

Fall 2026 Humboldt-ERFSA Luncheon Presentations

September 10, 2026: Ryan Aylward, NOAA Warning Coordination Meteorologist.

“El Niño—Just Hot Water.”

Discussion about El Niño—what it is and isn't—and how El Niño and the Southern Oscillation impact our local weather and climate.

<https://www.climate.us/>

<https://www.weather.gov/education/>

Introduction by Jeffry Borgeld

October 8, 2026: Cutcha Risling Baldy, Professor of Native American Studies,

2026 Outstanding Professor Award Recipient.

“Rou Dalagurr: Everyone Works Together - Indigenous Food Sovereignty & Community Resilience.”

A discussion exploring how the Rou Dalagurr Food Sovereignty Lab creates real-world solutions that support both people and the environment. Engaging sustainability, Indigenous leadership, climate action, or community-based research, this presentation highlights how everyone has a role to play in land management and decolonized futures. Come see how working together today can help shape a healthier future for generations to come.

<https://www.humboldt.edu/food-sovereignty>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7KypLkFLRNq>

https://www.canva.com/design/DAG5KD7tA1c/m1IfuRmeHhdtgb779Phh4A/view?utm_content=DAG5KD7tA1c&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link2&utm_source=uniquelinks&utm_id=hcc2e7a4b6d

Introduction by Kumi Watanabe-Schock

November 12, 2026: Dr. Justus Ortega, PhD., Dean of the College of Professional Studies, and Dr. Sarah Landis, PT, MS, DPT, Director of the Health and Medical Science Degree Program and Biomechanics Lab Manager

“Physical Balance and Fall Risk.”

The Cal Poly Humboldt Fall Risk Program is a collaborative community initiative that partners with local healthcare providers, senior centers, community organizations, and wellness programs to promote healthy aging and reduce fall risk among older adults. This presentation will highlight the impact of these partnerships, showcase ongoing research findings, and demonstrate how community engagement, experiential learning, and applied research come together to improve the lives of older adults while preparing for the next generation of healthcare professionals.

Introduction by Lou Ann Wieand

December 10, 2026: Christine Noel, Education Curator, Sequoia Park Zoo.

“Stories of Survival at the Sequoia Park Zoo.”

Sequoia Park Zoo provides a home to many non-releasable rehabilitated animals, including black bear, eagle and owls. Stories of zoo team survival and descriptions of the specialized care, husbandry and welfare practices that go into caring for these animals will be discussed. The Zoo's website is redwoodzoo.org. We are also accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), their website is aza.org.

Introduction by Susan Dobie