



Climate Migration Workshop

Preparing Receiving Communities

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AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
ADAPTATION PROFESSIONALS

Ricky Ackerman, *Director of Climate Equity, Eastside Community Network*

Ricky serves as the Director of Climate Equity for Eastside Community Network, a community development organization focused on the eastside of Detroit. While at ECN, Ricky has worked to engage residents around green stormwater infrastructure, air quality issues, resilience hubs, and other climate change-related topics. Prior to starting at ECN, he received his masters in Environmental Policy from the University of Michigan's School of Natural Resources and Environment. He began his career as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Ecuador where he spent three years working on a range of sustainability projects.

BJ Baule

B.J. researches the interactions between heavy precipitation events in the Midwestern United States and nitrogen movement in managed agricultural ecosystems. In addition, he participates in projects on agricultural applications of weather data in Michigan for fruit growers, human-health impacts associated with climate change/variability, and works with a variety of federal, tribal, state, and local partners to incorporate climate information into planning processes.

Kathy Bunting-Howarth, *Associate Director, New York Sea Grant*

Katherine (Kathy) Bunting-Howarth is the Associate Director of New York Sea Grant and Assistant Director of Cornell Cooperative Extension. Bunting-Howarth serves on multiple boards and committees including the Mid-Atlantic Regional Association Coastal Ocean Observing System (MARACOOS), Executive Council of the Science and Resilience Institute at Jamaica Bay, New York Water Resource Institute, Great Lakes Basin Advisory Council, Cornell Biological Field Station and the Chesapeake Bay Program Science and Technical Advisory Committee. Active in the national Sea Grant network, she is Past Chair of the Sea Grant Extension Assembly. She enjoys working with diverse groups of people to address complex concerns - from changing lake ecosystems to estuarine eutrophication to climate adaptation to optimizing the transportation of crude oil.

Kim Channell, *Climatologist, Great Lakes Integrated Sciences and Assessments (GLISA)*

Kim Channell is a Climatologist with the Great Lakes Integrated Sciences and Assessments (GLISA) team at the University of Michigan. In this role, she supports various GLISA projects and products tailoring climate information to meet the needs of their partners and stakeholders throughout the Great Lakes region. Her work includes facilitating scenario planning with practitioners and communities, developing regional climate summary products, and collaborating with cities to incorporate climate information into their municipal planning and decision-making. She holds a Master's in Applied Climate from the University of Michigan's College of Engineering.

Megan Dayton, *Senior Demographer, Minnesota State Demographic Center*

Megan Dayton is a Senior Demographer at Minnesota's State Demographic Center. Since 2012, she has been responsible for preparing demographic projections for the State of Minnesota, 13 Economic Development Regions, and 87 counties. Serving in this role, Megan is Minnesota's state representative to the Federal-State Cooperative Program for Population Projections (FSCPP) with the U.S. Census Bureau. Megan has hands-on knowledge of social and economic realities brought about by recent demographic shifts. Her work engages an attentive approach to relating current demographic trends with the resulting likelihoods. Megan holds a master's degree in applied demography from the Center for Demography and Population Health at the Florida State University.

Susan S. Ekoh, *Adaptation Fellow, American Society of Adaptation Professionals*

Susan leads ASAP's work preparing Great Lakes communities to receive climate migrations. She designs and facilitates conversations with stakeholders and indigenous rightsholders, supports the development of methodologies to predict and plan for climate migration, and works with a variety of partners within and adjacent to the ASAP network to share findings and implications for in-migration planning in the Great Lakes and other potential climate-receiving regions. She holds a PhD in Environmental Policy from SUNY ESF.

Isaac Gendler, *Utilities Engineer, California Public Utilities Commission*

Isaac Gendler works by day as a Utilities Engineer for the California Public Utilities Commission and by night as a Housing Policy - Climate Adaptation Researcher. This interest in Climate Migration was spurred by witnessing the effects of the 2018 Paradise Fire while living in the San Francisco Bay Area. Isaac has served as the Lead Quantitative Analyst for the Post COVID Pull Factor Methodologies project. Some of Isaac's past research includes the impact of the Bay Area housing crisis on regional wildfire hazard, Los Angeles housing policy, and the effects of cascading electricity failures on interdependent infrastructure systems.

Marty Gerencer, *Executive Director, West Michigan Food Processing Association*

Marty is the Executive Director of the West Michigan Food Processing Association (WMFPA). Since 2017, the WMFPA has supported the west Michigan food industry through communications, coordination, and as a catalyst to progress our six pillar strategies; economic development education, incubation, logistics, healthy food processing, and sustainable practices. She is also principal of Morse Marketing Connections, LLC (MMC), a business consulting firm founded in 2002, where she works with food companies and organizations connecting them to resources in healthy food and sustainable practices. Prior to the launch of MMC, Marty spent over 20 years with Gerber Products Company and worked with cross-functional teams to implement collaborative approaches to business practices. While at Gerber, Marty received the Chairman's Award for her work.

Beth Gibbons, *Executive Director, American Society of Adaptation Professionals*

As ASAP's mission-driven leader, Beth strengthens ASAP as an emerging nonprofit organization. Beth nurtures relationships -including relationships with the ASAP Board of Directors and funders and partners in the field - always keeping her finger on the pulse of trends and opportunities to grow and strengthen the adaptation field. Beth strategically and mindfully leads ASAP toward future growth, while always keeping the mission close to heart. Beth loves connecting about adaptation and finding ways for members to make connections or advance their own careers. Her passion for the field is contagious and members should feel free to contact her, but always at the risk of finding themselves running out to start a new member group or host an event after being inspired.

Matt Hauer, *Assistant Professor of Sociology, Florida State University, Faculty Affiliate, Center for Demography and Population Health*

Matt Hauer is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Florida State University and a faculty affiliate in the Center for Demography and Population Health. Matt's expertise is at the intersection of demography, migration, population projections, and climate change. His recent review article on Sea Level Rise and Human Migration describes one of the most costly and permanent consequences of climate change.

Matt has twice received the E. Walter Terrie Award for the best paper on Applied Demography, in 2015 Florida State University named him a Top 30 Under 30 Young Alumni, and the University of Georgia awarded him an Excellence-in-Research Award for his dissertation on sea level rise and human migration. More than 270 media outlets have covered Matt's research including Time Magazine, the New York Times, the Guardian, the Washington Post, and National Geographic. His publications appear in a diverse set of journals including Nature Climate Change, Demography, Environmental Research Letters, Demographic Research, Population and Environment, Statistical Modelling, and Population Research and Policy Review, among others. Prior to arriving at FSU, Matt spent nearly a decade directing the Applied Demography Program at the University of Georgia.

Ron Harris, *Chief Resilience Officer, City of Minneapolis*

Ron Harris is the Chief Resilience Officer for the City of Minneapolis where he leads the development and implementation of the City's resilience strategy with a key emphasis on racial equity, economic inclusion, and climate change adaptation. Prior to this role, he served as the Senior Advisor to the City Council President where he was instrumental in researching and negotiating public policy including the city's first municipal minimum wage increase, it's innovative plan for economic growth, and upstream efforts to reduce violence in community. His career has been dedicated to social justice through the lenses of civic engagement, electoral politics, public private partnership, and philanthropy. In addition, Ron is a sought after public speaker focused on creating inspiring experiences and sparking personal and professional transformation.

Rachel Jacobson, *Deputy Director, American Society of Adaptation Professionals*

Rachel Jacobson leads the development, implementation and continuous improvement of ASAP's programs. She facilitates peer learning through our Mentorship Program, advances effective adaptation practice by stewarding our professional guidance resources, and builds field cohesion by convening the Member Advisory Group on Professional Education and Regional Adaptation Forum Organizers. Internally, Rachel lead's ASAP's monitoring and evaluation efforts and ensures new activities align with member values and ASAP strategic priorities. Contact Rachel to learn about member programs, discuss ASAP strategic priorities, and brainstorm ways to leverage the ASAP Network to advance the adaptation field. Rachel holds B.A., M.P.P, and M.S. degrees from the University of Michigan, and a Certificate in Environmental Law and Regulation from the University of Washington.

Osamu Kumasaka, *Community Action Director, Buy-In Community Planning*

Osamu is a planner and researcher who believes that, though climate science has advanced greatly, governments struggle to engage vulnerable residents and provide resources that improve their lives. His passion is for helping under-represented peoples tell their stories of environmental and housing injustice. As a consultant to cities, state agencies, and conservation nonprofits in the Northeastern U.S., including The Nature Conservancy, the Barr Foundation, NYSERDA, and the Massachusetts State Senate, Osamu has empowered thousands of people in participatory processes that envisioned the future of [sustainable transportation](#), [renewable energy](#), [water quality](#), [river restoration](#), and [climate resilience](#).

Osamu is a licensed mediator and experienced group facilitator trained at Harvard Law School's Program on Negotiation. He holds a BA in Environmental Studies from Lewis & Clark College, and is currently a Masters in City Planning candidate at MIT DUSP. His work and research on stakeholder engagement has been presented to the United Nations Systems Staff College (2016), the Georgetown Climate Center Workshop on Managed Retreat (2018), and at the Pipeline Safety Trust Annual Conference (2019).

Kelly Leilani Main, *Executive Director & Co-founder, Buy-In Community Planning*

Kelly Leilani Main is the Executive Director and co-founder of Buy-In Community Planning, an organization providing equitable and accessible relocation services for communities on the frontlines of irreversible climate impacts. Kelly has worked as a planner, designer, and geospatial analyst at the intersection of climate adaptation planning and rights-driven relocation policy in contexts diverse as the Philippines, Turkey, Ghana, Uganda, Peru, Nepal, Lebanon, Palestine, and

the US. Kelly has a Masters in City Planning from the MIT Department of Urban Studies and Planning and is currently a PhD student of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning at UC Berkeley.

Brian Parthum, *Economist, Southeast Michigan Council of Governments*

Brian Parthum is an Economist with SEMCOG who has studied the Southeast Michigan economy for the last 20 years, primarily focusing on the region's employment, labor force, and property tax base. He has a bachelor's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from Michigan State University and a master's degree in Applied Economics from Eastern Michigan University.

Rachel Perić, *Executive Director, Welcoming America*

Rachel Perić is Executive Director of Welcoming America. Inspired by [her family's refugee story](#) and by the worldwide movement of welcomers, Rachel works to create communities where all residents – including immigrants and refugees – can thrive and belong. Since joining the organization in 2011, she has served as the organization's deputy director and in other senior leadership roles, helping to grow Welcoming America from a startup to an award-winning organization with a global footprint. Rachel holds a Bachelor of Arts in international studies from Johns Hopkins University and a Master's in Public Management from the University of Maryland.

Ross Plattel, *Urban Technology Researcher at the University of Calgary, and The Southern Alberta Institute of Technology*

Ross is an urban/civic technologist with a future minded focus. He works with the University of Calgary as part of the academic research and discussion group on Smart Cities, while also acting as support for virtually delivered courses. The Southern Alberta Institute of Technology (SAIT) he works on the development, testing, and deployment of SAIT's first micro-credentials, and acts as tech support and TA for short term digital solutioning innovation programs. His research on the impacts of climate-induced human migration has been inspired by his passion for the environment and connection with nature, along with his desire to improve the lived human experience.

Bill Schleizer, *CEO, Delta Institute*

Bill serves as CEO at Delta Institute, where he drives organizational strategy, development, and engagement in support of the nonprofit's mission to collaborate with communities across the Midwest to solve complex environmental challenges – currently focused on Nature-Based Climate Solutions, Resilient Agriculture, and Sustainability & Support Services. He has over 20 years of experience in systems and policy analysis, environmental science, ecosystems and consulting. He earned his bachelor's degree in Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology and Environmental Studies from Tulane University and his master's degree in Environmental Analysis and Decision Making from Rice University. Bill was also acknowledged by *Crain's Chicago Business* as a notable LGBTQ+ Executive.

Laurie Schoeman, *National Director, Resilience and Disaster Recovery, Enterprise Community Partners*

Laurie is a deeply committed climate risk reduction leader. Practiced multi-sector intermediary recognized for keen ability to drive complex problems into tangible outputs that achieve climate safe housing, financial investment, environmental education, capacity building and supportive public policy. Laurie has led leading edge policy packages including passage of the nation's first utility-sponsored environmental justice "do no harm" mandate and climate adaptation policies with agencies and utilities in New York. She currently chair's the New York State Adaptation Task Force for Buildings and advises a range of agencies/organizations on housing resilience, adaptation and mitigation including the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), International Code Council (ICC), Fannie Mae, US Department of Energy (USDOE) and US Department of Housing Urban Development (HUD).

Alex de Sherbinin, *Associate Director for Science Applications & Senior Research Scientist, Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN), Earth Institute, Columbia Climate School*

Alex de Sherbinin is the Associate Director for Science Applications and a Senior Research Scientist at the Center for International Earth Science Information Network ([CIESIN](#)), an environmental data and analysis center within the [Columbia Climate School and its Earth](#)

[Institute](#) specializing in the human aspects of global environmental change. He also serves as: Deputy manager of the NASA Socioeconomic Data and Applications Center ([SEDAC](#)); Lecturer, [Sustainability Science](#) Master's Program; Co-Lead, Columbia Climate School's [Climate Mobility Network](#); Co-chair of the ISC [WDS-CODATA](#) Citizen Science Data Task Group; and Co-Coordinator of the Population-Environment Research Network ([PERN](#)) under [IUSSP](#) and [Future Earth](#). He is a co-author of the bi-annual Environmental Performance Index ([EPI](#)), a joint project of Yale and Columbia, and he has led projects funded by NASA, UNDP, UNEP, the US Agency for Development, and The World Bank. Dr. de Sherbinin has written on a range of topics, including climate vulnerability mapping; climate change and migration; urban climate vulnerability and resilience; population dynamics and the environment; environmental indicators; and remote sensing applications for environmental treaties. Dr. de Sherbinin holds a PhD in Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation from ITC at the University of Twente (Netherlands), and MA and BA degrees in geography from Syracuse University and Dartmouth College, respectively.

Missy Stults, *Sustainability and Innovations Manager, City of Ann Arbor*

Dr. Missy Stults is the Sustainability and Innovations Manager for the City of Ann Arbor. In this role, she works with all city operations, residents, businesses, the University of Michigan, nonprofits, and others to make Ann Arbor one of the most sustainable and equitable cities in America and to implement the A2ZERO Carbon Neutrality Plan. Prior to joining the City, Missy worked with cities and tribal communities around the nation to advance their climate and sustainability goals, including during her time as the Climate Director at ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability and as a consultant to philanthropic organizations. Missy has a PhD in urban resilience from the University of Michigan, a Masters in Climate and Society from Columbia University, and undergraduate degrees in Marine Biology and Environmental Science from the University of New England.

Lauren E. Wang, *Senior Policy Advisor, New York City Mayor's Office of Climate Resiliency*

Lauren E. Wang is a Senior Policy Advisor at the New York City Mayor's Office of Climate Resiliency. She advises climate policy and programs on housing mobility, land use, and equitable adaptation planning. She has collaborated with partners in the public, private, and non-profit sectors to design and deliver hurricane recovery and climate adaptation services to homeowners and renters across New York City and has developed long-term plans, including the NYC Comprehensive Waterfront Plan and Resilient Edgemere Community Plan. Ms. Wang

holds a Masters in City and Regional Planning from UNC Chapel Hill and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Princeton University.