



ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIOLOGY NEWS

Newsletter of the American Sociological Association’s
Section on Environmental Sociology

Summer 2022

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SECTION CHAIR’S MESSAGE

This is my last newsletter as Chair of the section. In September I’ll move into the Past-Chair position and Sandy Marquart-Pyatt will become Chair. It’s been a busy year for our section with several Theory & Community Cafés organized by CRIEJ in the fall and spring and a virtual teaching event this past April. The pandemic ruined our plans to see each other in person, but we’ve managed to keep the section alive with online activities that fall outside the usual August meeting window. Our section council and CRIEJ get all the credit for this. They’re a creative and energetic group of people and I’ll miss working with them.

This summer many of us will descend upon Los Angeles for the **ASA meetings**. I’m excited to meet new members and see many of you again! Mark August 6th on your calendars, as this is our section day. Inside the newsletter you’ll find our program,

which was organized by Sandy Marquart-Pyatt. Thanks to Sandy we have three exciting paper sessions and a fantastic set of roundtable presentations. Our section business meeting is open to all and will be held right after the roundtables on Saturday morning. Join us at 7pm on Saturday evening at the Arts District Brewing Company (828 Traction Ave) for a reception and awards ceremony. We’re sharing the reception with the Section on the Sociology of Development, thanks to the good work of our treasurer, Amalia Leguizamón. On Sunday at noon, be sure to also attend the Environmental Sociology regular session organized by Camila Huerta Alvarez (UC Merced).

I invite you to sign up to be a **mentor or mentee this August**. Our student representative (now Assistant Professor at University of Buffalo) Lourdes Vera is organizing these and we’ve shared a sign-up form via the listserv. If you won’t be in L.A. but want to be a mentor/mentee, Lourdes will

try to arrange for some virtual mentoring sessions as well. If you did not get the email but want to volunteer, you can reach Lourdes at: avera@buffalo.edu. In this edition of our newsletter, Lourdes has written a beautiful **reflection on mentorship** that highlights how good mentorship can lead to a new academic culture, one that stops perpetuating the norm of overwork that is so common within academia. She also reflects on how mentorship can undermine the structural factors that contribute to imposter syndrome.

In your email you'll find a request from me to read **a proposal to change some of our award names** and to fill out a brief survey sharing your thoughts about such a change. Several of our ASA section awards are named for founding and highly regarded former members of our section. Because our section continues to grow and welcome new scholars and theoretical perspectives from diverse backgrounds and experiences, our section council is proposing to rename the awards to reflect the purpose of the award rather than the legacy of an individual. This proposal is the result of several months of discussions and deliberations among council members. This change would require a bylaw change, so this survey is meant to collect feedback before we move to put it on the ballot in 2023. Please let us know what you think. If you didn't get this email, contact me at: norah.mackendrick@rutgers.edu and I'll send you the survey. It closes on August 1st.

Know that if the proposal is successful, we will continue to honor these individuals as part of reviving our **Legacy Chair position**. The legacy chair's job is to archive materials to honor influential and important scholars and activists who have been part of our section, including people who fell under our collective radar in past decades and were never properly recognized. This work will take some time, of course. I'm so pleased to welcome Scott Frickel as our new Legacy Chair who will get things started. I extend a huge thank you to Jordan Fox Besek and Jill Lindsey Harrison for motivating us to get the Legacy Chair position re-instated.

Speaking of new people, we have several **new council members** coming on board in mid-

August. You'll find the full list inside the newsletter. **Several folks are moving on as their terms come to an end.** I want to thank Jordan Fox Besek, Michelle Edwards, Sara Grineski, Tim Haney, John Chung-En Liu, Jessie Luna, and Rachael Shwom for all of the work and service to the section.

After the ASA meetings, we'll have a chance to join together virtually on the 14 and 15th of October when our section co-hosts a global, virtual conference with the International Sociological Association's RC24 (Environment & Society). The conference title is **Navigating Uncertain Futures: Social Engagement and Transformative Change in Global Socio-Ecological Systems**. Debra Davidson, President of the RC24 and incoming Chair-Elect of our section, approached me this winter with this idea and has been a driving force for getting it off the ground. Several members of both associations have since stepped up to help organize it and these are Rolf Lidskog, Devparna Roy, Alissa Cordner, Angeline Letourneau, and Stewart Lockie. Abstracts are due at the end of July. A full announcement can be found in the newsletter. Attendance will be free and open to ASA and ISA members.

Norah MacKendrick
Chair, Environmental Sociology
Section of the American
Sociological Association
Associate Professor,
Department of Sociology
Rutgers University



CALLS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome New Section Council Members:

We have 9 new people joining council in mid-August. Thank you for offering your time to the section!

- Chair-Elect: Debra Davidson, University of Alberta
- Legacy Chair (2-year term): Scott Frickel, Brown University
- Council Member-at-Large (2-year term): Michael Warren Murphy, University of Pittsburgh
- Nominations Committee Chair (2-year term): Cameron T. Whitley, Western Washington University
- Publications Committee Chair (2-year term): Michael Haedicke, University of Maine
- Policy and Research Committee Chair (2-year term): Nikhil Deb, Murray State University
- Digital Communications Co-Chair (Webmaster) (2-year term): Michael Lengefeld, Widener University
- Digital Communications Co-Chair (social media) (2-year term): Christina Ergas, University of Tennessee
- Graduate Student Representatives (2-year term): Margaret Walkover, University of Hawai'i - Manoa

ASA 2022: Environmental Sociology Section Schedule

ROUNDTABLES

Saturday, August 6th, 8:00-9:00am
JW Marriott, Floor: Gold Level, Gold Salon 3
Organizer: Sandy Marquart-Pyatt, Michigan State University

Table 1. Spaces and Places: Environment in Neighborhoods and Municipalities

Table Presider: Jessica Moulite, Howard University

"Sak Pasé? Bias, Wi": Examining the Environmental Impacts of Data Bias on Miami's Little Haiti Neighborhood. Jessica Moulite, Howard University

Brownfields and green spaces: Neighborhood change and urban park access in a post-industrial city. Jonathan Tollefson, Brown University; Summer Gonsalves, Brown University

"How Will This Affect Our Credit Rating?": Municipal Debt and Governing the Environment. Christopher Wayne Gibson, California State University-Fullerton

Table 2. Place, Identity, and Experience

Table Presider: Michelle L. Edwards, Texas State University

Land Means the World: Narratives of Place at Bears Ears National Monument. Amanda Vel Ricketts

Lions and Tigers and Malthus, oh my! Racialized nature and naturalized race at the Denver Zoo. Jessie K Luna, Colorado State University

The Experiences of People Who Are Not Incarcerated in Prison-based Environmental Programs. Hannah Edwards; Michelle L. Edwards, Texas State University

Boundaries or Bourdieu? "Naturalist" and "environmentalist" identities at an urban nature centre. Tyler J. Bateman

Table 3. Water, Science, and Communities

Table Presider: Jennifer S. Carrera, Michigan State University

Community Science as Resistance to Neoliberal Scientific Praxis. Jennifer S. Carrera, Michigan State University. Sarah Bailey, Bridges into the Future, Flint, MI; Ronnie Wiggins, HQLM Vision Center, Flint, MI; Cynthia Watkins, The Well international ministries flint resident; Laura Sullivan, Kettering University; Melissa Mays, Water You Fighting For? and Flint Rising; Kent Key, Community Based Organization Partners

Tapped Out: Media Coverage of Water Shutoffs in the United States. Laura Senier, Northeastern University; Ramya Kumar, Northeastern

University Daniel R. Alvord, Bucknell University; Matthew Canary; Liz Marie Mariluz

“It Gives Us Power”: Gendered Discourses in Pro-Environmental Behavior and Citizen Science. Jaime McCauley, Coastal Carolina University; Krystina Millar, Indiana University

Social Determinates of Urban Water Conservation. Joseph M. Simpson, Texas A&M University-San Antonio

Table 4. Environmental Justice: Policy, Cooptation, and Culture

Table Presider: Christina A. Ergas, University of Tennessee-Knoxville

Attending to Silencing Discourses in Environmental Justice Policy Implementation. Maya Gabriela-Auiler Contreras, University of Colorado Boulder

Real Utopian Stories for the Climate Apocalypse. Christina A. Ergas, University of Tennessee-Knoxville

Beyond the State: Mutual Aid Networks as Transformative Environmental Justice. Rachel G. McKane, Brown University; Patrick Trent Greiner, Vanderbilt University; David Pellow, UC Santa Barbara

Environmental Justice for What? Toward a Social Theory of Cooptation in Environmental Politics. Brian Francis O'Neill, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Table 5. Weather and Disasters

Table Presider: Kevin Denilson Ramos, University of Utah

Winter Storm Uri as a Cascading Disaster: Inequities in power and piped water outages among metro-Texans. Sara Elizabeth Grineski, University of Utah; Timothy William Collins, University of Utah; Jayajit Chakraborty, University of Texas at El Paso; Eric Goodwin, University of Utah; Jacob Aun, University of Texas at El Paso; Kevin Denilson Ramos, University of Utah

Future Flooding Increases Unequal Exposure Risks to Relic Industrial Pollution. Thomas Marlow, New York University-Abu Dhabi; James R. Elliott, Rice University; Scott Frickel, Brown University

Washed Away: Natural Disasters, Residential Displacement, and Instability. Anthony Alex Priest, Rice University

Table 6. Risk and Disaster

Table Presider: Jordan Fox Besek, SUNY-Buffalo

A Syndemic Approach to Covid-19: Political and Ecological Perspectives on Bergamo's Disaster. Alexandra D'Angelo, University of Turin

Environmental Violence and Displacements in Coastal Bangladesh. M. Anwar Hossen, Dhaka University

An Ethnographic Study of the Holiday Farm Fire Disaster and the Survivors' Well-Being. Haisu Huang

False Reductions: Uncertainty, Strategic Ignorance, and Emergent Socio-Environmental Risk. Daniel Shtob, CUNY-Brooklyn College; Jordan Fox Besek, SUNY-Buffalo

Table 7. Public Opinion on Climate Change

Table Presider: Lawrence C. Hamilton, University of New Hampshire

Carbon Dependency, Social Capital, Political Orientation, Climate Change Vulnerability and American Public Response to Climate Change. Feng Hao, University of South Florida; Wanyun Shao; Jay Michaels

Irrelevant Policy Options Decrease Conservative Support for Renewable Energy. Thomas Marlow, New York University-Abu Dhabi; Kinga Reka Makovi, New York University

The Blue Marble Effect. Planetary Awareness and Climate Change Attitudes and Behaviors. Ion Bogdan Vasi, University of Iowa; Mario Paez-Arellano, University of Iowa

Ecological or financial motivations? Towards a class-based diversity in the embodied understanding of pro-environmental behavior. Robbe Geerts; Frederic Vandermoere, University of Antwerp; Stijn Oosterlynck

Table 8. Risk, Health, and Chemicals

Table Presider: Alissa Cordner, Whitman College

Firefighter Activism on PFAS Chemicals: Labor Leadership on Environmental Health. Alissa Cordner, Whitman College; Kira Mok, Northeastern University; Grace Poudrier, Northeastern University; Jennifer Ohayon, Silent Spring Institute; Ayesha Kahn, Nantucket PFAS Action Group; Jaime Honkawa, Nantucket PFAS Action Group; Phil Brown, Northeastern University

PFAS and chemical class consciousness: How definitions of a chemical class influence regulatory approaches. Jennifer Ohayon, Silent Spring Institute; Phil Brown, Northeastern University; Alissa Cordner, Whitman College; Grace Poudrier, Northeastern University; Miranda P. Dotson, Northeastern University; Kira Mok, Northeastern University; Lauren Richter, Rhode Island School of Design; Mya Heard, Northeastern University

Toxic Prisons and Environmental Injustice: Examining Variation in Chemical Exposure Risk in U.S. Prisons. Pierce Greenberg, Creighton University; Robert T. Perdue, Elon University

Table 9. Comparative Environmental Research

Table Presider: Jared Fitzgerald, Oklahoma State University

Working Hours and The Carbon Intensity of Wellbeing: A Sex-Specific Analysis Across US States, 2005-2018. Jared Fitzgerald, Oklahoma State University; Jennifer E. Givens, Utah State University; Michael D Briscoe, Colorado State University-Pueblo

The effect of a crisis: Investigating the relationship between the COVID-19 pandemic and environmental value. Rebecca Wardana, University of Graz

Values and Fish Consumption: A Reinterpretation and Examination of Postmaterialist Values in Context of Value-Belief-Norm Theory. Karen Xuan Zhang, University of Utah; Lazarus Adua, University of Utah; Brett Clark, University of Utah; Stefano B. Longo, North Carolina State University

Table 10. Cross-national Research

Table Presider: John M Shandra, Stony Brook University

Corrupting Ecologically Unequal Exchange? India, Palm Oil, and Forest Loss in a Cross-National Perspective. Jamie M Sommer, University of South Florida; Michael Restivo, SUNY Geneseo; John M Shandra, Stony Brook University

Table 11. Energy and Just Transitions

Table Presider: Dawn Harfmann, University of Oregon

“Democratising Global Governance, Regulating Transnational Corporations? 30 Years of Multi-Stakeholder Regulatory Initiatives, a Reckoning.” Sandra Adele Moog, University of Essex

Insights from the Grassroots: Building Bridges in the Energy Transition Movement. Dawn Harfmann, University of Oregon

Spatial Justice and Displaced Earth: (Small) Interventions. Lois Nguyen, Virginia Tech; Katrina Powell, Virginia Tech, Center for Refugee, Migrant, and Displacement Studies

Table 12. Sustainability and Energy

Table Presider: Markus Hadler, University of Graz (Austria)

Sustainability of the Steel industry in Belgium, China, and the United States. Markus Hadler, University of Graz (Austria); Michael Brenner-Fliesser; Ingrid Kaltenegger

Stunted Equity: The Limitations of Rigid Sustainability. Erin Heinz, University of Arizona

Maintenance and Disruption of Petro-Hegemony: The Line 3 Pipeline. Melissa Burrell, York University; Corrie Jane Grosse, College of Saint Benedict; Brigid Mark

Natural gas – friend or foe of the environment? Evaluating the framing contest over natural gas. Shawn Olson Hazboun, The Evergreen State College; Hilary Schaffer Boudet, Oregon State University

Table 13. Environmental Sociology and the Future

Table Presider: Debra J. Davidson, University of Alberta

Can Empathy Save Us? Human predispositions, social manifestations, and climate futures. Debra J. Davidson, University of Alberta

Addressing Environmental Problems: Toward a Fractal Model of Cooperation and Governance. Carrie McLachlin Leslie, University of Oklahoma; Thomas J. Burns, University of Oklahoma; Beth Schaefer Caniglia, Regis University

The New Great Transformation of the Earth System: Toward a New Environmental Sociology. Robert MacNeil Christie, California State University, Dominguez Hills

Table 14. Climate, Health, and Politics

Table Presider: Aaron M. McCright, Michigan State University

Climate ignorance and the political production of inertia. Vanessa Bowden, University of Newcastle, Australia; Daniel Nyberg, University of Newcastle, Australia; Christopher Wright, University of Sydney, Australia; Liv Hamilton, University of Newcastle, Australia; Randi Irwin, University of Newcastle, Australia

Uniting Demography and Social Movement Scholarship: How Protests Affect Transition into Marriage in Ethiopia. Liliana Andriano, University of Oxford; Effrosyni Charitopoulou, Collegio Carlo Alberto; Mathis Ebbinghaus

Table 15. Injustice, Governance, and Contexts

Table Presider: John Sonnett, University of Mississippi

The Cultural Production of Procedural Injustice. Max Chewinski, University of British Columbia

“We’re Still on That Treadmill”: Class Privilege, Reflexivity, and the Disruptive Potential of Permaculture. Timothy Haney, Mount Royal University; Aulora Morrow, Mount Royal University

Climate News and Media Formats: Comparing US Cable News and Newspapers. John Sonnett, University of Mississippi

Table 16. Urban-Environment Connections

Table Presider: Nicholas Tinoco

(Im)mobility aspiration formation in the wildland-urban interface: How wildfire shapes mobility preferences in Southern California. Nicholas Tinoco

Co-creating the Future: New Directions for Smart Socio-Technical Developments in Urbanised Environments. Katharina Fellnhofer, ETH Zurich; Margarita ANGELIDOU, University of Thessaloniki

Protest, Public Relations, and Policy Guardrailing in City Sustainability Politics. Selina R. Gallo-Cruz, College of the Holy Cross

Table 17. The Environment, People, and Movement

Table Presider: Amalia Leguizamon, Tulane University

Theorizing Settler Colonialism within Contemporary State Operations. Kindra Jesse De'Arman, University of Oregon

The feminization of politics: Women National Coordination of the Peasant Reserve Zones in Colombia. Aura Angelica Hernandez Cardenas, New School for Social Research

Social Drivers of Deforestation in the Mache-Chindul Ecological Reserve, Northwest Ecuador. Liat Perlin, Tulane University; Amalia Leguizamon, Tulane University; Jordan Karubian, Tulane University

ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIOLOGY BUSINESS MEETING

Saturday, August 6th, 9:00-9:30am
JW Marriott, Floor: Gold Level, Gold Salon 3
Meeting Chair: Norah MacKendrick, Rutgers University-New Brunswick
Meeting Organizer: Sandy Marquart-Pyatt, Michigan State University

NEW DIRECTIONS IN ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIOLOGY

Saturday, August 6th, 10:00-11:30am
LACC, Floor: Level 1, 153A

Organizer: Sandy Marquart-Pyatt, Michigan State University

Presider: Michelle L. Edwards, Texas State University

“We All Live in Bhopal”: Birth of a New Political Society for Social and Environmental Justice. Nikhil Deb, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

The Cyclical Whole: Year-round Island Residents’ Sense of Place. Elise Largesse, Boston College

A 19th Century Environmental Inequality Formation. Scott Frickel, Brown University; Jonathan Tollefson, Brown University

The Geography of Institutionalizing Delay: Evidence from Communication Strategies by Pro-Fracking Industry Groups. Edward T. Walker, University of California-Los Angeles; Ion Bogdan Vasi, University of Iowa

Rich kids of Europe? Social basis and strategic choices in the climate activism of FFF. Martin Portos, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain

CURRENT RESEARCH IN ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIOLOGY

Saturday, August 6th, 2:00-3:30pm
LACC, Floor: Level 1, 150B

Organizer: Sandy Marquart-Pyatt, Michigan State University

Presider: Feng Hao, University of South Florida

The Multiplicity of Impact: How Social Marginalization Turns Disasters into Focusing Events (For Some). Anthony Alex Priest, Rice University; James R. Elliott, Rice University

Obstacles to Women's Environmental Activism in Contaminated Communities. Landen Longest, North Carolina State University; Alison E. Adams, University of Florida; Thomas E. Shriver, North Carolina State University

Gentrification after Disaster: A Longitudinal Study of Climate Gentrification in Orleans Parish, 2000-2018. Shiyue Cui, University at Buffalo

Trumpism, climate and COVID: Social bases of the new science rejection. Lawrence C. Hamilton, University of New Hampshire

Refineries of Denial: A Case Study of the Koch Network. Michael Dreiling, University of Oregon; Yvonne Alexandra Braun, University of Oregon

ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIOLOGY I: OPEN TOPIC

Saturday, August 6th, 4:00-5:30pm
LACC, Floor: Level 1, 153A

Organizer: Sandy Marquart-Pyatt, Michigan State University

Presider: Debra Davidson, University of Alberta

A National Assessment of Environmental Cleanup Efforts on Closed Military Bases (BRAC sites). Camila Huerta Alvarez, University of California-Merced

How Effective are Local Adaptation Plans of Action (LAPAs) in Reducing Climate Vulnerability in Western Nepal?. Katrina Running, Idaho State University; Subash Pandey, Bard Graduate Programs in Sustainability

Gendered Leadership of Environmental Movement Organizations (EMOs). Samantha L Castonguay, Washington State University; Erik W. Johnson,

Washington State University; Julie A. Kmec,
Washington State University

Social Trust, Cultural Trust, and the Will to
Sacrifice for Environmental Protections. Joshua
Franklin Doyle, Purdue University

Examining demographic and environmental
predictors of urban agriculture in Ohio. Kelsey
Ryan-Simkins, Ohio State University

RECEPTION AND AWARDS CEREMONY

Saturday, August 6th, 7:00pm-9:00pm
Offsite at the Arts District Brewing Company (828
Traction Ave)

Join us for a relaxed social event and awards
ceremony. The section is also giving away free
drink tickets to the first 30 attendees (graduate
students and adjunct/non-tenure track faculty
only).

Upcoming conference: Navigating Uncertain Futures: Social Engagement and Transformative Change in Global Socio- Ecological Systems

The Research Committee on Environment and
Society (RC24) in the International Sociological
Association and the Section on Environmental
Sociology in the American Sociological Association
have joined together to offer a special virtual
conference to support global dialogues among
scholars in environmental sociology on the most
pressing issues for our discipline and our planet:
how to navigate climate futures. The event will
consist of an opening plenary session, three
asynchronous regional panel events to
accommodate regional time zones, and a closing
plenary session. The three regional panels will
each be facilitated by regional representatives and
will occur during the daytime hours on either
October 14 or 15 in the following regions:
North/South America, Europe/Africa, and
Asia/South Pacific.

To submit an abstract, visit the conference website
and scroll down: [http://navigating-
uncertainty2022.com/](http://navigating-uncertainty2022.com/). **The deadline for
abstracts is July 30th, 2022.**

Conference Organizing Committee Chairs: Debra
Davidson (President of the RC24 and incoming
Chair-Elect of ASA SES. University of Alberta,
Canada) and Norah MacKendrick (Chair, ASA SES,
Rutgers University, USA).

Organizing Committee Members: Rolf Lidskog
(Örebro University, Sweden), Devparna Roy
(Nazareth College, USA), Alissa Corder (Whitman
College, USA), Angeline Letourneau (University of
Alberta, Canada), and Stewart Lockie (James Cook
University, Australia).

2022 Schnaiberg Outstanding Book Award

The winner of the 2022 Schnaiberg Outstanding
Book Award is **Amalia Leguizamón** and her book
*Seeds of Power: Environmental Injustice and
Genetically Modified Soybeans in Argentina* (2020,
Duke University Press). Dr. Leguizamón is an
associate professor of sociology at Tulane
University. The book explores why Argentines
largely support genetically modified soy despite
the widespread damage it creates. The reviewers
were very positive about multiple aspects of this
book including its theoretical and empirical
contributions. As one reviewer stated, “not only
does this book make a singular contribution to
environmental sociology that opens the door to
new and important avenues for environmental
justice scholars, but there is also much of value
here for those interested in the political economy
of the world-system, social movements, global and
transnational sociology, and critical food studies.”

The honorable mention goes to **Colin Jerolmack**
and his book *Up to Heaven and Down to Hell:
Fracking, Freedom, and Community in an American
Town* (2021, Princeton University Press). Dr.
Jerolmack is a professor of sociology and
environmental studies at New York University. His
book explores the consequences of landowner
decisions to lease subsurface mineral estates to
petroleum companies. The reviewers ranked this
book very highly and felt it was deserving of
recognition. One reviewer remarked, “It is well-
written, at times witty. It has a pleasing density to
it and an ethnographic style that I am sure many
people, lay and scholars alike, will enjoy.”

A special thanks goes out to all the nominators who submitted books for the committee to review and to the review committee of Tariq Niazi, Angela Mertig, Jennifer Givens, Annabel Ipsen, Brian O'Neill and Sara Grineski.

2022 Olsen Student Paper Award

There were two co-winners for the 2022 Olsen Student Paper Award: Kristen Vinyeta and Daniel Driscoll. **Kristen Vinyeta** is a doctoral candidate from the University of Oregon. Her award winning paper is entitled "Under the guise of science: how the US Forest Service deployed settler colonial and racist logics to advance an unsubstantiated fire suppression agenda." The paper was published in *Environmental Sociology* in 2021. It examines United States Forest Service fire suppression discourse through the critical lens of settler colonial theory.

Daniel Driscoll is a doctoral candidate at the University of California at San Diego. His award winning paper is "Populism and Carbon Tax Justice: The Yellow Vest Movement in France," which was published in *Social Problems* in 2021. The paper uncovers how the Yellow Vest activists in France frame carbon taxation and climate change within their political struggle.

Thank-you to all the students and mentors who submitted outstanding student papers for consideration and to the review committee comprised of Michael Mendez, Joshua Basseches, Erik Johnson, John Briscoe, and Sara Grineski.

Fred Buttel Distinguished Contribution Award

David Pellow (University of California, Santa Barbara)

The Fred Buttel Distinguished Contribution Award committee consists of all current council members, including Norah MacKendrick, Sandy Marquart-Pyatt, Jennifer Carrera, Amalia Leguizamon, Jessie K. Luna, Lourdes Vera, Devparna Roy, Michelle L. Edwards, Timothy Haney, Sara E. Grineski, Steve Hoffman, Jordan Fox Besek, John Chung-En Liu, Alissa Cordner, with Rachael Shwom as Chair of the committee:

Teaching & Mentorship Award

Kristen Shorette (State University of New York at Stony Brook)

Teaching & Mentorship Award committee includes Janet Lorenzen (Chair of the Awards Committee) Alissa Cordner, Trina Running, Kevin Smiley, Pierce Greenberg, Natasha Miric, Matt Comi, Casey Mullen and Dalton Richardson.

How Mentorship Can Challenge Legacies of Oppression in Academia

Lourdes Vera
University of Buffalo

On the surface, mentorship seems like a politically neutral component of any profession. It is institutionalized in academia, for instance, through student advising and faculty mentorship programs, but junior scholars are left to seek out hidden avenues of mentorship on their own. Here, not all scholars receive equal treatment. For example, [a survey of 7,200 faculty members](#) conducted by the magazine Inside Higher Education found that 22% (more than 1/5) had at least one parent with a Ph.D. Merely growing up in an environment where advanced degrees are commonplace and having the support of family members who have also navigated academia and its “hidden curriculum” might instill a sense of confidence and know-how from the beginning as scholars embark on their careers. Alternately, first-generation and BIPOC scholars without such advantages often struggle with “impostor [or imposter] syndrome,” feeling like we do not belong in the academy and cannot possibly reach the exceptionally high standards we (and others) set for ourselves. Although disproportionately distributed, this syndrome affects academics across backgrounds, and some argue that most experience it to a degree.

While beginning to write my dissertation, I received an e-mail with a survey from Vanderbilt professor Ebony McGee who studies the experiences of underrepresented scholars, particularly in STEM fields. As I rated the degrees to which my experiences matched with particular statements, I noticed that some of the internal struggles I dealt with throughout my Ph.D. program were verbalized in this survey and incredibly specific to being an underrepresented scholar. This was a lightbulb moment in which, as C. Wright Mills phrased it, I saw my “personal troubles” as part of a larger “social problem.” Ultimately, McGee has concluded that [structural racism masquerades as impostor syndrome](#), which further places the onus on the scholar to find help

instead of directing attention towards changing the status quo.

While universities are gradually working towards diversifying their departments, something that can change more immediately is academic culture. Mentor/mentee relationships risk perpetuating toxic norms in academia such as pressure on students and junior faculty to over-work, reinforcement of hierarchies that silence already marginalized voices, and maintenance of the “hidden curriculum” of academia that many underrepresented scholars find themselves navigating with minimal support. Alternately, these relationships can be incredibly fruitful and, as previous ES section graduate representative Apollonya (Apple) Porcelli pointed out in her Fall 2019 ES newsletter article on the mentorship program, can challenge the very elements of inequity that I listed above.

How do we build a mentorship program that promotes diversity, equity, and inclusion? Candice Powell and her colleagues ([2013](#)) at UNC-Chapel Hill for instance have written about “micro-affirmations” (as opposed to micro-aggressions BIPOC students often face) in student advising including small gestures such as paying attention to each other, offering validating statements, building a friendly atmosphere, and recognizing achievements. In last year’s mentorship survey, one mentee described the outcome of what seemed like a relationship guided by such micro-affirmations: “I learn a lot from my engagement with my mentor. He is really the perfect fit. He always has time for me and for giving feedback on my drafts. His guidance has enriched my analytical skills.” Then, they pointed out that these characteristics contributed to a “change in paradigm.” While this describes a more involved relationship, some pairs just meet once or twice, at minimum expanding their networks beyond their institutions in what one participant called a “low-stakes opportunity.”

Since Jordan Fox Besek laid the foundation for the program in 2017, we have continuously refined and experimented with its structure according to yearly feedback and insights from participants.

Last year, we had 38 people participate and diversified participation by expanding outside the section to include individuals with relevant careers outside of academia and undergraduates. This year, I am working on orienting the program towards kindling relationships based on different amounts and types of experience as opposed to power differentials, for instance by introducing a

peer mentorship option and recognizing that mentees also have advice to offer their mentors. Going back to my initial statement that mentorship is not politically neutral, I hope this article has made the case that participating in this mentorship program can help foster anti-racism and overall anti-oppression in our section and field.

PUBLICATIONS

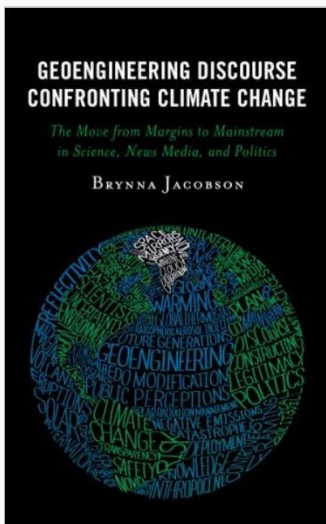
Books

Geoengineering Discourse Confronting Climate Change: The Move from Margins to Mainstream in Science, News Media, and Politics

Brynna Jacobson

Lexington Books

<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781793635297/Geoengineering-Discourse-Confronting-Climate-Change-The-Move-from-Margins-to-Mainstream-in-Science-News-Media-and-Politics>

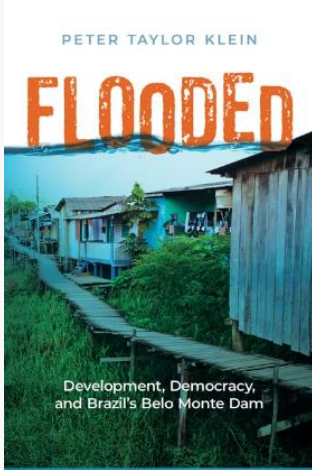


Geoengineering, the idea of addressing climate change through large-scale technological projects, stands out among contested technologies in the degree to which its scope of possibilities and its premise are characterized by global existential risks. Despite controversy, this field has been shifting toward mainstream consideration. *Geoengineering Discourse Confronting Climate Change: The Move from Margins to Mainstream in Science, News Media, and Politics* examines the trajectory of geoengineering through critical discourse analysis of three key genres: science policy reports, news journalism, and congressional hearings. Brynna Jacobson explores how reports from distinguished scientific societies have constructed certain notions of legitimacy around geoengineering, how narratives within news coverage have reflected and shaped the public discourse and understanding of geoengineering, and how geoengineering has garnered political support from both major political parties in the United States. Through analysis of discursive conventions within these genres, the author reveals the evolution of notions of normalcy, legitimacy, and imperative around the field of geoengineering.

Brynna Jacobson teaches as part-time faculty in the Department of Sociology at the University of San Francisco.

Flooded: Development, Democracy, and Brazil's Belo Monte Dam

Peter Taylor Klein



Rutgers University Press

<https://www.rutgersuniversitypress.org/flooded/9781978826120>

After governments ignored the negative effects of large-scale infrastructure projects for decades, democratic countries have begun introducing accompanying programs to alleviate harmful consequences for local people and the environment, to reduce poverty, and to promote participatory governance. This approach to development undoubtedly represents a step forward in responsible governing. But have these policies really worked?

Flooded provides insights into the little-known effects of these approaches through a close examination of Brazil's Belo Monte hydroelectric facility. After three decades of controversy over damming the Xingu River, a tributary of the Amazon, Belo Monte became the world's fourth largest dam when it was completed in 2019. Billions of dollars for social welfare programs accompanied

construction. Nonetheless, the dam brought extensive social, political, and environmental upheaval to the region. Klein tells the stories of dam-affected communities, including activists, social movements, non-governmental organizations, and public defenders and public prosecutors. He details how these groups, as well as government officials and representatives from private companies, negotiated the upheaval through protests, public forums for deliberation, legal mechanisms, and myriad other civic spaces. *Flooded* provides a rich ethnographic account of democracy and development in the making. In the midst of today's climate crisis, this book showcases the challenges and opportunities of meeting increasing demands for energy in equitable ways.

Peter Taylor Klein is Associate Professor of sociology and environmental and urban studies at Bard College.

The Continuing Storm: Learning from Katrina

Kai Erikson and Lori Peek

University of Texas Press <https://utpress.utexas.edu/books/erikson-peek-continuing-storm>



More than fifteen years later, Hurricane Katrina maintains a strong grip on the American imagination. The reason is not simply that Katrina was an event of enormous scale, although it certainly was by any measure one of the most damaging storms in American history. But, quite apart from its lethality and destructiveness, Katrina retains a place in living memory because it is one of the most telling disasters in our recent national experience, revealing important truths about our society and ourselves.

The final volume in the award-winning Katrina Bookshelf series, *The Continuing Storm*, reflects upon what we have learned about Katrina and about America. Kai Erikson and Lori Peek expand our view of the disaster by assessing its ongoing impact on individual lives and across the wide-ranging geographies where displaced New Orleanians landed after the storm. Such an expanded view, the

authors argue, is critical for understanding the human costs of catastrophe across time and space. Concluding with a broader examination of disasters in the years since Katrina—including COVID-19—*The Continuing Storm* is a sobering meditation on the duration of a catastrophe that continues to exact steep costs in human suffering.

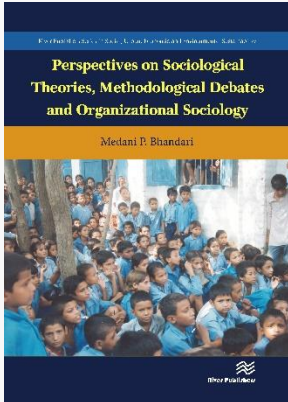
Kai Erikson is the Professor Emeritus of Sociology and American Studies at Yale University.

Lori Peek is Professor of sociology at the University of Colorado Boulder.

Medani Bhandari

River Publishers

https://www.riverpublishers.com/book_details.php?book_id=1014



This book stands as the full body of scholarly work on western theories of social sciences. The book contents three chapters. The first part gives the overall scenario of theories, the second part provides the pathway to research destination – the research method, and the third and final part is the destination of the substantive field of study and the roles of international organizations on social, political, economic, environmental regimes creation as well as to other social and development functions of international organizations.

Sociology examines the social actors' activities in society and social problems. Western Scholars have developed many social theories, which address the underlying causes such as social conflicts and inequalities, and many formal and informal social organizations are involved to minimize the challenges of inequalities. The study of social organizations is a relatively new phenomenon in sociology. Broadly its historical root can be traced from Greek civilization (Plato, Aristotle), and it has mostly flourished since the Enlightenment Era. However, empirical studies show that the scientific study of organizations began only from the 19th and 20th century. Among the scholars of these centuries, the contributions of Karl Marx, Ferdinand Tönnies, Émile Durkheim, Ludwig Gumplowicz, Vilfredo Pareto, Max Weber, and Talcott Parsons are considered as pillars of sociology.

This book intends to answer the broad and major questions of theories, methods, and the international organization studies in social sciences, particularly in sociology and to provide the basic concepts of social theories, application of methods in research (qualitative), and elaborate the factual reality – why study of international organization is also subject of sociological study. The book presents the perspectives of organizational sociology in way that scholarly readers can see the linkages political sciences, sociology and slightly economic in addressing the roles and issues of the international organizations

Medani P. Bhandari is Professor at Akamai University and Sumy State University

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TRANSITIONS & HONORS

Feng Hao earned tenure and is promoted to Associate Professor of Sociology at University of South Florida.

Peter Taylor Klein was recently promoted to Associate Professor of Sociology and Environmental and Urban Studies at Bard College.

Shannon Bell was recently promoted to the rank of full Professor in the Department of Sociology at Virginia Tech.

Nosheen Ali received 2022 Book Award from American Institute for Pakistan Studies for *Delusional States: Feeling Rule and Development in Pakistan's Northern Frontier* (Cambridge University Press)

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