

The La Kretz Garden Pavilion was home to the closing event for the IoES Corporate Partners Program. Speakers from Microsoft, CBRE, Equinix and Southern California Edison shared their insight on sustainability and led roundtable discussions with participants.

The Corporate Partners Program prides itself on facilitating conversations on sustainability. Our roundtable discussion format allows participants and speakers alike to share their expertise and learn from one another. It is impossible to capture these conversations in a summary but highlights from the speaker presentations are recounted below.



Jay Madden, Senior Engineer with Southern California Edison, presented on how energy generation and storage is evolving. Solar energy has become so successful in southern California that we over-generate and so now we need build more battery infrastructure. SCE is working with residential and commercial sector partners to make this a reality--- helping to support its **goal of providing 80% renewable energy**.

Dave Pogue, Global Director of Corporate Responsibility at CBRE talked about how sustainability in the built environment has exploded in recent decades. CBRE administers a grant program to support academic research on sustainability. They allow academics to use real-time, actionable data which come out of their many buildings. One project built the **Green Building Adoption Index**, studying how broadly green building certifications are being spread around the country. From 2005-2014, the **commercial square-footage that had a certification rose from 5% of the market to more than 40%**. "The building industry moved" --big companies are demanding sustainability.

Jim Hanna, Director of Datacenter Sustainability at Microsoft, talked about his green building journey and how he's been changing minds along the way. He emphasized how sustainability professionals should **"apply the lens of scale"** to amplify their sustainability work beyond the footprint of their own companies.



Dave Rinard, Senior Director for Global Sustainability and Strategic Sourcing at Equinix, discussed how the consolidation of data centers to the cloud puts them in a "place of power" where they can drive change at scale. They can demand renewable energy and a green utility grid. **Data centers consume 2% of the global electric grid**. This presents a great opportunity; Equinix has taken a leadership role and **established a goal of 100% renewable energy**, helping their clients meet similar targets too.

The event closed with rapid presentations from the Corporate Partners Program **student research teams**. This year their work focused on:

- Biophilic design for offices
- A new evaluation methodology for sourcing sustainable office furnishings
- Analysis of benefits of open concept offices
- Water and energy conservation savings techniques for small commercial buildings

