

EBC and Sustainable Solutions Lab at UMass Boston  
Climate Adaptation Forum

## The 'R' Word: Retreat, Relocation and Climate Resilience

Friday, March 1, 2019

University of Massachusetts Club | Boston



Save the Date! **June 7, 2019**

Climate Adaptation Forum: Disruptive Climate, Disruptive Technologies

EBC & Sustainable Solutions Lab at UMass Boston – Quarterly Climate Adaptation Forum  
EBC Contact: Ann Gisinger, [agisinger@ebcne.org](mailto:agisinger@ebcne.org) | SSL Contact: Rebecca Herst, [rebecca.herst@umb.edu](mailto:rebecca.herst@umb.edu)  
[www.climateadaptationforum.org](http://www.climateadaptationforum.org)

## AGENDA

- 8:00 a.m. Welcome**
- Ralph Child, Forum Organizer; Partner, Mintz
- Forum Introduction**
- Jason S. Hellendrug, ASLA, PLA, Forum Co-Chair  
Vice President, Planning & Design, Tetra Tech
- 8:20 a.m. Challenges and Lessons Learned from U.S. Retreat**
- A. R. Siders, J.D., Ph.D., Environmental Fellow  
Harvard University Center for the Environment
- 8:45 a.m. The Holy Grail: Meaningful Retreat from the Oceanfront**
- Robert S. Young, Ph.D., Director, Program for the Study of Developed Shorelines  
Western Carolina University
- 9:10 a.m. Introduction to “Can’t Stop the Water”**
- Rebecca Herst, Forum Organizer; Director, Sustainable Solutions Lab  
University of Massachusetts Boston
- 9:20 a.m. Legal and Policy Tools for Facilitating Managed Retreat**
- Katie Spidalieri, J.D., Institute Associate, Georgetown Climate Center
- 9:45 a.m. Climigration from the Ground Up: Helping Communities Determine their Own Future**
- Carri Hulet, Senior Mediator, Consensus Building Institute; Climigration Network
- 10:10 a.m. Networking Break**
- 10:40 a.m. Open Discussion**
- Moderator: Deanna Moran, Forum Co-Chair; Director of Environmental Planning  
Conservation Law Foundation Massachusetts
- Panel Members:
- Carri Hulet, Consensus Building Institute
  - A.R. Siders, Harvard University Center for the Environment
  - Katie Spidalieri, Georgetown Climate Center
  - Robert Young, Western Carolina University
- 11:40 a.m. Closing Remarks:** David W. Cash, Ph.D., Dean  
John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies  
University of Massachusetts Boston
- 11:45 a.m. Adjourn**

## FORUM CO-CHAIRS

**Nasser Brahim**, Senior Climate Change Planner  
Kleinfelder  
One Beacon Street, Suite 8100, Boston, MA 02108  
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Nasser Brahim is a Senior Planner and Climate Change Practice Lead at Kleinfelder, a multidisciplinary engineering and design firm. He helps communities and critical infrastructure owners prepare for climate change by implementing vulnerability assessments, resiliency plans, and capital and operational improvements.

Nasser has played a leading role in efforts to build climate resilience in Boston. In addition to supporting the ongoing resiliency planning and implementation for Massport and MassDOT, he was the consultant project manager for Climate Ready East Boston and Charlestown – the City's first neighborhood coastal resilience plans. He is currently supporting the City's Climate Ready Downtown/North End plan and Coastal Resilience Overlay District Zoning and Design Guidelines initiative. Nasser also served as a member of the Technical Advisory Group for the City's Climate Resilient Design Guidelines for protecting the public right of way and as a reviewer for UMass Boston's Financing Climate Resilience report and an upcoming Conservation Law Foundation report on climate change and the Massachusetts State Building Code. His resiliency projects with the City of Boston and Massport have earned engineering, planning, and design awards and been covered by NPR, The Boston Globe, New York Times, and PBS NewsHour.

Nasser is a certified consultant for the Massachusetts Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program. He holds a Master of Environmental Management degree from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

**Jason S. Hellendrung**, ASLA, PLA, Vice President, Planning & Design  
Tetra Tech  
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Jason Hellendrung, ASLA is a Vice President and Director of Planning at Tetra Tech. In this role he directs landscape architecture, planning and urban design work on a wide range of complex urban, public infrastructure projects.

Mr. Hellendrung maintains a special interest and practice in the evolution and transformation of cities through infrastructure improvements, including the development and revitalization of urban waterfronts, adapting cities for climate change, and building city resilience. He is currently leading a study for the New York Department of State evaluating a Transfer of Development Rights program for vulnerable properties in the Extreme Risk Zone of coastal Long Island, allow TDR to higher, inland parcels. He is also working on implementation of the Rebuild by Design Living With The Bay project in Nassau County.

Prior to joining Tetra Tech, Mr. Hellendrung was the local lead for the consultant team for Climate Ready Boston. Leading up to Climate Ready Boston, he was an advisor for the organization of 100 Resilient Cities Boston, co-authored the Designing With Water (with Boston Harbor Now), was a juror and advisor for the Boston Living With Water Competition, and member of the team that created the Sea Change: Boston exhibit. He was also the Managing Principal and lead for the Cedar Rapids River Corridor Redevelopment Plan and several implementation projects developed to guide the city's recovery from their historic flood in June 2008.

**Deanna Moran**, Director of Environmental Planning  
Conservation Law Foundation Massachusetts  
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Deanna Moran is the Director of Environmental Planning at the Conservation Law Foundation where she focuses on climate change in the built environment through planning, development, and regulation. Deanna oversees climate

adaptation activities for Southern New England and manages CLF's Boston Harbor Public Access Initiative. She is the co-author of a CLF report on Climate Adaptation and Liability. Prior to joining CLF, Deanna spent three years at New Jersey Community Capital, a community development financial institution, where she worked with local governments and other stakeholders to devise and implement neighborhood revitalization strategies including the reclamation of vacant and abandoned properties. She has consulted on a number of planning and policy-based projects for organizations including the Southern Coalition for Social Justice and the New Jersey Climate Adaptation Alliance. Deanna is active in a number of professional organizations including the American Planning Association and the American Society of Adaptation Professionals. She received a Masters of City and Regional Planning and a Masters of Public Policy from Rutgers University and a B.A. in Environmental Design from the University at Buffalo.

## **SPEAKERS**

**Carri Hulet**, Senior Mediator  
Consensus Building Institute  
100 Cambridgepark Drive, Suite 302, Cambridge, MA 02140  
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Carri Hulet is a Senior Mediator at the Consensus Building Institute where she facilitates diverse groups working on public issues including climate change, land use, energy, and transportation. Carri is adept at helping groups assess their strengths and challenges and designing and facilitating processes that enable them to make wise, lasting decisions. Carri is also a skilled presenter and teacher. She is affiliated faculty with the Program on Negotiation at Harvard Law School and she provides customized trainings for companies, nonprofit organizations, and government entities. Clients and partners who work with Carri describe her as smart, warm, creative, and easy to work with. She strives to build strong relationships with the clients and parties with whom she works, and to help them stay focused on the people and environments their decisions will affect.

**A.R. Siders**, J.D., Ph.D., Environmental Fellow  
Harvard University Center for the Environment  
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Siders is a lawyer and social scientist working to evaluate and improve climate adaptation policy and practice. Her research and advocacy focus on managed coastal retreat and its potential as a tool to achieve societal goals. As an Associate Director of the Sabin Center for Climate Change Law at Columbia University, in the wake of Hurricane Sandy, Siders authored the Managed Retreat Handbook – a collection of legal strategies, case studies, and best practices for retreat. More recently, she has written on the social justice implications of U.S. buyout programs and the role of private sector in promoting retreat. She works with local governments, companies, consultants, and non-profit organizations to integrate climate adaptation with disaster risk reduction and development projects. She is chief climate policy officer of the Inclusive Development and Empowerment Agenda (IDEA), an assistant editor of the Journal for Environmental Studies and Sciences (JESS), a climate adaptation specialist with international disaster organization EMI, and co-coordinator of the Earth Systems Governance North American Network. She previously served as a Presidential Management Fellow with the U.S. Navy, where she worked with Task Force Climate Change, Africa Partnership Station, and NATO. She holds a J.D. from Harvard Law School and a Ph.D. from Stanford University and is a member of the California bar.

**Katie Spidalieri**, J.D., Institute Associate  
Georgetown Climate Center  
Georgetown University Law Center, 600 New Jersey Avenue, Northwest, Washington, D.C. 20001  
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Katie Spidalieri, an Institute Associate at the Georgetown Climate Center, provides legal and policy analysis on adaptation projects at the federal, state, and local levels. Her work focuses on adaptation in the coastal sector, including evaluating land use and other tools and strategies, such as managed retreat, to adapt to rising seas and

flooding. Prior to joining the Climate Center, Katie worked for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and state environmental agencies in Maryland and North Carolina in permitting, environmental compliance, offshore energy and infrastructure development, land use, and community engagement and outreach in the place-based management of national marine sanctuaries and marine national monuments. Katie graduated magna cum laude with a J.D. from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law and the University of Virginia where she received two degrees, with distinction, in history and an interdisciplinary Environmental Thought and Practice Program.

**Robert S. Young**, Ph.D., Director, Program for the Study of Developed Shorelines  
Professor, Coastal Geology  
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Robert S. Young is the Director of the Program for the Study of Developed Shorelines, a joint Duke University/Western Carolina University venture. He is also a Professor of Geology at Western Carolina University and a licensed professional geologist in three states (FL, NC, SC). The Program for the Study of Developed Shorelines (PSDS) is a research and policy outreach center serving the global coastal community. The primary mission of PSDS is to conduct scientific research into coastal processes and to translate that science into management and policy recommendations through a variety of professional and public outreach mechanisms. The Program specializes in evaluating the design and implementation of coastal engineering projects.

Dr. Young received a BS degree in Geology (Phi Beta Kappa) from the College of William & Mary, and MS degree in Quaternary Studies from the University of Maine, and a PhD in Geology from Duke University where he was a James B. Duke Distinguished Doctoral Fellow. Dr. Young has approximately 100 technical publications and he serves on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Coastal Research and Environmental Geosciences. He currently oversees more than \$3.5 Million in grant-funded research projects related to coastal science and management.

Current research projects include: 1) an NSF-funded project examining the coastal impacts of the Elwha River dam removal project; 2) a major scientific effort to restore native rivercane *Arundinaria gigantea* to the southern Appalachians; 3) building a national, geo-referenced storm surge database in partnership with NOAA; 4) a National Park Service funded project to map coastal engineering activities in coastal parks; and 5) working at the local level to help communities plan for rising sea level.

Dr. Young is a frequent contributor to the popular media. He has written numerous articles for outlets like the New York Times, USA Today, Architectural Record, the Houston Chronicle, and the Raleigh News and Observer, among others. He is co-author of *The Rising Sea* and co-editor of *Geologic Monitoring*, both released in 2009. Finally, Dr. Young has testified before congress and numerous state legislatures on coastal issues. He currently serves the State of North Carolina as a member of the Coastal Resources Commission Science Panel and the State of South Carolina as a member of the Blue Ribbon Committee on Shoreline Management.

He is President of Sialia Environmental, Inc. – a firm that provides environmental consulting and restoration design.

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