

society

## Fall 2015

## Sustainable Futures Speaker Series

Sarah Ray
"Can a Green University Serve
Underrepresented Students? Reconciling
Sustainability and Diversity at HSU"

Thursday, November 12 5:30pm-7:00pm Gist Hall 218



Sarah Jaquette Ray is Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies at Humboldt State University (HSU), where she also leads the Environmental Studies Program. She began at HSU in 2013, after four years leading the Geography and Environmental Studies program at University of Alaska Southeast. She received her PhD from University of Oregon in 2009 in Environmental Sciences. Studies, and Policy, with English as a focal department. Her research interests are environmental justice, identity and the cultural politics of nature, environmental humanities, ecocriticism, and critical human geography. Her book, The Ecological Other: Environmental Exclusion in American Culture (Arizona, 2013), explores the roots of environmentalism's inability to be welcoming to a wide variety of communities in the U.S., focusing on how these roots manifest in contemporary exclusions of immigrants, Native Americans, and people with disabilities. In this talk, Ray will bring these analyses to bear on the context of HSU's twin values of "sustainability" and "diversity." Ray will contend that achieving these goals will require reckoning with the broader historical tensions between environmentalism and social justice.

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