

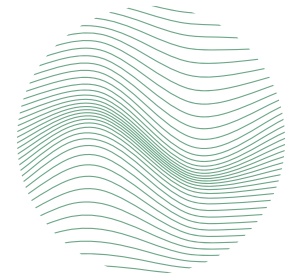
# **GBC WRAPPED**

## **2023-2024 YEAR IN REVIEW**

### **GREEN BUSINESS CLUB AT COLUMBIA BUSINESS SCHOOL**



# BUILDING CAREERS IN CLIMATE AND SUSTAINABILITY



The Green Business Club had a standout year, reflecting the strong and growing commitment to sustainability of the Columbia Business School student body. This past year, our membership increased by 40%, reaching nearly 300 members. We planned dozens of events with top speakers from industry, academia, & policy, took two amazing treks to Colorado and the ClimateCAP MBA summit in Ann Arbor, got some *amazing* tote bags, and set a renewed focus on mentorship and our alumni community. We want to thank all of our amazing members, VPs, and AVPs, and the involvement of alumni and leading campus organizations like the Tamer Institute.

## What we focus on:

Renewable Energy &  
Sustainable Infrastructure

Circular Economy &  
Sustainable Fashion

Climate Tech  
VC & Startups

Industrial  
Decarbonization

Climate Finance &  
Impact Investing

Food & Agriculture

Built Environment

Mobility & EVs

Carbon Management

GBC works closely with other student clubs at Columbia including Retail & Luxury Goods, Energy & Infrastructure, Automotive Club, PE & VC Clubs, CEO, Real Estate Association, and more to build alignment on climate & sustainability trends across industries.

At CBS, climate has continued to grow as an industry and academic focus. We now have over 5 faculty members with climate & sustainability-focused courses, and are increasingly engaging in partnerships across programs like the Climate School, SIPA & CGEP, and the LEAP Center. In particular, the Tamer Institute and faculty lead Bruce Usher are at the center of CBS climate initiatives - developing highly valuable experiential learning experiences like the Three Cairns Fellowship and Climate Knowledge Initiative, and hosting the annual Climate Business & Investment Conference. We are so excited to keep building a network of MBA students with climate expertise & commitment to sustainability-focused roles in all sectors of the economy!

# CONVERSATIONS AROUND CLIMATE



**Climate of Change Speaker Series with Tamer Institute**  
Through this speaker series, GBC Co-President **Claudia Richardson** spoke to Under Armour's CSO Michael Levine about the evolving landscape of sustainability in fashion, and GBC VP **Patrick Lin** hosted an in-depth panel on Bridging Climate Tech Across the Atlantic.

**Addressing the Climate Crisis with Robert Habeck, German Vice-Chancellor & Former Leader of the German Green Party**  
Together with The Center for Advanced Technology and Human Performance and The Hub at CBS, GBC hosted a student-driven discussion on future European climate policy, moderated by Co-President **Chris Scanzoni**.



## **Charging Ahead or Stalling Out? Navigating Electric Vehicle Adoption Challenges**

In March, GBC AVP **Sam Praveen** co-hosted three alumni working across the EV & infrastructure landscape: Paul Luce, MD at Vision Ridge Partners ('13); Patrick Bydume, Director at BlackRock Climate Infrastructure ('09); and Michael Ritter, Corporate Finance Director at Vingroup US ('13).

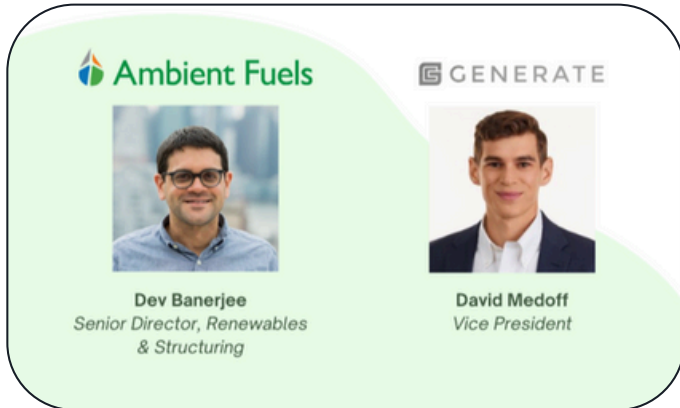


## **Circular Economy Industry Panels**

In the fall, GBC board member **Tom Cerenov** hosted Ron Gonen, founder and CEO of Closed Loop Partners, to discuss investing in the circular economy. This spring, Danielle Holly of Ellen MacArthur Foundation and Michael Hirschhorn of Mebl spoke about major trends in circular economy on a panel moderated by incoming GBC Co-President **Abby Trusler**.



# HEARING FROM PRACTITIONERS



## Virtual Climate Finance Case Study: Generate Capital & Ambient Fuels

Moderated by GBC VP **Dan Ioselevich**, this hands-on discussion featured voices from both sides of a climate VC investment in green hydrogen, including negotiation and determining culture fit.

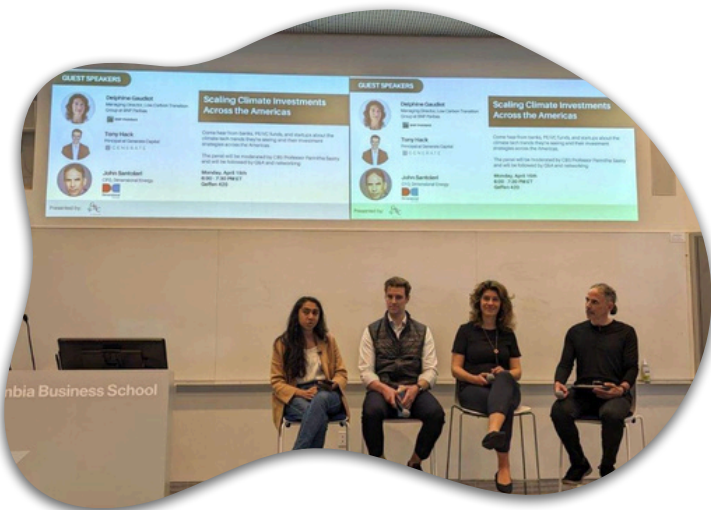
## Wendy De Wolf ('18), VC Renewables

In conversation with GBC VP **Dan Ioselevich**, Wendy De Wolf discussed challenges to renewables expansion in the US, drawing on her experiences building out renewable power generation assets at East Light Partners.



## Scaling Climate Investments Across the Americas

GBC hosted a panel moderated by CBS **Professor Parinitha Sastry**, with an in-depth discussion between Generate Capital MD and CBS alum Tony Hack, BNP Paribas Low-Carbon Advisory MD Delphine Gaudiot, and CFO of SAF startup Dimensional Energy John Santoleri. This panel covered everything from IRA policy to scaling waste-to-energy business models.



## Alleycon - Creating a Climate Safe Future

In the fall, GBC AVP **Isabella Todaro** brought together a rock-star panel at Alleycon on the climate tech & VC landscape - with CBS **Professor Gernot Wagner** hosting leaders from the DOE Loan Programs Office, Planeteer Capital, Collaborative Fund, and Google X.





# LEARNING BY DOING



## Career Panels with Alumni & Industry Partners like Climatebase

In both semesters, CBS alumni like Maneesh Sagar of RS Metrics & Kaitlin Butler of NY Green Bank spoke at panels on internships and full-time roles in sustainability. GBC also co-hosted a climate tech recruiting workshop with S2 Strategies, Nextwave Partners, & Climatebase.



## LionTank Student Climate Startup Pitch Events

Throughout the year, GBC hosted two startup pitch events featuring climate-focused founders at CBS and in the NYC area. These pitches were judged by local investors and highlighted the increasing focus on climate in the New York tech & innovation ecosystem.



## Pivotal180 Renewables Project Finance Modeling Bootcamp

Over 30 students attended a two-day hands-on training for solar & wind project finance modeling, with the same training platform used by major financial firms.



## Climate Crash Courses on Climate Science & Power Sector

GBC VP Patrick Lin provided extensive crash courses on key climate topics, which have been linked with the training modules provided by the career center to new students, and will be expanded into a GBC mini-curriculum next fall.



## Mentorship, 2nd-Year Panels, and Career AMAs

First and second-years continued to connect through mentorship pairs, hosting ask-me-anything conversations, internship panels, and thematic dinner pods on topics like Hydrogen, EVs, and Circular Economy.



## Case Competitions & Three Cairns Fellowship

Nearly 30 GBC members were involved in the Three Cairns Fellowship this year, working with clients like Accelerate Impact Group, BlackRock, BNP Paribas, Closed Loop Partners, Deloitte, Energize Capital, GrowNYC, HASI, NYCHA, TECA, Tomorrow.io, and the World Economic Forum. In addition, a CBS team placed third in the Kellogg-Morgan Stanley Sustainable Investing Challenge.

# TREKS & SOCIALS

## Fall Trek to Colorado



## Itinerary

- Office Visit to Vision Ridge Partners, Sustainable Infra Fund
- Startup Talk with Meati, mushroom-based alt protein
- Tortuga AgTech visit, harvest automation & ag robots startup
- Colorado Alumni Happy Hour

## Spring ClimateCap in Ann Arbor



## Dinner Pods

Hydrogen, Circular Economy, EVs



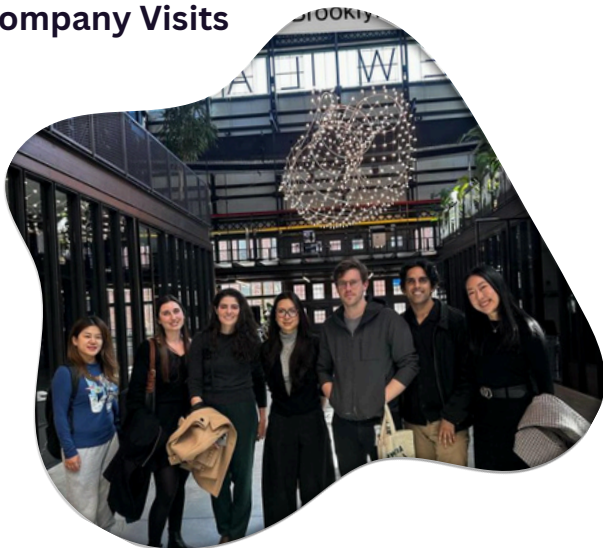
## Fall & Spring Welcome Socials





# GBC GATHERINGS

## Company Visits



TomTex, Blackhorn  
Ventures, Lucid Motors

## Tamer Fall Retreat at Talea BK



## Earth Week Tabling with Green Top Farms



## Alumni Happy Hours



## Volunteering at Bush Terminal Park



# NEXT YEAR'S BOARD

## Co-Presidents



Abby Trusler



Drew DiPrinzio

## VP of Finance



Briana Tully

## VPs of Careers

### Industry Partnerships & Events



Lucy Hanaway



Chhavi Maggu



Marc Weisglass

## VPs of Community

### Content & Engagement



Shivani Pandya



Jin Fan



Kristine Liao



Amit Pasupathy



Pim van der Voet

### Treks & Socials

## Education & Curriculum



Josh Thomas



Madeleine Futterman

## VPs of Partnerships & Events

### Cross-Columbia



JJ Kaufman

### NYC



Derek Cohen



Ellis Palmieri

### Industry Mentorship



Sam Praveen

### CMC & Alumni



Monica Yun

# GOALS FOR NEXT YEAR

## 1. NYC & Industry Involvement

Get more involved in the NY climate community, connecting to key newsletters like NY Climate Tech and Climate Tech Cocktails, and activate during major touchpoints like Climate Week. Maintain & grow the GBC community through alumni highlights on LinkedIn and Instagram, alumni mentor pairings, and happy hours.

## 2. Career Resources

Develop a recruiting playbook & educational curriculum for multiple sectors in green business. Increase industry-focused mentorship so that students can quickly find a community with similar interests and also expand into new areas. Develop more student-driven events like roundtables and hackathons where GBC members can develop applied skills for sustainability roles.

## 3. Columbia Climate Ecosystem

Work more in-sync with CBS programs including the Tamer Institute, Climate Knowledge Initiative, Open Climate Curriculum, and The Hub - as well as clubs like RLG, VCC, CEO, E&I, and more. Build cross-Columbia links with the Climate School, the Law School & Sabin Center, SIPA & CGEP, and the LEAP Center.



# THANK YOU!

# STAY IN THE LOOP

We cannot say thank you enough to the amazing people that made this year happen, including the outgoing GBC Co-Presidents Claudia Richardson and Chris Scanzoni, and the GBC 2Y VPs including Mike Shuster, Daniel Ioselevich, Tom Cerenov, Hannah Gropper, Dan Bowman, Mandy Mueller, Laura Correa-Ocampo, Patrick Lin, Caroline Kopf, Andrew Fradin, and Celia Hauw.

We are so lucky to work with the many incredible people at the Tamer Institute and the climate-aligned professors at CBS. And of course, so much learning came from the alumni and industry partners that took their time to share experiences, knowledge, and inspiration on how to build a career in climate & sustainability.

Finally, congrats to all graduating GBC members and good luck for what's to come!







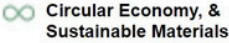













LinkedIn

Instagram

Website

CampusGroups  
(CBS Students Only)

## ALUM OR PROSPECTIVE STUDENT? WHAT'S YOUR SUSTAINABILITY SIGN? DROP US A LINE AT [GREEN@GSB.COLUMBIA.EDU](mailto:GREEN@GSB.COLUMBIA.EDU)

 Briana Tully	 Josh Thomas	 Madeleine Futterman	 Sam Praveen	 Monica Yun	 Lucy Hanaway	
 Chhavi Maggu	 Marc Weisglass	 Shivani Pandya	 Jin Fan	 Amit Pasupathy	 Kristine Liao	
 Pim van der Voet	 JJ Kaufman	 Derek Cohen	 Ellis Palmieri	 Abby Trusler	 Drew DiPrinzio	