



Dr. Ana Baptista

Bio

Ana is an Assistant Professor of Professional Practice in the Environmental Policy and Sustainability Management graduate program at The New School University. She also serves as the Associate Director of the Tishman Environment and Design Center at The New School. Prior to The New School she served as the Director of Environmental Justice and Community Development at the Ironbound Community Corporation, in her hometown of Newark, NJ. Ana's professional practice is focused on advancing environmental justice through collaborations with communities on issues ranging from cumulative impacts, air pollution, local planning tools for environmental justice and zero waste systems. Her current practice includes research on the equity implications of state level climate and energy policies and the launch of a national Environmental Justice Movement Fellowship program for EJ activists around the country. Ana serves on the Board of Trustees for the Ironbound Community Corporation, the New Jersey Environmental Justice Alliance (NJEJA), the Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives (GAIA) and the Victoria Foundation.

On NPCC 4...

"My hope for NPCC 4 is really to center environmental and climate justice in all aspects of the city's response and planning for climate change. There are many ways we can also learn from the COVID pandemic about ways to build the long term resilience of the most vulnerable communities. Climate mitigation and adaptation policies that center racial equity and social justice will also require careful study and input from impacted communities."



Dr. Deborah Balk (co-chair)

Bio

Deborah Balk is Professor of Public Affairs in the Marxe School of Public and International Affairs at Baruch College at the City University of New York (CUNY), Professor in the Economics, and Sociology Ph.D. Programs at the CUNY Graduate Center. She is also Associate Director of the CUNY Institute of Demographic Research. From 2016-2018, she was a Andrew Carnegie Fellow. As a leading expert in spatial demography, she combines demographic and spatial frameworks (using traditional social-science data with satellite data) to examine urbanization and related socio-demographic behaviors (migration, poverty) in low and middle-income countries with respect to environmental factors, in particular climate change. She is currently a member of the National Academy of Sciences' Committee on Population, and of the US Census Scientific Advisory Committee. She holds a PhD from the University of California, Berkeley and MPP and BA degrees from the University of Michigan.

On NPCC 4 (from Deborah Balk continued from previous page)

My hope for NPCC4 is to build on the tremendous work of the past NPCCs by deepening the interdisciplinary and social perspectives (and develop scenarios) that allow New York City to more fully and equitably prepare for climate change. Our work should shift paradigms (and points of emphasis and associated temporal and spatial scales), as needed, in order to plan under uncertain and vulnerable conditions, such as those highlighted by chronic racial injustices and the recent COVID epidemic.



Dr. Janice Barnes

Bio

Dr. Janice Barnes is the founding partner of Climate Adaptation Partners, a NYC-based woman-owned business focused on planning, advocacy and partnership-building for climate adaptation. As practitioner and researcher, Janice works with public and private clients to identify their risks and vulnerabilities and to meet their resilience goals. With over 30 years of experience, technical training in architecture and organizational behavior, she helps organizations to critically evaluate their possible adaptation pathways given current and expected exposures and link these to appropriate design and financing or funding options. Recent work includes the Resilient by Design Amsterdam where she focused on heat impacts, the Charleston Medical District Resilient Health District, New York City Mayor's Office of Resiliency Climate Adaptation Roadmap, the City of Hampton Newmarket Creek Resilience Plan which leverages Environmental Impact Bond funding to capitalize resilience projects and ClimateReadyDC, a globally-recognized climate adaptation plan. She's acted as advisor on the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine Resilient America Roundtable, USGBC RELi Steering Committee, the American Institute of Architects Resilience Advisory Group, Keep Safe Puerto Rico, and the Florida Institute for Built Environment Resilience (FIBER). Janice values bringing teams' collective contributions together in order to broaden transdisciplinary practices. Her message settles on a shared truth about the responsibilities to act on climate change as its implications are increasingly understood: #WeCantUnknowThis.

On NPCC 4

Building on the prior work, I hope that we might broaden the links between climate and health, extend the NPCC3 framing for more post 2100 integration, particularly given service life and costs of investments, and build out discussions on managed retreat/strategic relocation including decommissioning. I also hope to learn from the many collaborators and co-develop resources locally and with other municipal partners drawing from stakeholder reflections and NPCC3 uptake.



Dr. Christian Braneon (co-chair)

Bio

Christian Braneon is a scientist at the Goddard Institute for Space Studies and a visiting professor in the Environmental Science department at Barnard College. In his work, Dr. Braneon helps stakeholders use satellite imagery and climate projections to manage cities and water resources. Dr. Braneon served as Co-Director of the United States Environmental Protection Agency's inaugural Environmental Justice Academy for community leaders. He led regional community engagement efforts associated with the Clean Power Plan in four states and was recognized for his service with a White House Climate Action Plan Award. Dr. Braneon earned his B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees in Civil Engineering from Georgia Tech. He also earned a B.S. in Applied Physics from Morehouse College.

On NPCC 4

Building on prior NPCC assessments, I look forward to working with NPCC members to support NYC in its efforts to further integrate climate science, systems thinking, and equity into its portfolio approach to resilience. We have a unique opportunity to explore structural and nonstructural risk reduction approaches while centering racial justice and equity.



Dr. Sheila Foster

Bio

Sheila R. Foster is the Scott K. Ginsburg Professor of Urban Law and Policy at Georgetown. She holds a joint appointment with the Georgetown Law School and the McCourt Public Policy School. Professor Foster writes in the areas of property, land use, environmental justice, and local government law. She is well known for her articles and books on environmental justice, including *From the Ground Up: Environmental Racism and the Rise of the Environmental Justice Movement* (with Luke Cole) and *The Law of Environmental Justice* (with Michael Gerrard). In 2018, Professor Foster received the Senior Scholarship Award from the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Academy of Environmental Law. Her most recent work explores questions of urban law and governance through the lens of the “commons” exemplified by her article *The City as a Commons*, *Yale Law and Policy Review* (2016) and her forthcoming MIT Press Book, *Co-Cities*.

On NPCC 4

I hope to continue the work on equity and climate adaptation, deepening the work we started on NPCC3. COVID has made this work even more important given the disparities in susceptibility and death (partly due to disparate exposure to air pollution).



Dr. Radley Horton

Bio

Radley Horton is a Research Professor at Columbia University's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory. His research focuses on climate extremes, tail risks, climate impacts, and adaptation. Radley was a Convening Lead Author for the Third National Climate Assessment, and served on the Sea Level Rise and Climate Scenarios Task Forces for the Fourth

National Climate Assessment. He is the Lead Principal Investigator for the NOAA-Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments-funded Consortium for Climate Risk in the Urban Northeast. Radley also teaches in Columbia University's Sustainable Development department. Radley is a leading climate science communicator, appearing regularly on television, radio, and in print.

On NPCC 4

I hope NPCC4 further expands the types of climate hazards and impacts considered, so that the vulnerabilities of additional groups and sectors within and outside the region can be assessed. I hope NPCC4, like its predecessors, continues to advance the science and implementation of adaptation.



Dr. Kim Knowlton

Bio

Kim Knowlton, DrPH, is senior scientist with the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), Deputy Director of NRDC's Science Center, and Assistant Professor of Environmental Health Sciences at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health. She served as co-convening lead author on the human health chapter of the 3rd US National Climate Assessment, and on the 2nd NYC Panel on climate

change. Her work focuses on the health impacts of climate change and how communities in the US, India, and globally can prepare for today's climate-health impacts and reduce future harm.

On NPCC 4...

I hope NPCC 4 takes stock of our unique, beloved city, disrupted by climate change, health, social and economic inequities, and a global pandemic; and develops bold proposals -- built on inclusive listening, engagement, equity, and science-- to help fortify the city's climate resilience, today and for the future.



Dr. Robin Leichenko (co-chair)

Bio

Robin Leichenko is Professor and Chair of Geography at Rutgers University and co-Director of the Rutgers Climate Institute. She has previously served two terms on NPCC. Her 2008 book, *Environmental Change and Globalization: Double Exposures* (with Karen O'Brien, Oxford University Press), received the Meridian Book Award for Outstanding Scholarly Work in Geography from the American Association of Geographers. Dr.

Leichenko's current research focuses on the economic and social dimensions of climate change impacts, vulnerabilities, and adaptation change in U.S. cities and regions. Her work examines how and why processes of global economic and environmental change differentially affect cities, regions and sectors, and the implications of these processes for questions of vulnerability, equity, and sustainability. Dr. Leichenko earned a Ph.D. in Geography and an M.A. in Economics from Penn State University. She also holds an M.A. in Geography from the University of Colorado-Boulder, and a B.S. in English from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

On NPCC 4

My goal for NPCC 4 is to contribute to development and implementation of a sustainable and inclusive approach to climate adaptation planning in New York City. Guided by state-of-the-art scientific and social science knowledge, and building on prior NPCC efforts, this approach can become a model for other U.S. cities and cities worldwide.



Dr. Nicole Maher

Bio

Nicole Maher, Ph.D., Nicole is the Senior Coastal Scientist with The Nature Conservancy in New York. She works on wetland conservation and restoration projects by partnering with the scientific community, public agencies, and other conservation organizations to ensure that people and nature are resilient in the face of climate change and have the clean water that they

both need to thrive. She is one of the founding members of coastalresilience.org, an online climate adaptation tool. Since joining the Conservancy in 2006, Nicole has led long-term projects to assess whether salt marshes from New York City to eastern Long Island are keeping pace with sea level rise and collaborated with researchers to determine the reasons for elevation shortfalls.

On NPCC 4

To help NYC develop a multi-generational and wholistic vision of the future, addressing current inequalities, climate justice and the constraints of a climate-changing world. This is an opportunity to highlight the role of nature in the future of NYC and ensure that the adaptation decisions that we make today support its future viability so that it continues to thrive and benefit all NYers.



Dr. Thomas Matte

Bio

Tom Matte recently joined Vital Strategies as Vice President for Environmental Health. Tom has more than 25 years of experience in environmental health research, practice and policy, most recently serving for 5 years as Assistant Commissioner for Environmental Surveillance and Policy at New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene where he directed studies of air pollution, extreme weather and other urban environmental hazards and represented the Department in applying public health evidence to the City's cross-sectoral sustainability and climate resilience initiatives. Dr. Matte led the development of the New York City Community Air Survey, a unique urban air quality monitoring program that is informing local pollution control measures. He previously served as a medical officer at the National Center for Environmental Health of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention where his work spanned several environmental health areas, including assessment and control of lead exposure, housing and health, waterborne illness and health effects of prenatal and early childhood exposures.



Dr. Peter Marcotullio

Bio

Peter J. Marcotullio is Professor of Geography, Director of the Institute for Sustainable Cities at Hunter College, Associate of the City University of New York (CUNY) Advanced Science Research Center (ASRC) and faculty member in the Earth and Environmental Sciences Program at the CUNY Graduate Center. Prior to teaching at CUNY, Prof. Marcotullio was Lecturer and Professor of Urban Planning in the Urban Engineering Department, University of Tokyo and held several positions at the United Nations University, Institute for Advanced Studies, Japan. He is co-Editor-in-Chief of Urban Climate. His recent research examines the geography of urbanization as it relates to environmental change.

On NPCC 4

New York City has a unique place among US cities. It is the nation's largest urban center with a culturally, racially religiously, and economically diverse population. New Yorkers, however, are unevenly vulnerable to climate change risks. Over the past several decades, the city has deployed a progressive agenda to address these challenges. The fourth New York City Climate Change Assessment Panel, part of the Mayor's Office of Resilience, continues this work. The current round will focus on improved engagement with communities, interactive information dissemination as well as the generation of new climate change knowledge. The panel's aim is to continue to reduce climate vulnerability and impacts for all New Yorkers and therefore increase the resilience of the entire city. I am deeply honored and excited to be selected for the panel. Over the next three years I hope to contribute actionable science for robust equitable climate policy.



Dr. Katherine McComas

Bio

Dr. Katherine A. McComas is a Professor of the Department of Communication at Cornell University, where she specializes in risk, science, and environmental communication. She is also Cornell University's Vice Provost for Engagement and Land-Grant Affairs. Dr. McComas' research and teaching focus on understanding motivations and barriers surrounding communication about scientific and environmental risk issues. She is the author or coauthor of 80+ refereed journal articles and two books, including co-editing the SAGE Handbook of Risk Communication. Her work has been supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF), National Parks Service, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), among others. From 2008-2013, she was the Societal and Ethical Issues (SEI) Coordinator for the NSF-supported National Nanotechnology Infrastructure Network, for which she oversaw the coordination of SEI research and educational activities for the 14-member network. She served on the FDA's **Bio** (from Katherine McComas continued from previous page)

Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies Advisory Committee and its Blood Products Advisory Committee. From 2011-2019, she served as Area Editor for Risk Communication for the journal Risk Analysis; she is a Fellow for the Society for Risk Analysis (SRA) and served as SRA's President 2018-2019. In Fall 2017, she was a Visiting Professor at King's College London, U.K. in the Department of Geography.

On NPCC 4

Responding to climate change requires a fundamental commitment to ensuring that decisions are made using the best possible science and a process that meaningfully engages stakeholders in envisioning and evaluating the solutions. I hope that my expertise in risk communication and community engagement will assist New York City in its comprehensive response to this existential threat.



Dr. Timon McPhearson

Dr. Timon McPhearson is an urban ecologist with expertise in urban data science and nature-based solutions for urban resilience and sustainability. He has published over 100 articles, books, book chapters, and scholarly articles including in scientific journals (*Nature*, *Nature Climate Change*, *Nature Sustainability*, *BioScience*), books (e.g. [Urban Planet](#)), popular press ([The Nature of Cities](#)), and is widely covered in the press (e.g. *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, *The Nation*, *New York Times Magazine*, *CityLab*, *Urban Omnibus*, and more). He co-leads the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) "Urban Resilience to Extreme Weather Related Events" Sustainability Research Network ([UREx SRN](#)) in the US and Latin

America, the [NATURA network](#) on “Nature-based Solutions for Urban Resilience in the Anthropocene,” and the NSF “Converging social, ecological, and technological infrastructure systems (SETS) for urban resilience.”

On NPCC 4...

Climate change impacts are disproportionate with often low-income and minority communities taking the brunt of impacts and risks. I look forward to building the knowledge base for understanding key risks and advancing systemic social, ecological, and infrastructural solutions for resilience and climate justice.



Dr. Franco Montalto

Bio

Dr. Montalto is a civil engineer interested in the development of ecologically, economically, and socially sensible solutions to urban environmental problems, with a focus on sustainable water resources engineering and climate change. His ~25 years of experience have included research and design of a variety of nature-based solutions involving ecological restoration of degraded landscapes, the use of constructed wetlands for wastewater and stormwater treatment, as well as work with “green infrastructure” and “low impact development” technologies as a means of managing urban runoff, while promoting urban sustainability and resilience. He is currently a Full Professor at Drexel University, where he directs the Sustainable Water Resource Engineering Lab. He is also the Founder and President of eDesign Dynamics LLC, an environmental consulting firm based in New York City, with an international portfolio of projects. He also serves as the Director of the North American Hub of the Urban Climate Change Research Network (UCCRN) and in June of 2020 was appointed by Mayor Bill de Blasio to serve as a Member of the 4th New York City Panel on Climate Change. Previously, he served as a Research Fellow at The Earth Institute at Columbia University, and a Fulbright Scholar in Venice, Italy. His degrees are from the Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art and Cornell University. Dr. Montalto is a licensed engineer in New York (#090284), Pennsylvania (#PE080773), New Jersey (#24GE05353000), Connecticut (#PEN.0030533), Florida (license pending), and Puerto Rico (license pending).

On NPCC 4

I want to see climate adaptation and mitigation accomplished within movements and policies that promote equity and social justice, economic development, environmental compliance, habitat restoration, water, energy, and solid waste management, public participation in governmental decision making, and public place making. We can't do those things the way we always have and treat climate action as a separate goal. Climate action needs to be merged into all city operations and decisions.



Dr. Richard Moss (co-chair)

Bio

Richard Moss is a senior research scientist with the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory's Joint Global Change Research Institute at the University of Maryland. His research focuses on the interactions of human and natural systems and he publishes on scenarios, climate change adaptation, and decision support. He is one of the leaders of the Science for Climate Action Network, a civil society counterpart of the US National Climate Assessment.

Richard has held several public service positions including with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and as director of the office of the U.S. Global Change Research Program. He has chaired or been a member of several National Academy Boards and Federal Advisory Committees.

On NPCC 4 (from Richard Moss continued from the previous page)

I look forward to working with colleagues on NPCC4 to create a dynamic assessment process that helps the City find pathways to equitable and deep resilience that includes increased social cohesion, civic participation, and community stewardship. NPCC4 should be innovative and enable NYC's government and citizens to interact with authoritative information about climate change, impacts, and solutions in new ways. It should help them integrate management of climate change risks into broader community development objectives.



Dr. Philip Orton

Bio

Dr. Philip Orton is a Research Associate Professor of ocean engineering at the Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, NJ. He earned his PhD in physical oceanography from Columbia University, and has published over 40 peer-reviewed articles on coastal physical oceanography, storm surges, flood risk assessment, climate change impacts, sediment transport, air-sea interaction, and coastal meteorology. He is a member of the NYC Panel on

Climate Change, the New Jersey Climate Adaptation Alliance Science and Technical Advisory Panel, New Jersey Wetlands Mitigation Council, and a contributing author for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Sixth Assessment Report. His expert witness testimony recently helped New Jersey Transit win \$300 million in insurance coverage for property repairs related to Hurricane Sandy. His research group has received funding support from NSF, NOAA, NASA, as well as several state, city and foundation funding sources. He is presently the lead PI on a team with four universities that was awarded a \$1.2 million grant by the National Science Foundation to study the impacts of historical morphological changes such as dredging and wetland landfill on coastal flood hazards. He has published three New York Times op-eds on climate change, coastal ecosystem health and coastal flooding, and appeared in national media on NPR Science Friday, PBS News Hour, PBS Sinking Cities, MSNBC and ABC 20/20. His website is <http://philiporton.com>.

On NPCC 4 (from Philip Orton continued from previous page)

I hope we can continue to improve the science of coastal/climate change hazards, and also to broaden coverage of flood products westward across the broader cross-harbor area.

Dr. Bernice Rosenzweig

Bio

Bernice R. Rosenzweig is a native New Yorker and faculty member in Environmental Science at Sarah Lawrence College in Bronxville, NY. She teaches courses on Global Climate Change, Environmental Data, and Urban Watersheds and conducts research on urban resilience to extreme rain and sea level rise. Her current work focuses on pluvial and groundwater flooding –

Bio (from Bernice Rosenzweig continued from previous page)

mechanisms of flooding that are particularly impactful in megacities like New York City, and expected to become more severe due to global climate change. Rosenzweig has participated in previous working groups on resilience indicators for the NPCC. She currently leads the Urban Flooding Task Force of the Urban Resilience to Extremes Sustainability Research Network (UREx SRN) and also serves as member of the Baltimore Urban Waters Flood Steering Committee.

On NPCC 4

As the city begins to recover from COVID-19, NPCC4 provides an opportunity for us to utilize both the lessons learned through our experience and the most current science to prepare for the changes in our climate that are already locked in and help prevent the most dangerous potential scenarios of global climate change.



Joel Towers (co-chair)

Bio

Joel Towers is Professor of Architecture and Sustainable Design at Parsons School of Design. He is also the Director of the Tishman Environment and Design Center and a University Professor at The New School. From 2009-2019 he served as the Executive Dean of Parsons School of Design. Previously, as Associate Provost for Environmental Studies at The New School, he led the establishment of the University's programs in Environmental Studies and, as Dean of Parsons, instituted required coursework across the college to assure that ecological literacy and sustainable design are foundational to all of the design, business and strategy programs the school offers. A former founding partner of SR+T Architects, Mr. Towers' focus on ecological issues and their relationship to both design conceptualization and construction methodology underlies his theoretical research, his current practice, and his teaching. He holds a Master of Architecture from Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation and a B.S. in Architecture from the University of Michigan School of Architecture.

On NPCC 4 (from Joel Towers continued from previous page)

The current state of NYC includes the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the legacy of structural racism, persistent economic inequality and environmental injustice, an acute economic crisis and the immediate and long-tail impacts of climate change. It also includes, embedded within urban form and function, municipal policy, community action, and the many plans, visions, and ambitions of successive Mayoral administrations, the seeds of a just and resilient future. This is the context for our work. My hope for NPCC-4 in this context is that we can:

- Be explicitly and effectively anti-racist in our endeavor;
- Engage with communities and stakeholders across the city and within the administration;
- Collaborate with allied bodies such as EJAB and the CCATF that have been charged by Local Law to help NYC “prepare for and mitigate the expected impact of climate change on NYC’s communities, vulnerable populations, public health, natural systems, critical infrastructure, buildings, and the economy” (Local Law 42 of 2012);
- Provide additional catalytic drive in the long and ongoing movement for a just, equitable, and green transition for NYC and the region;
- Be relevant;
- Build a foundation for future NPCCs; and
- Identify pathways for science to action.



Dr. John Kuo Wei “Jack” Tchen

Bio

John Kuo Wei Tchen is a historian, curator, and writer. Professor Tchen is the Inaugural Clement A Price Chair of Public History & Humanities at Rutgers University – Newark and Director of the Clement Price Institute on Ethnicity, Culture & the Modern Experience, beginning Fall 2018. He is founding director of the A/P/A (Asian/Pacific /American) Studies Program and Institute and part of the founding faculty of the Department of Social and Cultural Analysis at New York University, NYU. He co-founded the Museum of Chinese in America in 1979-80 where he continues to serve as senior historian. He was the senior historian for a New-York Historical Society exhibition on the impact of Chinese Exclusion Laws on the formation of the US and also senior advisor for the two-hour “American Experience” PBS documentary with Ric Burns and Lishin Yu on the “Chinese Exclusion Act.” *Yellow Peril: An Archive of Anti-Asian Fear* (2014) is a critical archival study of images, excerpts and essays on the history and contemporary impact of paranoia and xenophobia. He is also a founder of the New York Newark Public History Project (NYN PHP), funded by the Ford Foundation, which will reframe the history of the estuarial region starting with the twined foundational histories of dispossession and enslavement (work emerging from serving as a Commissioner on the NYC Mayor’s Commission on Monuments.) His *Below the Grid* Project is pioneering creative historical storytelling with smart, location-sensitive wearable tech.



Dr. Gernot Wagner

Bio

* It's pronounced like "juggernaut" without the "jug." Gernot Wagner is a climate economist. His research, writing, and teaching focus on climate risks and climate policy. Gernot writes the Risky Climate column for Bloomberg Green and has written two books: *Climate Shock*, joint with Harvard's Martin Weitzman and published by Princeton (2015), among others, a Top 15 Financial Times McKinsey

Business Book of the Year 2015, and Austria's Natural Science Book of the Year 2017; and *But will the planet notice?*, published by Hill & Wang/Farrar Strauss & Giroux (2011). He teaches climate economics and policy at NYU, where he is a clinical associate professor at the Department of Environmental Studies and associated clinical professor at the NYU Wagner School of Public Service. Prior to joining NYU, Gernot was the founding executive director of Harvard's Solar Geoengineering Research Program (2016 – 2019), a research associate at the Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, and a lecturer on Environmental Science and Public Policy. Before Harvard, Gernot served as economist at the Environmental Defense Fund (2008 – 2016), most recently as lead senior economist (2014 – 2016) and member of its Leadership Council (2015 – 2016). He has taught at Columbia, Harvard, and NYU, and has been a term member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

On NPCC 4

Covid-19 is climate change at warp speed. Climate is slow, it's also massive. I hope NPCC 4 will help, in a small way, to help guide the City's medium- and long-term response to Covid-19 to help address climate -- and vice versa.
