

FEBRUARY 2020

University of Connecticut Net Impact Graduate Chapter

The official monthly newsletter

Mambacita is forever a Husky

NBA legend Kobe Bryant and his 13-year-old daughter, Gianna "Gigi" Bryant, died in a helicopter crash along with seven others in Calabasas, California, January 26th. Dubbed "Mambacita" after her father's nickname "Black Mamba," Gigi spent much of her childhood watching her father dominate the NBA and aspired to follow in his footsteps. She wanted to play in the WNBA someday, but she was "hellbent" on playing college ball for Geno Auriemma's UConn Huskies first, according to her dad. Just one day after the Bryants' fatal accident, the Huskies hosted the US Women's National Team for a scrimmage as part of its pre-Olympics tour. And prior to tipoff, UConn honored Gigi with by draping a No. 2 jersey — the number she wore with her AAU team — over the back of its bench and placing a bouquet of flowers on the seat.



It was an emotional night for many of the players and staff on hand. Kobe was an outspoken supporter of the women's game and the WNBA and had a personal relationship with many of the stars who laced up for Team USA.

Reference : <https://www.businessinsider.com/uconn-huskies-honor-gigi-bryant-during-team-usa-game-2020-1>

The act of “Giving Back”



The moral motivations for making sustainability a number one business priority is obvious – if we want to save the planet and reverse the impact of climate change, businesses cannot continue to operate as they have been doing. Between 2001 and 2018, climate researchers logged sixteen of the hottest years on record, natural disasters (including wildfires and flooding) are on the rise, and it's predicted that the Arctic Ocean will be ice-free by the middle of this century.

Fortunately, companies today no longer need to choose between profit-making and do-gooding, because sustainability makes real business sense.

In fact, it's proven that green organizations grow faster than their non-eco-conscious counterparts.

To read more about how to make your business more sustainable in 2020:

<https://www.thomasnet.com/insights/how-to-make-your-business-more-sustainable-in-2020-new-year-s-resolution-series/>

The Australian Fires Are a Prelude to Our Climate Suffering



The climate denialism of the rich and powerful is increasing the suffering of the poor and marginalized communities. The harrowing and apocalyptic scenes coming out of Australia are only the beginning of a new normal in which climate change will result in climate apartheid. Those with the means and the resources will leave climate catastrophe zones or otherwise protect themselves from the worst effects of climate change, while poor communities and nations of the Global South, indigenous people and people of color will bear the brunt.

It will be a long hot summer in Australia. Fires of almost biblical proportions have swept across the country, devastating land, property and wildlife. More than 30 people have been killed, a billion animals have died, and more than 3,000 homes have been burned down. The cost of the bushfires has been estimated at \$2bn and could climb even further.

Although heavy rain and lower temperatures this month have helped put out some fires, the threat of the blaze coming back is still imminent.

Read the full Article here:

<https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/australia-fires-portend-future-climate-apartheid-200126155118129.html>

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