CALTECH’S EARTH WEEK
LUNCHTIME SPEAKER SERIES

Data Science for Water Sustainability

The Waterlog Project: 
A Web Application for Tracking Water Resources in LA County

A fundamental barrier to addressing the water needs in LA County is the access to data. While there exist databases that track and store water data, they are often slow, not user-friendly, and spread out across various different agencies. The Waterlog project is attempting to address this issue by creating an interface for anyone to access this data in a quick, scalable, and informative manner.

About Noah
Noah Olsman is a Ph.D. candidate in Control and Dynamical Systems at Caltech and a project manager for Seed Consulting Group. Seed is a volunteer organization that provides pro-bono consulting services to environmental and public health non-profits in Los Angeles, Orange County, and San Francisco. While working with Seed, Noah has worked on projects with clients including the Natural Resource Defense Council, Heal the Bay, and Caltech Facilities.

Developing a smart long-term water conservation framework for California

The California Data Collaborative brings together water utilities serving 3.7 million people to accelerate smart water efficiency statewide. This initiative is the first ever, public agency led, effort to centralize comprehensive customer level usage data and has already ingested over 1.8 billion records. California currently collects a variety of reported utility level water usage metrics through the State Water Resources Control Board conservation program (monthly averages since 2013), Department of Water Resources Urban Water Management Plan program (annual averages last updated in 2010), and the Clean Drinking Water program. Ultimately, however, water usage decisions are made at the customer level, and such granular data is necessary to effectively manage water demand across California.

About Patrick
Patrick has provided financial analytics support for the State Water Contractors on Governor Brown’s $13 billion Bay Delta fix. He has a Master’s degree from NYU’s Center for Urban Science and Progress.

Noon to 1:00 pm
Monday, April 18, 2016
Annenberg Auditorium (Room 105) | Caltech
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