessman allegedly used surveillance tool to spy on journalist, raising questions about authorities' links to Israeli company

Stephanie Kirchgaessner and agencies

@skirchy
Tue 9 Nov 2021 13.26 EST
“George Perry Floyd Jr. (October 14, 1973 – May 25, 2020) was an African-American man who was murdered by a police officer in Minneapolis, Minnesota, during an arrest after a store clerk suspected Floyd may have used a counterfeit $20 bill, on [Monday,] May 25, 2020.”


Sequence
1. Monday, May 25, 2020: Death of Houstonian George Floyd, whose daughter later said, “My daddy changed the world!”
2. Monday, June 2, 2020: Public statement on diversity, equity, and inclusion by the AIAA Executive Director
5. The backlash must be defeated. Part of the backlash is visible in the attack on the Capitol (January 6, 2021). Even denial about the attack on the Capitol has been very public since the attack. Critical race theory distortions won the office of the governor in Virginia in November 2021, but it was no distortion to say we are engaged in a revolution about race matters in the USA since May 25, 2020. [Douglas Yazell, 11/25/2021]
AIAA Houston Section History Technical Committee

Images: NASA/JCS area protest march, Sunday, June 7, 2021, protesting the traditions that led to the death (Monday, May 25, 2020) of George Floyd. Venue: Exploration Green, a new park almost next door to NASA/JSC. [Images: Douglas Yazell.]
AIAA Houston Section Douglas Yazell: Diversity, Climate, History, and 3 Sister Sections: France, Ethiopia Peru; Saturday, 11/27/2021

Images: NASA/JCS area protest march, Sunday, June 7, 2021, protesting the traditions that led to the death (Monday, May 25, 2020) of George Floyd. Venue: Exploration Green, a new park almost next door to NASA/JSC. [Images: Douglas Yazell.]

AIAA Statement on Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion from AIAA Executive Director Dan Dumbacher
Written Monday, 2 June 2020.

Finally, from 6-8 p.m. June 7, marchers will gather at Phase 1 of Exploration Green along Reseda Drive between El Camino Real and Bay Area Boulevard.

Marchers will walk 8.46 miles around the Phase 1 pond. The length reflects the amount of time in minutes and seconds former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin kneeled on Floyd’s neck until Floyd died.

Marchers are encouraged to bring water and face masks and practice social distancing.

Left: Image credit: Googls Maps on macOS.
Images: NASA/JCS area protest march, Sunday, June 7, 2021, protesting the traditions that led to the death (Monday, May 25, 2020) of George Floyd. Venue: Exploration Green, a new park almost next door to NASA/JSC. [Images: Douglas Yazell.]

AIAA Statement on Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion from AIAA Executive Director Dan Dumbacher

Written Monday, 2 June 2020.

We marched around the detention pond in this nature park, Exploration Green Phase 1.

Left: Image credits: Google Maps on macOS.
AIAA Houston Section Douglas Yazell: Diversity, Climate, History, and 3 Sister Sections: France, Ethiopia Peru; Saturday, 11/27/2021

AIAA Houston Section History Technical Committee

Image: The Last Mile Of The Way. Funeral procession with a horse-drawn carriage of George Floyd’s body down Cullen Blvd to the Houston Memorial Gardens Cemetery. Pearland, TX, 6-9-20. [Flickr: CC BY 2.0. 2C2K Photography. https://flic.kr/p/2jaKHFf, image cropped on its top to remove mostly blue sky.]

Black holes slamming into the moon could end the dark matter debate

The universe could house black holes smaller than atoms -- and they may have left their fingerprints on the moon.

"The theory of general relativity, under which space itself can curve, allows for the universe to take one of three forms: flat like a sheet of paper, closed like a sphere, or open like a saddle. This astronomical geometry is no trivial matter -- the fate of the cosmos depends on it."

The anisotropies of the Cosmic microwave background (CMB) as observed by Planck. The CMB is a snapshot of the oldest light in our Universe, imprinted on the sky when the Universe was just 380,000 years old. It shows tiny temperature fluctuations that correspond to regions of slightly different densities, representing the seeds of all future structure: the stars and galaxies of today.

The Big Bang is when many think the universe started and time itself began. But what clues can we discover about this ultimate genesis of everything? And can we ever know what existed before the Universe's birthday? With stunning animation based on space telescope images, NOVA explores infant galaxies filled with violent blue stars that formed just a few hundred million years after the Big Bang. Before that -- before the coming of visible light itself -- stretch the "cosmic Dark Ages." But scientists haven't stopped there; instead, they've come up with an incredible theory for what happened billions of a billionth of a second from the universe's birth. If they're right, we're on the brink of understanding more than we could ever have hoped about our cosmic origins.

Above: The Cosmic Microwave Background as seen from the Planck satellite. Credit: ESA https://www.esa.int/ESA_Multimedia/Images/2013/03/Planck_CMB

Image: "Klein bottle made with gnuplot 4.0," (GNU free documentation license), from the Wikipedia inflation article. The Wikipedia Klein bottle article explains, "The Klein bottle was first described in 1882 by the German mathematician Felix Klein." The inflation article states that the universe might be flat, linking in part to this quote, "In a universe with zero curvature, the local geometry is flat. The most obvious global structure is that of Euclidean space, which is infinite in extent. Flat universes that are finite in extent include the torus and Klein bottle." See the construction section of the Klein bottle article.