

Highlighted Sessions by Professional Practice Network

September 16–18, 2026 · Los Angeles, CA

Rural Practice PPN

Focus: Rural contexts, agricultural landscapes, indigenous territories.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

THUR-C08

Climate Resilient Rural Self-sufficiency: Lessons from California's Only Black Freedom Colony

Thursday, September 17, 2026 | 2:15 PM - 3:30 PM PT

Founded in 1908 as California's first Black town, Allensworth now confronts severe environmental and climate injustice. Co-led with the Allensworth Progressive Association, this session examines equity-driven rural planning/design centered on community governance, cultural history, water justice, regenerative agriculture, infrastructural security. Learn how landscape architects can partner to repair systemic harm.

1.25 PDH [View Session Details →](#)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

FRI-A01

Designing Food as Landscape Infrastructure

Friday, September 18, 2026 | 9:00 AM - 10:15 AM PT

This session reframes food systems as essential landscape infrastructure. Through global examples and practice-based perspectives, panelists examine how agriculture and stewardship support biodiversity, soil health, and territorial planning. The discussion positions productive landscapes as design drivers, offering frameworks to integrate food systems into master planning and public realm strategies.

1.25 PDH [View Session Details →](#)

FRI-A05

Indigenous Stewardship Guiding Relational Design Practice

Friday, September 18, 2026 | 9:00 AM - 10:15 AM PT

On land returned to Indigenous stewardship in Nebraska, an Indigenous-led non-profit organization guides restoration through value systems of Lakota and Dakota Culture and Lifeways. A university design studio learned to begin with listening, seeing land as living relative. This session shares how worldview reshapes site analysis, design, and stewardship practice.

1.25 PDH [View Session Details →](#)

FRI-D06

'Parques' Are Not Parks: Challenging Linguistic Bias and Erasure in Design Practice

Friday, September 18, 2026 | 3:00 PM - 4:15 PM PT

When we treat "Parques" as a literal translation of "Parks," we erase the testimonio (lived lessons), convivencia (coexistence), and Indigenous stewardship that shape how communities inhabit space. Led by two immigrant designers, this session unpacks linguistic bias in landscape architecture and offers tools for language justice and reparative design.

1.25 PDH [View Session Details →](#)