The views and opinions expressed during this lecture are those of the speaker and do not necessarily represent the views of UC CCS.

New forms of data and analytics are transforming how researchers build knowledge and evaluate policies. In this talk we demonstrate the potential of big data and predictive analytics to help California innovate new policies. We examine how University of California academics in environmental, social, and economic disciplines are addressing the state's problems with data science research, as well as training the next generation of students with data science skills. We will also discuss the California Policy Lab model of partnership between researchers and policymakers to evaluate and improve public programs. The Policy Lab is helping agencies break down data silos and unlock previously unanswerable questions that are directly relevant to ongoing policymaking. We conclude with recommendations for how California's state agencies can foster more collaborations with university researchers.

Karen Chapple, Ph.D., is Chair and Professor of City and Regional Planning at the University of California, Berkeley, where she holds the Carmel P. Friesen Chair in Urban Studies. Chapple studies inequalities in the planning, development, and governance of regions in the U.S. and Latin America, with a focus on housing and economic development. Her recent books include Planning Sustainable Cities and Regions: Towards More Equitable Development (Routledge 2015, and winner of the John Friedmann Book Award); and Transit-Oriented Displacement or Community Dividends? Understanding the Effects of Smarter Growth on Communities (with Anastasia Loukaitou-Sideris, MIT Press, 2019). In Fall 2015, she co-founded the Urban Displacement Project, a research portal examining patterns of residential, commercial, and industrial displacement, as well as policy solutions. In 2015, Chapple’s work on climate change and tax policy won the UC-wide competition for the Bacon Public Lectureship, which promotes evidence-based public policy and creative thinking for the public good.

Evan White is the founding Executive Director of the California Policy Lab at UC Berkeley. His career in public service has been dedicated to synthesizing complex information to solve hard policy problems. Prior to joining CPL, he served as a Senior Advisor to Richard Cordray, the first Director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. During his tenure at CFPB, Evan led initiatives on a broad portfolio of issues ranging from fintech and consumer lending to debt collection and financial empowerment. Evan's expertise also centers on housing and discrimination policy and he served as Director of Fair Housing for Project Sentinel, northern California's largest fair housing nonprofit. Evan holds a joint degree in Law and Public Policy (JD/MPP) from UC Berkeley, during which he clerked for the California Supreme Court, the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice, and the White House Office of Management and Budget. He holds a BA in Political Science and Africana Studies from Vassar College.

For questions contact Brooke Miller-Jacobs at (916) 445-5161 or bmmillerjacobs@ucdavis.edu

Wednesday October 30th
12:00—1:00pm
UC Center Sacramento
1130 K Street
Room LL 22
Sac, CA 95814

Register by: October 23rd at: uccs.ucdavis.edu

Lunch will be served