



On October 17, 2024, the Bren School hosted its second Bren Alumni Corporate Sustainability Network (CSN) Summit with special recognition of **Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck**, as a benefit of membership in the Bren Council of Legal Advisors (CLA). The CSN Summit brings together a powerful network of professionals and academics to gain insight into the latest research, best practice, and thought-leadership on trending business and sustainability topics.



The event grew from 15 alumni CSN attendees in 2023 to 35, and the total attendees, including external audience friends, donors, students, faculty, and staff remained steady at around 70.

With valuable visibility and opportunities for participation as speakers/panelists, the 2024 CSN Summit also garnered renewed participation and support from Bank of America, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck (BHFS), and Rincon Consultants.

The day-long program was packed with content that included alumni-exclusive programming such as small group discussions, leadership lessons learned, discussions on collaboration and **ESG Regulations**, expertly presented by **Amy Steinfeld** plus public-facing panel discussions on key topics such as water and circularity that included Bren faculty, alumni, and external experts. Combined with the Annual Donor Reception, it successfully comingled key constituencies of the Bren School for a lively evening as well.



Feedback received from both alumni and external attendees of the 2024 CSN Summit was universally positive. Post-event CSN alumni survey results illustrate this:

- ~ Met or exceeded expectations, 100% (exceeded, 66.7%)
- ~ Very valuable or valuable, 100% (very valuable, 83.3%)
- ~ Every program section received 4 or more out of 5 stars

Other CSN Summit results to date include:

- New business relationship between an alumni-represented organization
- Interest from an alumni-represented utility to collaborate with UCSB Bren and Chemical Engineering faculty on energy innovation research
- Renewed support from an alumni-founded consultancy for two Summer Internships in Corporate Environmental Management
- Renewed support from Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck (BHFS) – **thank you very much!** – and Latham & Watkins for the next CSN Summit (***Save the Date December 4, 2025!***)
- Master's Group Project proposals
- A proposed Carbon Accounting Workshop hosted by alumni-represented companies to introduce students to leading platforms and potentially advance a discussion on the development of a "GAAP for Carbon Accounting"



With this and other successful virtual events, alumni CSN membership has grown organically from about 100 as of the 2023 CSN Summit to more than 160 today.

The Bren Alumni Corporate Sustainability Network (CSN) brings leaders from a variety of sectors together to dive into current topics, problems, and solutions in the corporate sustainability field in order to learn together, foster opportunities for collaboration, and to help Bren alumni and other stakeholders thrive and succeed in their roles as environmental leaders.

Thank you, **Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck** for your partnership in this effort.

