Contributions to the George L. and Helen B. Long Science, Technology, and Society Endowment in Natural Sciences may be made through the Office of Advancement at Pacific Lutheran University, 12180 Park Ave, Tacoma, WA 98447 or at plu.edu/ways-to-give or by contacting Lauralee Hagen (hagen@plu.edu or 253-535-7203).

If you would like more information and/or to receive email announcements of future Rachel Carson Lectures and other College of Natural Sciences events, please contact Christine Nicolai (nicolacs@plu.edu or 253-535-7400).

plu.edu/rachel-carson
253-535-7400

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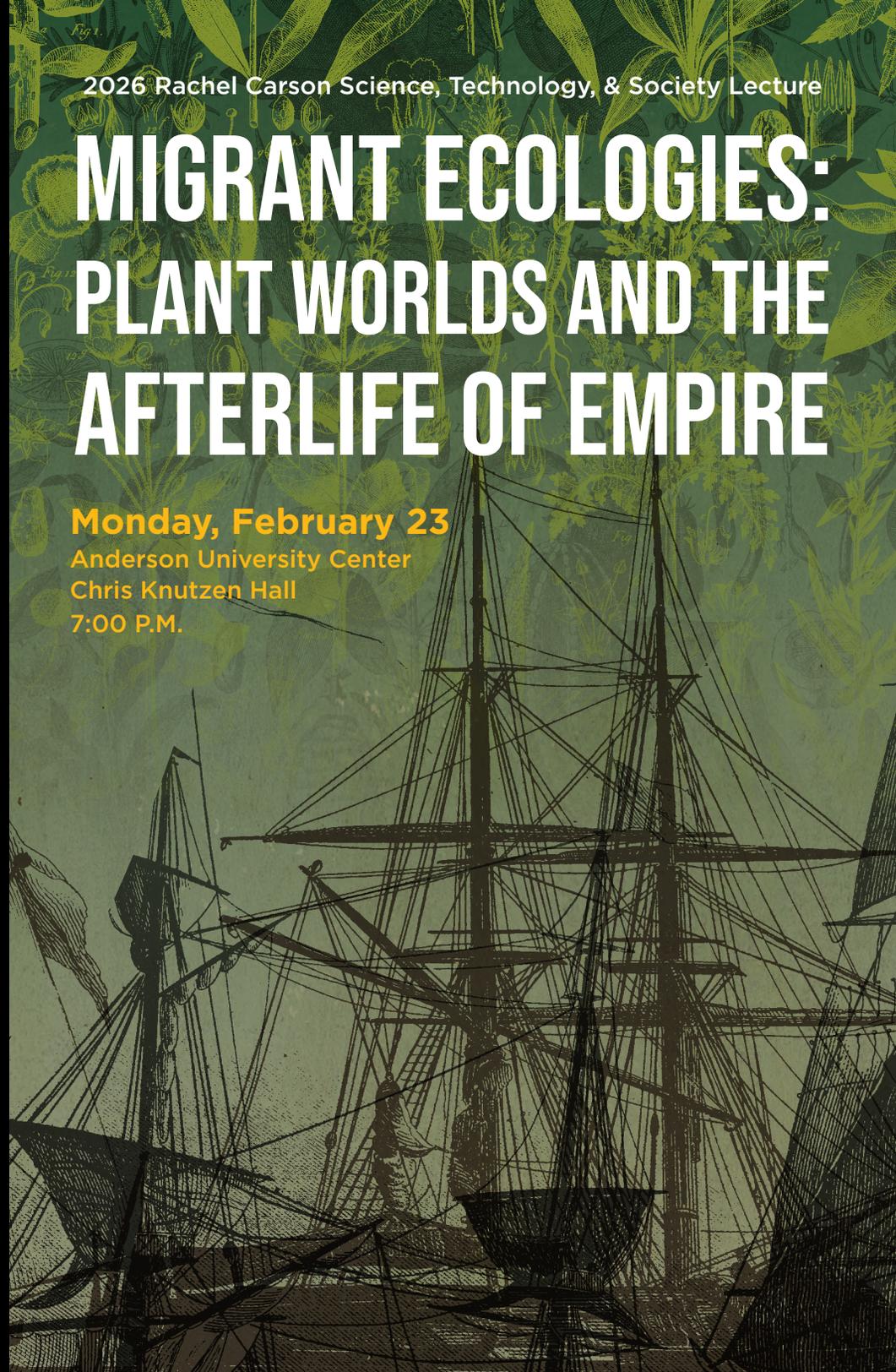2026 Rachel Carson Science, Technology, & Society Lecture

MIGRANT ECOLOGIES: PLANT WORLDS AND THE AFTERLIFE OF EMPIRE

Monday, February 23
Anderson University Center
Chris Knutzen Hall
7:00 P.M.

THE RACHEL CARSON LECTURE SERIES

This lecture series honors Carson's life long love for the natural world; her dedication to science, the environment, and care for all living things; and her tenacious spirit in the face of adversity.

FEATURED SPEAKER
DR. BANU SUBRAMANIAM

Dr. Banu Subramaniam, author and the Luella LaMer Professor of Women's and Gender Studies at Wellesley College, holds a Ph.D. from Duke University and is trained as an evolutionary biologist and plant scientist. Using tools from the humanities and social sciences, she explores the philosophy, history, and culture of the natural sciences and medicine as they relate to gender, race, ethnicity, and caste. Her recent research rethinks the field and practice of botany in relation to histories of colonialism and xenophobia and explores the wide travels of scientific theories, ideas, and concepts as they relate to migration and invasive species.

Dr. Subramaniam is the author of *Holy Science: The Biopolitics of Hindu Nationalism* (2019), for which she received the 2020 Michelle Kendrick Memorial Book Prize from the Society for Literature, Science & the Arts. She also wrote *Ghost Stories for Darwin: The Science of Variation and the Politics of Diversity* (2016), winner of the Ludwik Fleck Prize 2016 for an outstanding book across the breadth of science and technology studies. Her most recent book, *Botany of Empire: Plant Worlds and the Scientific Legacies of Colonialism,* was published by University of Washington Press in June 2024.

GEORGE (PLU '66) AND HELEN LONG

Dr. George Long graduated from Pacific Lutheran University in 1966 with degrees in both biology and chemistry. He received his Ph.D. in biochemistry from Brandeis University and he went on to teach and conduct research in chemistry and biochemistry at Pomona College, the University of Washington, and Eli Lilly and Company in Indianapolis. Now an Emeritus Professor of Biochemistry at the University of Vermont, Dr. Long served as Professor of Biochemistry in the College of Medicine from 1986 to 2006.

In 2002, Dr. Long was named National Inventor of the Year by the National Organization for Intellectual Property. He was elected to the Vermont Academy of Science and Technology in 2003 and was named a distinguished alumnus at Pacific Lutheran University in 2005.

Dr. Long is the proud father of five daughters. In 2000, George married Helen Seltstedt. Together George and Helen owned and operated a bed and breakfast for 13 years in Burlington, Vermont where they both remain very active in the community.

Together, the Longs enjoy gardening, bicycling, cooking, travel, and reading. They currently spend winters in Arizona. They also enjoy time and activities with their grandchildren.

Past Rachel Carson Science, Technology, and Society Lectures:

2017: Dr. Jim Anderson "Science and Politics of Global Climate Change"
2018: Dr. Pamela Ronald "The Case for Engineering Our Food"
2019: Dr. James McLurkin "The Future of Robotics Is Swarms"
2020: Dr. William Foege "Why to Avoid a Life Plan"
2022: Dr. Dayna Baumeister "(Re)Building a Thriving World Mentored by Nature's Genius"
2024: Dr. Bryn Nelson "From Revolting to Revolutionary: How Poop Has Transformed Science and Reshaped The World"