

2025 OLLI Fall Symposium

Global and Regional Water Issues: Challenges & Solutions



Water is one of the most critical resources for sustaining life, agriculture, and economic development. Challenges such as scarcity, pollution, climate change, and equitable distribution continue to threaten water security worldwide and right here in Nebraska.

This symposium will begin with an overview of global water issues. Then, the focus will move to a more regional approach, with presentations and discussions exploring such topics as groundwater depletion, agricultural runoff, and the sustainability of the Ogallala Aquifer.

Experts will examine policies, conservation strategies, and scientific advancements aimed at securing water resources for future generations. This event is essential for researchers, farmers, policy makers, and anyone concerned about water's role in shaping the future of our environment and economy.

Registration Deadline: Thu, Sep 11. **Cancellation after this deadline is non-refundable unless cancelled by UNL or OLLI.**

Register for one format.

CON 106L

Location: Great Plains Ballroom, UNL East Campus Union. *No parking permit is required*

Enrollment Limit: 250

Cost: \$20 includes lunch. Contact the OLLI office if you have dietary needs.

CON106Z

Location: Zoom Live Stream

Enrollment Limit: 100

Cost: \$15

Registration is required.

Register online:

<https://www.campusce.net/unllolli/Course/Course.aspx?c=893>

Click "Sign In" at the top, then Login or Create New Account

Register by phone.

Call the OLLI office at 402-472-6265



Saturday, September 27, 2025

East Campus Union, Great Plains Ballroom, UNL

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

8:30 am - Doors Open

9:00 am - Welcome

9:15 am – Water 2.0

Jaehyang So – Keynote – Chair, Technical Committee Global Water Partnership, Washington, DC; Stockholm, Sweden

10:00 am - Questions and Answers

10:10 am - Break

10:20 am – Understanding & Assessing Climate Change: Preparing for Nebraska's Future

Deborah Bathke – Climate Scientist, and State Climatologist, School of Natural Resources, University of Nebraska

11:05 am - Questions and Answers

11:15 am – Lunch Break

12:00 pm – Nebraska Water Issues – Panel

Dr. Chittaranjan Ray – Chair, Nebraska Water Center; Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute at the University of Nebraska

Katie Cameron – Hydrogeologist, Lower Platte South Natural Resources District

Dan Snow – Director of Laboratory Services, Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute

Marty Stange – Environmental Supervisor, City of Hastings (NE) Utilities (Retired)

Anthony Schutz – Professor of Agricultural Law, University of Nebraska - Lincoln

1:15 pm - Break

1:25 pm – Platte Basin Timelapse Project

Ethan Freese – Producer/Photographer, UNL School of Natural Resources

2:10 pm – Questions and Answers

2:20 pm - Closing Remarks – Conclusion

**Jaehyang So**

Jaehyang (“Jae”) So is the chair of the TEC (Technical Committee) and member of the Steering Committee of the Global Water Partnership, a global action network

with over 2,800 partner organizations in 179 countries working towards a water secure world.

**Kathleen Cameron**

Kathleen Cameron is a survey hydrogeologist and the Eastern Nebraska Water Resources assessment coordinator at the Lower Platte South Natural

Resources District in Lincoln. She has also been a professional geologist since 2005.

**Deborah Bathke, Ph.D.**

Deborah Bathke is a climate scientist, research associate professor at UNL, and Nebraska's state climatologist since 2024.

**Ethan Freese**

Ethan Freese is a producer and photographer at the School of Natural Resources at UNL. He is the producer of the Platte Basin Timelapse project and is also passionate

about prairie conservation.

**Chittaranjan Ray, Ph.D.**

Chittaranjan Ray joined the leadership team of the Robert B. Daugherty Water for Food Institute as permanent director of the Nebraska Water Center in 2013. He

was a professor of civil engineering at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, where he was also interim director of the Water Resources Research Center.

**Dan Snow**

Dan Snow is a research professor in the School of Natural Resources, and director of laboratory services of the UNL Water Sciences Laboratory.

**Anthony Schutz, J.D.**

Anthony Schutz is the Associate Dean for Faculty and the Virginia Schmid Foundation Professor of Agricultural Law at UNL. He has been with the law school

for the last 25 years.

**Marty Stange**

Marty Stange recently retired after working 36 years as the environmental supervisor at Hastings Utilities in Hastings, Nebraska.

**A special thank you
to our event sponsors.**



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