

ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIOLOGY NEWS

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

Summer 2026

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SECTION CHAIR'S MESSAGE



Dear colleagues,

It's been an honor to serve the Section on Environmental Sociology over the past year. In my time as chair, I have had the opportunity to work with thoughtful and dedicated members

of our Council and Committee Leadership. Not only have we managed our budget, put together annual meeting sessions, delivered member news and accomplishments, uplifted our research, teaching, and public engagement, conferred awards, and more, we have navigated the complex organizational terrain of ASA governance and a shifting political climate that impacts much of our work. In such efforts, I have sought to be inclusive of our members' voices

and transparent in our internal operations and deliberations. There will be more to share at the annual business meeting in New York soon. If you are unable or are choosing not to attend, I will pass along all reports.

In the meantime, I would like to welcome the newest members of our Council and Committee Leadership. We filled ten positions! Chair-Elect (LaDawn Haglund), Treasurer (Feng Hao), Council Member-at-Large (Apollonya Porcelli), Nominating Committee Chair (Ian Carrillo), Policy and Research Committee Chair (Pierce Greenberg), Publications Committee Chair (Aseem Hasnain), Student Representative (Joyce Ho), Legacy Committee Chair (Steven Brechin), Digital Communications Co-Chair - Social Media (Valerie Berseth), Digital Communications Co-Chair - Webmaster (John Zinda).

In the future, please consider serving our section. In 2027, there are several positions that will become vacant: Secretary, Membership Committee Chair,

and Teaching, Training, and Practice Committee Chair.

We also have much to celebrate as we head into the annual meeting. There were four awards this year. Between the Environmental Sociology Student Paper Award, Environmental Sociology Outstanding Publication Award, Distinguished Contribution Award, and Teaching and Mentorship Award, there were five winners and four honorable mentions. Please read on to learn more.

Last, there is an excellent set of annual meeting section sessions put together by the Chair-Elect, Kerry Ard, who will be stepping into the Chair role on September 1. There are six Environmental Sociology sessions and three co-sponsored sessions (Political Ecology (Co-sponsored by Marxist Sociology Section); Comparative-Historical Perspectives on Climate Change (Co-sponsored by Environmental Sociology Section); The Sociology of Climate Change (Co-sponsored by Science, Knowledge, and Technology Section). Details are at the end of this newsletter.

I look forward to seeing many of you in New York. In the meantime, do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or suggestions.

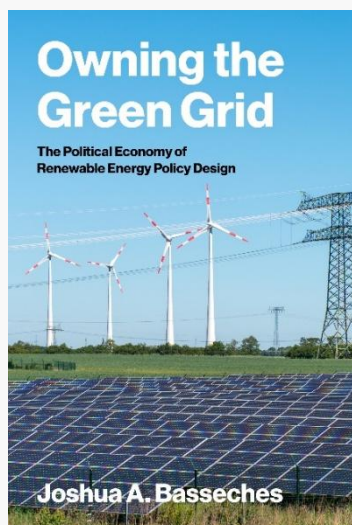
Yours in community,
Josh Sbicca
ASA Section on Environmental Sociology Chair
Associate Professor of Sociology
Director of the Prison Agriculture Lab
Colorado State University

PUBLICATIONS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Books

[Owning the Green Grid](#)

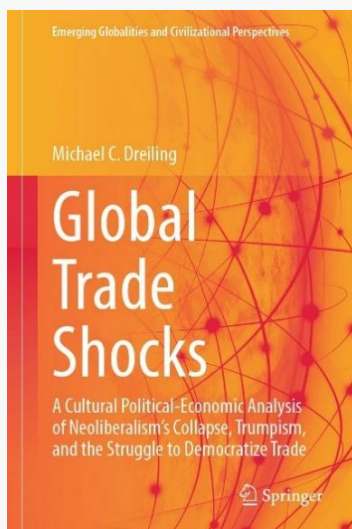
Joshua A. Basseches, Tulane University



Historically (and for the foreseeable future), most public policy action in the United States to combat the global climate crisis has taken place at the state level. Former President Joe Biden's administration marked a significant departure from that trend, as his policies pursued a strategy of "electrify everything" (transportation, buildings, and industry). But who owns the electricity system that is the linchpin of such a strategy, and how does this ownership affect the policy preferences of interest groups at the state level? *Owning the Green Grid* addresses these questions and more through an in-depth study of a quarter century of renewable electricity policymaking in seven states.

[Global Trade Shocks: Neoliberalism's Collapse, Trumpism, and the Struggle to Democratize Global Trade](#)

Dreiling, Michael C., University of Oregon



Global Trade Shocks unpacks the collapse of neoliberal globalization, the rise of authoritarian populism, and the prospects for a green deal in global trade. As Donald Trump transformed tariffs into weapons of nationalist performance, global trade became a stage for elite fragmentation, economic coercion, and geopolitical realignment. Bridging cultural political economy and historical sociology, this book traces how trade shocks destabilized the global order and opened new ideological battles amid declining US hegemony. Offering insights from Marx, Polanyi, and Piketty, it reveals how trade became central to the crisis—and the contested future—of global capitalism. Essential reading for scholars of political economy, globalization, and democratic decline. Use this code for a 20% discount: SPRAUT.

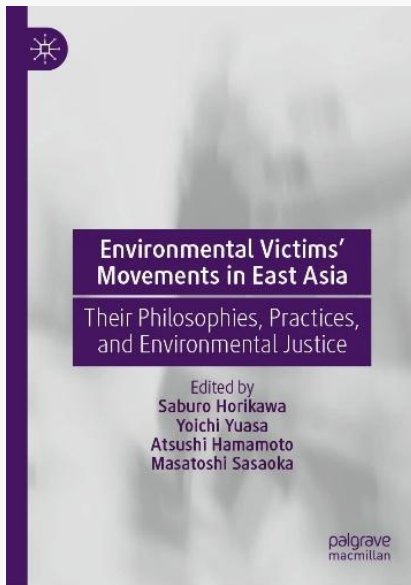
[Environmental Victims' Movements in East Asia: Their Philosophies, Practices, and Environmental Justice](#)

Saburo Horikawa (ed.), Hosei University

Yoichi Yuasa (ed.), Kanto Gakuin University

Atsushi Hamamoto (ed.), Waseda University

Masatoshi Sasaoka (ed.), Hokkaido University



This book explores environmental victims' movements and how they have shaped the history of East Asia. The book focuses on the impact of these movements and whether the ideas of environmental justice in this region align with Western concepts or whether they take a different approach. Bringing together leading researchers in the field and using in-depth case studies from Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, and China, the chapters trace the evolution of victims' movements, uncover their distinctive characteristics, and reveal the forms of environmental sociology they have inspired. Offering fresh insights into the intersection of social activism and environmental change, this volume is essential reading for anyone interested in environmental justice, social movements, and the dynamics of East Asian societies.

Journal Articles and Book Chapters

Almeida, Paul D. 2026. "The Public University As a Potential Just Transition Hub." *npj Climate Action*. doi: 10.1038/s44168-026-00382-2.

Bennett, E M , W Reid, S Carpenter, T Dietz, G Peterson, N Ash, T D Beard, S Beck, R Biggs, N Castree, J Ehrmann, T Forsyth, K Garcia, B Harvey, Z Harmáčková, P Kumar, M Lahsen, M Lee, C Miller, R Norgaard, L Pereira, K Prodani, J Ranganathan, C Raudsepp-Hearne, L Schultz, E Turnhout, C Vogel, and M Zurek. 2026. "The Future of Global Environmental Assessments: 20 Years after the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment." *Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability* 79:101618. doi:10.1016/j.cosust.2026.101618

Biffi, Daniella, Nino Bariola, and Dean A. Williams. 2026. "The Catch of the Day: The Shortcomings of Promoting Sustainable Seafood Consumption in Peru." *Conservation Science and Practice* 8(5): e70285. <http://doi.org/10.1111/csp2.70285>

Bryant, Jesse Callahan. 2026. "Intraparty Polarization on Climate Change in Republican Party Discourse, 1987-2016." *Environmental Politics*. doi:10.1080/09644016.2026.2701573.

Campos, Mathaus. (2026). "The 'Amazon Chernobyl': environmental racism and the experience of Quilombola women in environmental resistance in Barcarena, Brazil." *Environmental Sociology*, 1–13. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23251042.2026.2701366>

Cattell, Jasper. 2026. "The Bridge-BUILDER's Dilemma: Constraint and Opportunity Among Labor-Environmental Brokers." *Mobilization: An International Quarterly* 31(2): 233-253. DOI: 10.17813/1086-671X-31-2-233.

Chang, Yung-Ying and John Chung-En Liu. 2026. "The Formosan Black Bear and Taiwanese Nationalism" *Nations and Nationalism* (forthcoming)

Chen, Chen-Yuan and John Chung-En Liu. 2026. "Data repoliticization and environmental governance: how civic data activism negotiates state bureaucracy in Taiwan" *Environmental Sociology* (forthcoming)

Liu, John Chung-En. 2026. "Blind Taste, Clear Insights: Using Bottled Water to Teach Environmental Sociology and Quantitative Literacy" *Teaching Sociology* 54(2): 108-117

McConnell, Kathryn, J. Tom Mueller, Paul Burow, and Lise St. Denis. 2026. "Urban areas in the United States experience substantial wildfire impacts." *Communications Earth & Environment* 7(352).

Muzzerall, Parker, Carly Hamdon, and Kathryn McConnell. 2026. "Climate Change." In *Oxford Encyclopedia of Sociology*, edited by Lynette Spillman. Oxford University Press.

Shei, Cheng-Hsiang, John Chung-En Liu, and I-Yun Lisa Hsieh. 2026. "Equity in carbon pricing: Impacts on household carbon burdens across different demographics." *Ecological Economics* 242: 108905.

Ternes, Brock, and Sebastian Boute. "Does the Public Approve of Massive Water Transfers and Construction Projects? Aqueducts, Fracking, and Pipelines in the High Plains." *Rural and Regional Development* 4(2): 10012. DOI: 10.70322/rrd.2026.10012

Van Pelt, Craig. 2026. "Cyberzombies and the Afterlife of Thought: Dead Labor, AI, and the Necropolis of Capital," *Fast Capitalism*: Vol. 23: Iss. 1, Article 4. <https://mavmatrix.uta.edu/fastcapitalism/vol23/iss1/4/> , DOI: 10.32855/1930-014X.1504

**Special Issue in *Environmental Sociology* on
Global Research of Climate Change, Volume 12
Issue 2, 2026**

Editorial: global research of climate change —
causes, consequences, and solutions, Feng Hao,
Pages 199-205

Does military power shape foreign direct invest-
ment's carbon load displacement? An analysis of
carbon emissions in Global South nations, 2000–
2020, Andrew Jorgenson, Taekyeong Goh, Robert
Clark & Jeffrey Kentor, Pages 206-220

Dynamic networks of negotiation for international
climate change cooperation, Zack W. Almquist,
Benjamin E. Bagozzi, Daria Blinova & Zach Brown,
Pages: 221-237

Globalization, populism, and climate skepticism:
untangling varieties and pathways, Jessica Kim,
Elizabeth A. Henry, Jerrid Carter & Yasemin
Nuhoğlu Soysal, Pages: 238-260

Environmental organizations, urbanization, and
the carbon emissions of nations, Taekyeong Goh,
Pages: 261-274

Live long and prosper: an evaluation of the carbon
intensity of subjective well-being in 99 countries,
2014–2021, Michael D. Briscoe, Jennifer E. Givens
& Jared Berry Fitzgerald, Pages: 275-297

Feeling responsible for reducing climate change: a
multi-level European study on the role of religion
and state, Lore Van Praag & David De Coninck,
Pages: 298-309

Does societal engagement impact CO2 emissions?
A cross-national analysis, Shahd Alasaly, Katelyn
Austin, Shumaila Fatima & Jamie M. Sommer,
Pages: 310-323

Who is ready to pay for protecting the environ-
ment? Social and spatial divides in Europe,
Nathalie Vigna, Pages: 324-339

From ballots to readiness: global evidence on de-
mocracy's influence on climate change adaptation
readiness, Jeremy Ko & Chun Kai Leung, Pages:
340-362

Public Sociology and Community Engagement

A new podcast recently released by rc24 member
Debra Davidson features an in-depth discussion of
the role of emotions in our responses to climate
change, in five episodes. Titled Feeling Climate
Change, the series is available on Amazon, Apple
podcasts, and Spotify. Dr. Davidson invites your
feedback on the series; you can email her directly
at debra.davidson@ualberta.ca

Todd Lu, Assistant Professor of Sociology at the
University of Cincinnati, was invited by Climate Fi-
nance Action to publish a blog post on how the
"green jobs" frame lands differently across labor
and climate movements and what institutional in-
vestors can do to build the coalitions that mean-
ingful climate action actually requires. Review
here: [https://www.climatefinanceac-
tion.org/blog/investing-in-our-labor-and-climate-
future-nsbread-for-all-and-roses-too](https://www.climatefinanceaction.org/blog/investing-in-our-labor-and-climate-future-nsbread-for-all-and-roses-too)

Career Transitions

Frederic Traylor (PhD, Rutgers) has joined the In-
stitute for Global Sustainability at Boston Univer-
sity as a Postdoctoral Associate researching indus-
trial electrification and organizational approaches
to climate change solutions.

Conferences

Resisting Authoritarianism: Global Solidarity and
Democratic Futures
August 10th - 11th, 2026
CUNY Graduate Center
365 Fifth Avenue (at 34th Street), New York City
This sociology conference provides a space to crit-
ical scholars focused on rising authoritarianism,
global solidarity, and democratic futures. Panels
will cover scholar-activism, labor movements, land
rights and Indigenous nations, decolonial thought
and knowledge, sex and gender, embodiment,

Marxism and anti-colonialism, and much more.
[You may register for the conference here.](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1P99Dkj-vzQy_tszNBQVCkpg1qPGDj6Xt/view) Here is a link to the program:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1P99Dkj-vzQy_tszNBQVCkpg1qPGDj6Xt/view

Presentation of "Ecological Entanglements of Capitalism: (By)Production and Worker Mobilization in the Name of Nature" at Reconstructing Critical Theory Workshop at the University of California - Santa Cruz (co-authored with Johnnie Lotesta), April 23-24, 2026.

Environmental Sociology Section Awards

Environmental Sociology Student Paper Award

Co-Winners:

María Ximena Dávila, University of Texas at Austin, "Risky Bodies, Toxic Futures: Reproductive Decision-Making and Environmental Risk in Colombia."

Margot R. Lurie, University of Chicago, "Electricity, Waste, and the 'Other': Racialization in the Electrification of the American West, 1902-1933."

Honorable Mention:

Gabriel V. Lévesque, McGill University, "Why is Coal Still Mined? Insights from Asbestos and the Structures of Risk Invisibilization." *Theory and Social Inquiry*, 1(1), 1-46. 2025.

Award Committee: Daniel Auerbach, Pierce Greenberg, Anupriya Pandey, Lacey Satcher, and Caleb Scoville (chair)

Environmental Sociology Outstanding Publication Award

Winner:

Zeke Baker, Sonoma State University, *Governing Climate: How Science and Politics Have Shaped Our Environmental Future*. University of California Press. 2024.

Honorable Mentions:

Manisha Anantharaman, Sciences Po's Centre for the Sociology of Organisations, *Recycling Class: The Contradictions of Inclusion in Urban Sustainability*. The MIT Press. 2024.

Andrew McCumber, Virginia Tech, *Bad Nature: How Rat Control Shapes Human and Nonhuman Worlds*. The University of Chicago Press. 2025.

Award Committee: Robert Perdue, Ethan Raker, Ioana Sendroiu, Livio Silva-Muller, and Caleb Scoville (chair)

Distinguished Contribution Award

Winner:

Michael Bell, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Award Committee: Feng Hao and Raoul Liévanos (chair)

Teaching and Mentorship Award

Winner:

Austin Luzbetak, University of Minnesota

Honorable Mention:

Paul Stock, University of Kansas

Award Committee: Archana Ramanujam and Lourdes Vera (chair)

Environmental Sociology Section at ASA 2026

Saturday, August 8

8:00-9:30 AM – Environmental Sociology Section Open Call Paper Session

10:00-11:30 AM – Repair, Resistance, Renewal: Sociological Solutions to Wicked Problems

2:00-3:30 PM – Borders, Bodies, and Security: Climate Change and Global Inequality

4:00-5:00 PM – Roundtables

5:00-5:30 PM – Business Meeting

Sunday, August 9

8:00-9:30 AM – Capital, Communities, and Climate: How Local and Corporate Actors Shape Environmental Futures

10:00-11:30 AM – Environmental Justice, DEI, and Threats to Equity Work

12:00-1:30 PM – Truth Under Siege: Science in an Era of Executive Power

2:00-3:30 PM – Political Ecology (Co-sponsored by Marxist Sociology Section)

2:00-3:30 PM – Comparative-Historical Perspectives on Climate Change (Co-sponsored by Environmental Sociology Section)

6:00-8:00 PM – Enviro Soc Old & New Timers Get-Together (Location TBA) — RSVP @ [EnviroSoc Meet-up](#)

Monday, August 10

8:00-9:30 AM – The Sociology of Climate Change (Co-sponsored by Science, Knowledge, and Technology Section)

6:30-8:30 PM – Joint reception with Political Sociology, Theory, Global and Transnational Sociology, and History of Sociology and Social Thought – Location: Jake's Dilemma (430 Amsterdam Ave, New York, NY 10024)

Section Officers (2025-2026)

Chair

Joshua Sbicca
Colorado State University

Chair-Elect

Kerry Ard

Past-Chair

Raoul S. Liévanos
University of Oregon

Secretary

Michael Haedicke
University of Maine

Treasurer

Maricarmen Hernandez
Columbia University

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Margaret Walkover
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

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Caleb Scoville
Tufts University

Chair of Publications Committee

Ian Carrillo
University of Oklahoma

Chair of Membership Committee

Lacee Satcher
Boston College

Committee on Racial Inclusion, Equity, and Justice Chair (CRIEJ)

Michael Warren Murphy
Occidental College

Chair of Legacy Committee

Lori Peek
University of Colorado Boulder

Chair of Teaching, Training, and Practice Committee

Lourdes Annette Vera
University at Buffalo

Co-Chair of Digital Communications Committee

Angeline Letourneau
Colorado School of Mines

Mike Lengefeld
Northeastern University

Council Member at-Large

Ethan Raker
The University of British Columbia

Student Representative

Archana Ramanujam
Brown University

Award Committees Chairs

Outstanding Publication Award

Student Paper Award

Nikhil Deb
California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

Distinguished Contribution Award

Norah MacKendrick
Rutgers University

Teaching and Mentorship Award

Practice and Outreach Award

Alissa Cordner
Whitman College

Communications

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Website Manager: Michael Lengefeld

Listserv Manager: Apoorva Pal-Rathod

Social Media: Christina Ergas

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<http://www.envirosoc.org/wordpress/>

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Grad Listserv: envirograds@listserv.neu.edu

Facebook: facebook.com/EnviroSocASA/

Twitter: @EnviroSocASA & @envirogra