

*EBC and Sustainable Solutions Lab at UMass Boston  
Climate Adaptation Forum*

## **Design World Views on Adaptation and Resiliency**

Friday, June 8, 2018

University of Massachusetts Club | Boston



**The 2018/2019 Climate Adaptation Forums are scheduled for:**

- September 28, 2018
- November 30, 2018
- March 1, 2019
- June 7, 2019

Presentations will be posted to the Forum website:

**[www.climateadaptationforum.org](http://www.climateadaptationforum.org)**

## AGENDA

- 8:00 a.m.**     **Welcome: Daniel K. Moon**, Executive Director  
Environmental Business Council of New England, Inc.
- Forum Introduction & Overview: Ellen Watts**, Forum Co-Chair  
Principal, Co-Founder, Architerra Inc.
- 8:15 a.m.**     **From Good City Form to Urban Transformation – Co-development of Urbanity, Sustainability and Resilience.** *Inspirations from HafenCity Hamburg, Germany*
- **Jurgen Bruns-Berentelg**, CEO, HafenCity Hamburg GmbH, Germany
- 9:00 a.m.**     **Livable Cities Thriving with Water: Artful, Technically Innovative, Integrated – Design Strategies that Work**
- **Herbert Dreiseitl**, Director, Liveable Cities Lab, Ramboll
- Discussion Moderator**
- **Jason Hellendrung**, Forum Co-Chair  
Vice President, Planning & Design, Tetra Tech
- 9:45 a.m.**     **Networking Break**
- 10:30 a.m.**    **Rapid Fire – Design Projects and Programs Taking Action**
- Moderator: **David W. Cash**, Dean, John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies, Sustainable Solutions Lab, University of Massachusetts Boston
- Summary: Sustainable Solutions Lab Boston Harbor Barrier Study*
- **Rebecca Herst**, Director, Sustainable Solutions Lab  
University of Massachusetts Boston
- The Case for Passive Survivability*
- **Alex Wilson**, President, Resilient Design Institute; Founder, Building Green, Inc.
- Suffolk Downs Redevelopment*
- **Thomas N. O’Brien**, Founding Partner, Managing Director  
The HYM Investment Group, LLC
- CRB: From Planning to Action*
- **Mia Mansfield**, Climate Ready Boston Program Manager, City of Boston
- Coastal Adaptation: Working at Unconventional Scales*
- **Alex Felson**, Associate Professor, Yale School of Architecture  
Director and Principal Investigator, Yale F&ES + YSOA
- 11:40 a.m.**    Closing Remarks: **Rebecca Herst**, Director, Sustainable Solutions Lab  
University of Massachusetts Boston
- 11:45 a.m.**    **Adjourn**

## FORUM CO-CHAIRS

**Jason S. Hellendrung**, ASLA, PLA, Vice President, Planning & Design  
Tetra Tech  
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Jason directs landscape architecture, planning, and urban design work on a wide range of urban infrastructure projects. Much of Jason's work involves reshaping cities through public infrastructure improvements and how these investments can catalyze development — in particular, the redevelopment of urban waterfronts and the integration of transit into cities. His project responsibilities include management and coordination of multi-client stakeholder teams for planning, design, and implementation.

Jason's prior work includes leading Sasaki's efforts for Climate Ready Boston, the HUD Rebuild by Design competition, developing 8 community reconstruction plans for NY Rising, redevelopment of the Allegheny Riverfront in Pittsburgh, and development of Shelby County's application to HUD's National Disaster Resilience Competition. Jason was the Managing Principal of the Cedar Rapids River Corridor Redevelopment Plan and implementation of several design projects developed with the community to guide the city's recovery from their historic flood in June 2008. Jason was also the project manager of the urban design and landscape architecture for the Healthline BRT and transformation of Euclid Avenue in Cleveland.

While at Sasaki, Jason played a major role in their leadership group, exploring the fusion of research and practice. Launched in 2011, the Urban Fabric research initiative and exhibition investigates the challenges of post-industrial textile cities on the Atlantic seaboard and offers strategies for the future. The Sea Change: Boston research initiative and exhibition, launched in 2014, examines Boston's vulnerabilities to sea level rise and demonstrates proactive design strategies at the building, city, and regional scale.

**Ellen Watts**, FAIA, LEED, President & Co-Founder  
Architerra Inc.  
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Ellen is the driving force behind Boston-based Architerra, a mission-driven architecture and planning firm dedicated to climate action through design excellence. Since 2004, this studio-sized practice has won 30+ regional, national and international design awards for its specialized portfolio of zero energy buildings, sustainable master plans and resilient urban designs – including two American Institute of Architects Top Ten Green Buildings and top honors in the Boston Living with Water competition. Locally, Architerra is best known for the design of the Boston Public Market, Massachusetts Clean Energy Center's Wind Technology Testing Center, and Division of Fisheries & Wildlife Field Headquarters.

An architect and planner, Ellen co-chaired the Massachusetts Governor's Zero Net Energy Building Task Force, served as president of Commercial Real Estate Women (CREW) Boston, and published "The State of Sustainability in Higher Education." A regular presenter on high performance design, Ellen currently serves on the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER) Zero Energy Advisory Council and Boston Harbor Now Climate Task Force. She holds degrees in architecture, real estate development and government from Harvard, MIT and Smith respectively. In recognition of her work, Ellen was elected a 2018 Fellow of the American Institute of Architects.

Ellen is a champion of **rexBoston** – **resiliency exemplified** – a bold vision plan that embraces climate adaptation as an opportunity for growth and innovation in support of the City's recent planning initiatives. This proposal to catalyze 130 resilient projects and brand them as city-wide resiliency exposition was inspired by professional learning exchanges to Hamburg and Copenhagen, for which Ellen was a delegate and co-leader.

## SPEAKERS

### **Jürgen Bruns-Berentelg**, CEO

HafenCity Hamburg GmbH  
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*Personal Assistant to the CEO: Linn Sahlmann*

Since 2003, Jürgen Bruns-Berentelg has been chief executive officer of HafenCity Hamburg GmbH, a public company owned by the City State of Hamburg, charged with the development of HafenCity and other areas. HafenCity Hamburg represents a mixed use 40 % expansion of the core city area of Hamburg, generating also 10.5 km new public waterfront. Jürgen Bruns-Berentelg and his team are thus responsible for one of the most important international city and waterfront developments. The goal is to develop a highly sustainable and outstanding new downtown in the European tradition of urbanism.

Before his involvement with HafenCity Hamburg GmbH, Jürgen Bruns-Berentelg occupied management positions with British, American and German property companies, partly at executive board and board of director level. In the process he was also involved in major projects such as Berlin Central Station or the Sony Center in Potsdamer Platz, located in Berlin.

Jürgen Bruns-Berentelg graduated in geography and biology. He is a real estate economist (ebs) as well as a professor for integrated urban development at the HafenCity University Hamburg in addition to his executive position.

Jürgen Bruns-Berentelg is a regular national and international speaker on issues of innovative large scale urban developments and also publishes regularly on questions of urban development.

### **Herbert Dreiseitl**, Director, Liveable Cities Lab

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Herbert is an urban designer, landscape architect, water artist, interdisciplinary planner and professor in praxis, and founder of Atelier Dreiseitl. A hallmark of his work is the inspiring and innovative use of water to solve urban environmental challenges, connecting technology with aesthetics, encouraging people to take care and ownership for places.

He has realized groundbreaking contemporary designs in the fields of urban design, urban hydrology, water art, stormwater management, planning and landscape architecture. He lectures worldwide and has authored many publications including three editions of Recent Waterscapes, Planning, Building and Designing with Water.

## PANELISTS

### **Alexander J. Felson**, MLA, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Yale School of Architecture

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Felson is an ecologist and registered landscape architect. His scholarly research focuses on urban land systems, including green infrastructure, local and regional park design, community to landscape ecology, and climate

change adaptation and mitigation. His design work integrates basic and applied ecological research as a driver of the form, layout and function of urban design, planning and infrastructure projects. He seeks ways of constructing biologically rich systems through research-based design and adaptive management.

As a practitioner he has worked to integrate ecosystem services and public space design into urban design projects in New York, Connecticut and across the United States. He worked with the NYC Parks Department to design the NYCMillion Trees project as a large-scale urban forestry study focused on ecosystem services, biodiversity and invasive species control. He is now a principal investigator on the built project. He is working with the Nature Conservancy on their Coastal Resilience Plan for Long Island Sound, analyzing storm surge and sea level rise scenarios through mapping and analysis, and negotiating local land use options. He is constructing bioswales in Bridgeport, CT through community participation to develop collective stormwater infrastructure that crosses property lines.

Prior to joining Yale, Felson worked with Ken Smith Landscape Architect and as an associate and director of ecological design at AECOM Design (EDAW). Working with a developer for his PhD, Felson implemented research on amphibian species as a design tool to inform the masterplan. He has a B.A. and M.S. from Wisconsin-Madison, an M.L.A. from Harvard, and Ph.D. from Rutgers.

**Rebecca Herst**, Director, Sustainable Solutions Lab  
University of Massachusetts Boston  
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As Executive Director of the Sustainable Solutions Lab (SSL), Rebecca Herst is driving research and resources to ensure that all Greater Boston residents are equitably prepared for the impacts of climate change. In addition to leading SSL, she has project managed a number of reports at the center of climate preparedness work in Massachusetts. These include Feasibility of Harbor-wide Barriers: Preliminary Analysis for Boston Harbor, Financing Climate Resilience: Mobilizing Resources and Incentives to Protect Boston from Climate Risks and the Climate Projection Consensus for Climate Ready Boston. Before coming to UMass Boston, Rebecca worked on climate preparedness efforts at Boston Harbor Now, Harvard University's Office for Sustainability and the Urban Land Institute. She holds a BA from Carleton College and an MBA from Boston University's Questrom School of Business.

**Mia Mansfield**, Climate Ready Boston Program Manager  
City of Boston  
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Mia manages the Climate Ready Boston initiative for the City of Boston Office of Environment, Energy and Open Space. In this role, she leads the City's climate adaptation efforts, including implementation of the Climate Ready Boston plan, the City's participation in the Metro Boston Preparedness Taskforce, and collaboration with ongoing planning processes like Imagine Boston 2030, Go Boston 2030 and the Resilience Strategy. She has a Master's in City Planning from MIT and a BA from Brandeis University.

**Thomas N. O'Brien**, Founding Partner, Managing Director  
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Mr. O'Brien previously served as a Managing Partner for JPI, a national owner of multifamily communities, and as a Managing Director in Boston and New York for Tishman Speyer, one of the world's leading real estate firms. O'Brien also led the Boston Redevelopment Authority as its Director and Chief of Staff, overseeing the

development of over 12 million square feet of projects in Boston, from 1994 to 2000. O'Brien has served as Chairman of The Greater Boston Real Estate Board and currently serves on the Board of the Taubman Center for State and Local Government at Harvard University and as Vice Chair of the Board of Overseers of The Anti-Defamation League of New England. In 2011, the Governor of Massachusetts appointed Mr. O'Brien to the Board of the Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency. In 2016, Mayor Martin J. Walsh appointed O'Brien to the Board of Trustees of the Rose F. Kennedy Greenway Conservancy. O'Brien is a graduate of Brown University and Suffolk University Law School, and is a member of the Massachusetts Bar.

**Alex Wilson**, President, Resilient Design Institute  
Founder, Building Green, Inc.  
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Alex Wilson is president of the Resilient Design Institute, a nonprofit organization that advances practical solutions for enhancing resilience of buildings and communities. He is also founder of BuildingGreen, Inc. and was the founding editor of Environmental Building News.

He is a widely published writer who has written for Architecture, Architectural Record, Landscape Architecture, the Journal of Light Construction, Building Safety, and many other publications, and he is author or coauthor of several books, including Green Design: Integrating Ecology and Real Estate (John Wiley, 1998), Your Green Home (New Society, 2006), and the Consumer Guide to Home Energy Savings (ACEEE, 1st edition 1990, 10th edition 2013).

Alex served on the board of the U.S. Green Building Council from 2000 - 2005 and in 2008 received their Leadership Award for Education. In 2010 he became the second recipient of the Hanley Award.

## MODERATOR

**David W. Cash**, Ph.D., Dean, John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies  
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David W. Cash is the Dean of the John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies at UMass Boston and a founding Dean of the Sustainable Solutions Lab. He has spent his career trying to understand and better harness knowledge to solve pressing policy challenges. Spending the past decade in Massachusetts state government in catalytic roles, Cash helped to transform the commonwealth's energy and environmental policy and regulatory landscape. His job history includes being a commissioner at both the Department of Environmental Protection and Department of Public Utilities, and Undersecretary of Policy at the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. In these roles, he helped develop and implement nation-leading science-based environmental, climate, and clean energy programs; statewide climate adaptation planning; innovative renewable energy and grid modernization efforts and the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative—the nation's first CO2 cap-and-trade program. He earned a PhD in public policy from Harvard University, concentrating in environment and natural resources. He also completed an MAT in science education from Lewis & Clark College and a BS in biology from Yale.