

Indra R. Bishnoi, PhD

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Summary of Qualifications

- Youth leader with a vested interest in environmental sustainability.
- 6 years of experience spearheading sustainability initiatives and consulting on institution plans for strategic and sustainable development.
- 6 years of experience in attracting individuals of all ages to science, with a focus on environmental neuroscience and the transition to a green economy.

Professional Experience

Assistant Professor (Term Appointments), Western University 2023 – Present

- Create and deliver lectures, hands-on tutorials, and assessments to 60+ undergraduate students on neuropsychology topics, including the links between climate change and mental health, environmental neuroethics, and artificial intelligence.
- I empower students for their future careers in psychology, neuroscience, law, and business. Supported their efforts through 10+ reference letters.

Founder, Jeo by Indra 2021 – Present

- Creating a clothing brand that showcases sustainable materials and practices for South Asian wear.
- Communicating current climate news and science over social media, attracting youth to close the science-action gap. Topics include energy usage for clothing (from raw materials to waste), indigenous perspectives on animal protection and conservation, and the journey to a circular economy in fashion.
- Recognized as a leader in eco-fashion through a Youth Green Leader Award by Green Economy London and London Environmental Network. Invited by Let's Talk Science as a panelist for Curious Careers: Climate Changemakers and honoured as a Clothing4Climate Changemaker. Led a Sustainable Shopping Workshop and was invited as a panelist for Steps Towards a Sustainable Lifestyle by Huron College and WaterAid.

Designate, President's Advisory Committee on Environment & Sustainability (PACES) 2020 – Present

- Advising the Vice-Presidents, Provost, and other executives on leadership in energy and environmental design (LEED) certified green building plans, procurement, waste management, in/divestment, transition to renewables (e.g., geothermal), and more to achieve Western University's strategic plan.
- Spearheading initiatives to get students excited about Western University's accomplishments and engaging with students to turn their hopes for the future into our actions today.
- Our collaborative work led to Western University's rise in the Times Higher Education sustainable development rankings, from 26th in 2020 to 9th in 2024, based on the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs).

Laboratory Manager, Western University 2018 – 2023

- Emphasized sustainability in procurement and waste management. Worked with PACES to create a catalogue for sustainable alternatives on the university-wide procurement portal. Created an open-access guide to university and city-wide regulations on garbage, blue bin, and green bin items.
- Ensured the safety of personnel and functionality of the laboratory by managing \$334,000+ of Canadian government funding, independent of my research funding.

Doctoral Researcher, Western University 2018 – 2023

- Designed 2 new technologies to execute a 5-year research program on the effects of contextual environment on disgust responses in mammals.
- Communicated with scientific and lay audiences as a subject matter expert through 15 research publications, 2 stories, and 30+ presentations to audiences of 2-1000+.

- Mentored 22 students and worked with 2 supervisors and 6 advisors to successfully complete 9 independent projects and 26 collaborative projects.
- Research excellence supported by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC, \$122,500), along with additional research funding (\$15,500), and \$1200 for innovation and leadership in environmental sustainability.

Chair, Sustainability Committee of the Society of Graduate Students 2019 – 2021

- Streamlined our workflow as a Member (2018-2019) by creating subteams with well-defined responsibilities, a structure that remains effective today. This contribution significantly increased the committee's output and led to my election as Chair.
- Led the first climate emergency declaration at Western University, in solidarity with London, Ontario. Consulted graduate students through a sustainability survey and the UN SDGs to create the declaration. Ensured that the declaration was actionable by consulting the University's budgets and sustainable development plans.
- Engaged with students on campus, in addition to individuals in the London community, to create outreach programs to support city-wide environmental sustainability.
- Our initiatives were recognized by Science Rendezvous through an Innovation Showcase.

London Chapter Organizer, Canadian Association for Girls in Science 2018 – 2019

- Created and hosted events for girls aged 7-16 to promote, educate, and build confidence regarding current topics in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Topics included the chemistry of soap, exploring underwater life through fossils, and town planning.

Education

Ph.D. in Neuroscience, Western University	2018-2023
B.A. Honours Double Major in Psychology and Sociology, Western University	2013-2018