

DALE E. FOWLER SCHOOL OF LAW
PROUDLY PRESENTS



CONTEMPORARY
CONVERSATIONS
IN
CLIMATE CHANGE

APRIL 21 & 22, 2023

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, APRIL 21

4 p.m.

CONTEMPORARY CLIMATE ART EXHIBITION

5:20 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

INTRODUCTORY AND OPENING REMARKS

Marisa Cianciarulo, Interim Dean of the Dale E. Fowler School of Law and Doy and Dee Henley Chair in Law

Dr. Jennifer Keene, Dean of Wilkinson College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

5:30 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.

PANEL DISCUSSION

CONTEMPORARY CONVERSATIONS IN ART AND CLIMATE CHANGE

PANELISTS

Dr. John Hall, Professor, and Director of the International Law Program, Chapman University Fowler School of Law

Rebeca Méndez, Artist, designer, and tenured professor at UCLA, Design Media Arts; and Founder and Director of the CounterForce Lab

Stacey Otte-Demangate, Executive Director, Wildling Museum of Art & Nature

Mika Tosca, Associate Professor, School of the Art Institute of Chicago

MODERATOR

Dr. Jamie Larkin, Assistant Professor, Creative and Cultural Industries, Chapman University Wilkinson College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

7 p.m. – 8 p.m. **RECEPTION**

SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, APRIL 22

9:30 a.m. CHECK-IN

10 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

INTRODUCTION AND OPENING REMARKS

Dr. Norma Bouchard, Executive Vice President, Provost and Chief Academic Officer, Chapman University

Marisa Cianciarulo, Interim Dean of the Dale E. Fowler School of Law and Doy and Dee Henley Chair in Law

Deepa Badrinarayana, Professor of Environmental Law, Chapman University Fowler School of Law

10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

PANEL DISCUSSION

CONTEMPORARY CONVERSATIONS IN LAW AND POLICY

PANELISTS

Randall Abate, Assistant Dean for Environmental Law Studies, Law Professor at George Washington University Law School

Dr. Lisa Benjamin, Associate Professor of Law, Lewis & Clark School of Law

Rebecca Bratspies, Professor at CUNY School of Law and Director of the Center for Urban Environmental Reform

Richard Wallsgrove, Assistant Professor and Co-Director of the Environmental Law Program at the William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

MODERATOR

Dr. David Shafie, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Chapman University Wilkinson College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

12 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. LUNCH

SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, APRIL 22

1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

PANEL DISCUSSION

CONTEMPORARY CONVERSATIONS IN LOCAL INITIATIVES

PANELISTS

Heather Kryczka, Staff Attorney at Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc.

Megan Penn, Orange Home Grown

Dr. Fred Smoller, Associate Professor, Chapman University Wilkinson College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

MODERATOR

Ernesto Hernandez, Professor of Law, Chapman University Fowler School of Law

2:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

COFFEE BREAK

2:45 p.m. – 4 p.m.

PANEL DISCUSSION

CONTEMPORARY CONVERSATIONS IN SCIENCE, BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY

PANELISTS

Mike Brown, Founder and CEO of Impact Grove Corporation

Dr. Joshua Fisher, Chapman University Presidential Fellow of Ecosystem Science in Schmid College of Science and Technology

Dr. Matthew Liao, Arthur Zitrin Professor of Bioethics, Director of Center for Bioethics, and Affiliated Professor, Department of Philosophy, New York University

Mark McDaniels, Vice President of Renewables and Storage for Vistra Corporation

SCHEDULE

MODERATOR

Dr. Tom C. Piechota, Professor, Assistant Director of the Grand Challenges Initiative, Water Resources, Hydrology, Climate Change, Remote Sensing, Urban Hydrology

4 p.m.

CONFERENCE CONCLUDES

ABOUT OUR PANELISTS



RANDALL ABATE

Assistant Dean for Environmental Law Studies, Law Professor at George Washington University Law School

With a primary focus on climate change law and justice, Dean Abate has lectured and taught courses in over 25 countries on six continents and has published six books and numerous law journal articles and book chapters. He is the author of *Climate Change and the Voiceless: Protecting Future generations, Wildlife, and Natural Resources*. Early in his career, Professor Abate handled environmental law matters at two law firms in Manhattan. He holds a B.A. from the University of Rochester and a J.D. and M.S.L. (Environmental Law and Policy) from Vermont Law School.

Prior to joining GW Law in July 2022, he held full-time teaching positions for three decades at six different U.S. law schools. From 2018-2022, he served as the inaugural Rechnitz Family and Urban Coast Institute Endowed Chair in Marine and Environmental Law and

Policy, as a Professor in the Department of Political Science, and as the Director of the Institute for Global Understanding at Monmouth University in New Jersey. His areas of expertise are domestic and international environmental law, climate change law and justice, ocean and coastal law, constitutional law, and animal law.

ABOUT OUR PANELISTS



DR. LISA BENJAMIN

Associate Professor of Law, Lewis & Clark School of Law

Dr. Lisa Benjamin is an Associate Professor at Lewis & Clark Law School in Portland Oregon. She completed her Ph.D. at the University of Leicester in 2017, and received the Doctoral Honors Award in 2018. In 2018, Benjamin was a Global Leaders Fellow at the Blavatnik School of Government at Oxford University, and was a visiting assistant professor at Penn State Law School, where she taught Business Associations and Energy Law. In 2019, she was a Killam Postdoctoral Fellow at the Schulich School of Law at Dalhousie University. In 2021 she won the Huffman Award for outstanding faculty scholarship, and in 2022 she won the Leo Levenson Award for excellence in teaching.

Her research focuses on climate justice and climate risk, and how these issues intersect with energy law and administrative law. She has authored a book, several articles and book chapters on

non-state actors and climate risk, as well as energy and climate justice in developing countries, including small island developing states. She was the legal advisor to The Bahamas during the UNFCCC Paris Agreement negotiations.

Benjamin is the Vice Chair of the UNFCCC Compliance Committee (Facilitative Branch), a Director of the Northwest Environmental Defense Center, co-Chair of the Climate Accountability working group of the Climate Social Science Network, and a member of the Expert Peer Review Group in the Race to Zero campaign (a UN-backed global campaign to rally leadership and support from businesses, cities, regions, investors for a healthy, resilient, zero carbon recovery). She has been quoted in Bloomberg Law, The Financial Times, and made appearances on Velshi on MSNBC, and the BBC World Service.

ABOUT OUR PANELISTS



REBECCA BRATSPIES

Professor at CUNY School of Law and Director of the Center for Urban Environmental Reform

Rebecca Bratspies is a longtime resident of Astoria Queens. When not geeking out about New York City history, she works as a Professor at CUNY School of Law, where she is the founding director of the Center for Urban Environmental Reform. A scholar of environmental justice, and human rights, Bratspies has written scores of law review articles. Her most recent book is *Naming New York: The Villains, Rogues and Heroes Behind New York Place Names*. Her co-authored textbook *Environmental Justice: Law Policy and Regulation* is used in schools across the country. Bratspies is perhaps best known for her environmentally-themed comic books *Mayah's Lot*, *Bina's Plant*, and *Troop's Run*, made in collaboration with artist Charlie LaGreca-Velasco. These widely adopted comic books bring environmental literacy to a new generation of environmental leaders.

Bratspies serves on NYC's Environmental Justice Advisory Board,

and EPA's Children's Health Protection Advisory Committee. She is a scholar with the Center for Progressive Reform and a member of the NYC Bar Environmental Committee. ABA-SEER recently honored her work with its 2021 Commitment to Diversity and Justice Award. She was named the Center for International Sustainable Development Law's 2022 International Legal Specialist for Human Rights Award, and her environmental justice advocacy has been awarded the PSC-CUNY "In It Together" Award, and the Eastern Queens Alliance Snowy Egret Award.

ABOUT OUR PANELISTS



MIKE BROWN

Founder and CEO of Impact Grove Corporation

Mike Brown was raised to believe that, “greed is good.” He started his first company while studying business at Chapman University and grew it to over \$50 million in revenue with customers in 177 countries. After an eye-opening audit by the Environmental Protection Agency, he realized that he could no longer grow his business at the expense of his principles.

As an award-winning Orange County entrepreneur, Brown committed to changing the way business is done; but first, he would have to start with how his own business was run. He led efforts to turn his next business into a Certified B Corp and is a recognized leader in sustainably-led business. His company, Impact Grove, helps impact-driven business leaders increase profits because of their commitment to people and the planet.



DR. JOSHUA FISHER

Chapman University Presidential Fellow of Ecosystem Science in Schmid College of Science & Technology

Dr. Joshua B. Fisher, a Presidential Fellow of Ecosystem Science in Schmid College of Science and Technology at Chapman University, has been named a Highly Cited Researcher for 2021 by Clarivate for his contributions to the field of geoscience. Fisher studies water, carbon and nutrient cycling in terrestrial ecosystems using a combination of supercomputer models, remote sensing, and field research from the Amazon to the Arctic. He joined the faculty of Chapman University after more than a decade at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, where he was the science lead for a mission that placed remote sensing instrumentation on the International Space Station.

Fisher is the author of nearly 200 scientific research papers, including papers in leading journals *Nature*, *Science*, and *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. His work has been cited by his colleagues more than 17,000 times. This is his fourth year being named a

JOSHUA FISHER

Highly Cited Researcher. Fisher is teaching a course on global climate change to first-year students this semester as part of the university's Grand Challenges Initiative.



DR. JOHN HALL

Professor and Director of the International Law Program, Chapman University
Fowler School of Law

Dr. John Hall teaches International Law, Human Rights, Torts, and Employment Law at Chapman University's Fowler School of Law. A native of England, he received a B.A.(Hons.) in American Studies from Sussex University and a doctorate in Modern History from Oxford University. His doctoral dissertation, *Quieting the Storm: The Reestablishment of Order in Post-Revolutionary South Carolina*, was awarded the Sara Norton Prize in History. For ten years, he was a professor and department chair at Albion College in Michigan, where he taught courses in early American and military history. His reference book about the Peninsular War, 1807-1814, was a selection of the History Book Club. In 1994, he hitch-hiked around Southeast Asia (as he had previously done in Iran and the Middle East), and as a result, became determined to switch careers and become a Human Rights attorney.

Leaving his tenured academic position, he studied law at Stanford Law

JOHN HALL

School, where he received his Juris Doctor in 2000. While at Stanford, he became the first student twice awarded the Carl Mason Franklin Prize in International Law. Hall has carried out extensive Human Rights fieldwork in Cambodia, where his research centers on factory conditions, bringing the Khmer Rouge to justice, and human trafficking. He is currently working on behalf of 10,000 farmers in the Philippines who are facing forced relocation by land developers.

Prior to coming to Chapman University, Hall was an employment attorney at O'Melveny & Myers in downtown Los Angeles, and in-house counsel at Southern California Edison. His research has been published in journals such as the *Virginia Journal of Social Policy & the Law*, the *Stanford Law & Policy Review*, and the *Columbia Journal of Asian Law*. His opinion pieces have appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*, the *International Herald Tribune*, *Investor's Business Daily*, the *Los Angeles Daily Journal*, and more.



HEATHER KRYCZKA

Staff Attorney, Natural Resources Defence Council, Environment, Equity & Justice Center

Heather Kryczka advocates with, and litigates on behalf of environmental justice communities, including those that are disproportionately impacted by pollution from the goods movement industry.

Before joining NRDC, Kryczka litigated environmental citizen cases with Earthjustice and private public interest practitioners. She also worked on environmental campaigns as a community organizer prior to attending law school. She is a graduate of Washington University in St. Louis and Stanford Law School. She is based in NRDC's Santa Monica office.



DR. MENAS C. KAFATOS

Fletcher Jones Endowed Professor of Computational Physics at Chapman University and Director of the Chapman University Institute for Earth, Computing, Human and Observing (ECHO)

Dr. Menas C. Kafatos is The Fletcher Jones Endowed Professor of Computational Physics at Chapman University. He received his B.A. in Physics from Cornell University in 1967 and his Ph.D. in Physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1972. After postdoctoral work at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, he joined George Mason University and was Professor of Interdisciplinary Sciences there from 1984-2008, where he also served as Dean of the School of Computational Sciences and Director of the Center for Earth Observing and Space Research.

Kafatos and a team of computational scientists joined Chapman University in fall, 2008. He is the Founding Dean of the Schmid College of Science and Technology at Chapman University, serving as dean in 2009 – 2012. He directs the Center of Excellence in Earth Systems

MENAS C. KAFATOS

Modeling and Observations. He has nearly 40 years of experience in undergraduate and graduate teaching and research. He has published numerous books, including *The Conscious Universe*, *The Non-local Universe* with Robert Nadeau, *Principles of Integrative Science* with Mihai Draganescu and more than 250 articles in computational science, astrophysics, Earth systems science, hazards and global climate change, regional impacts of climate change, environmental issues, general relativity, cosmology, foundations of quantum theory, and consciousness. He has more than 275 publications which include refereed journal articles, books, refereed book chapters, and refereed published proceedings, and has been cited more than 2,200 times.

He is recipient of the Rustum Roy Award from the Chopra Foundation, February 2011, which "honors individuals whose devotion and commitment to their passion for finding answers in their field is matched only by their commitment to humanity."

He has been interviewed numerous times by: U.S. national TV networks (ABC, KCBS, Voice of America), Korean and Greek TV networks (KBS1 in Korea; ERT, SKAI-Eco, in Greece; PIT in Cyprus; TV and radio stations in Crete, cretalive, tv CRETA, Krete tv), national and regional newspapers and radios in Korea, (Hankook), Greece (Kathimerini, Eleutherotypia, Ethnos, Patris), and the United States (National Herald, OC Register, L.A. Times, Washington Post, Atlanta Journal, Korea Times).



DR. MATTHEW LIAO

Arthur Zitrin Professor of Bioethics, Director of the Center for Bioethics and
Affiliated Professor, Department of Philosophy at New York University

Dr. S. Matthew Liao holds the Arthur Zitrin Chair in Bioethics and is the Director for The Center for Bioethics at New York University. From 2006 to 2009, he was the Deputy Director and James Martin Senior Research Fellow in the Program on the Ethics of the New Biosciences in the Faculty of Philosophy at Oxford University.

He was the Harold T. Shapiro Research Fellow in the University Center for Human Values at Princeton University in 2003–2004, and a Greenwall Research Fellow at Johns Hopkins University and a Visiting Researcher at the Kennedy Institute of Ethics at Georgetown University from 2004–2006. In May 2007, he founded Ethics Etc., a group blog for discussing contemporary philosophical issues in ethics and related areas. He is interested in a wide range of issues including ethics, epistemology, metaphysics, moral psychology, and bioethics.

MATTHEW LIAO

Liao has authored numerous journal articles, and edited a number of academic volumes. He is widely published in journals such as *Political Philosophy*; *Ethics, Policy and the Environment*; *Journal of Moral Philosophy*, and *Bioethics*, to name a few.

Liao's opinions and views on climate change, ethics and morality have been sought out by the BBC, TED@NYC, Harper's magazine, the New York Times, the Huffington Post, Sydney Morning Herald, radio Netherlands Worldwide, and The Guardian, amongst others.

ABOUT OUR PANELISTS



MARK MCDANIELS

Vice President of Renewables and Storage for Vistra Corporation

Mark McDaniels is the Vice President of Renewables and Storage for Vistra Corporation, the largest competitive power generator in the United States. He is a respected power generation industry executive with extensive experience in power and bio-fuel plant construction, operations and maintenance, asset management, regulatory compliance, and project development.

McDaniels is a graduate of the U.S. Navy Nuclear Power Program and was responsible for the operations and maintenance of nuclear reactor systems on a fast-attack submarine. In the years since leaving the Navy, he has successfully managed the development, contract negotiation, construction, commissioning, and commercial operations of several nuclear, fossil-fueled, and renewable power generation projects in the United States and Mexico. He has supported numerous financial transactions of values often exceeding \$1B. He has extensive

experience leading corporate decarbonization efforts, including portfolio transition from fossil fuels to renewables, and pre- and post-combustion modification of existing natural gas-fired facilities.

McDaniels has deep experience with numerous fuel types (nuclear, coal, natural gas, wind, solar, battery storage, geothermal), plant type (combined-cycle, simple-cycle, peaking, base-load, etc.), turbine type (aeroderivative, industrial, etc.) and has managed biofuel facilities and a coal mine. His educational background includes a BS in Nuclear Science from the University of Maryland. He is licensed by the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission and currently serves as Council Member for the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI).

ABOUT OUR PANELISTS



REBECA MÉNDEZ

Professor, Design Media Arts, University of California, Los Angeles

Rebeca Méndez is an interdisciplinary artist and educator examining reciprocal relationships and environmental justice in a multi-species world in the midst of climate change, mass extinction, and a ravaging extractivist society.

Her fieldwork has taken her to vulnerable environments and communities in the arctic and to threatened ecologies in the Pacific Ocean. Méndez's diverse works are driven by her interest in perception and embodied experience and they develop within science and art, and manifest as immersive installations of video and sound, film and performance. Bridging scientific and indigenous perspectives, Méndez has collaborated with significant science institutions and with Acjachemen, Tongva, Chumash and Zapotec communities. Her works have been exhibited extensively throughout the world including at the 1st Gangwon International Triennale 2021 (Gangwon-do, Korea) and the 55th Venice

Biennial and are in permanent collections, including at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Cooper-Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum, Museum of Contemporary Art, Oaxaca, and El Paso Museum of Art. She earned a BFA, an MFA, and received the honorary degree of Doctor of Fine Arts from Art Center College of Design. She lectures internationally, is a tenured professor and chair in the Department of Design Media Arts and founder and director of the Counterforce Lab at the University of California, Los Angeles.

ABOUT OUR PANELISTS



STACEY OTTE-DEMANGATE

Executive Director of Wildling Museum of Art & Nature

Stacey Otte-Demangate is a lifelong museum professional primarily focused on smaller, community-based museums. She has a master's degree in Museum Studies from the Cooperstown Graduate Program and a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology from Arizona State University. She was the Executive Director at the Catalina Island Museum (now the Catalina Museum of History and Art) for ten years and Collections Manager for eight years prior. Eighteen years of living on an island made her very sensitive to how interconnected humans are to the environment.

Otte-Demangate returned to the mainland and became the Executive Director for the Wildling Museum of Art and Nature, now in Solvang, CA. The mission of that museum is to use art exhibitions and programs to foster a sense of stewardship for the environment, with a regional geographic scope.

STACEY OTTE-DEMANGATE

Otte-Demangate has curated dozens of exhibitions for the museum; the current show, “Bird’s Eye View: Four Perspectives,” is a diverse exhibition featuring four different artists that creates an opportunity to discuss the importance of wetlands, the decline of bird species worldwide, and what that portends.

She recently curated “Fire and Ice: Our Changing Landscape,” which focused specifically on climate change and wove in multimedia installations alongside more traditional artworks. Otte-Demangate believes that art can be a powerful way to reach an audience that might not be interested in reading articles about climate change, but who may be captured by a beautiful or provocative piece of art. She believes that people learn in different ways and that an approach through art can be a valuable tool in the environmental education toolbox.

ABOUT OUR PANELISTS



MEGAN PENN

Orange Home Grown

Born and raised in the City of Orange, Megan Penn truly knows the meaning of “homegrown”. She is a graduate of Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, and holds a BS in City and Regional Planning with an emphasis in Urban Design. Penn spent 12 years as an accomplished Urban Planner and Senior Project Manager before venturing into the position of Executive Director for the grassroots driven organization, Orange Home Grown Foundation.

As a co-founder of Orange Home Grown, which started in 2009, she is passionate about providing access to locally grown food. She works to improve the local food system through education and awareness, and develops opportunities that create “community” here locally and throughout Orange County. Penn is a past member of the City of Orange Community Development Block Grant Committee and is a past board member for the Pitcher Park Foundation.



DR. FRED SMOLLER

**Associate Professor, Chapman University Wilkinson College of Arts,
Humanities and Social Sciences**

Dr. Fred Smoller is Associate Professor of Political Science and has been on the Chapman faculty since 1983. He received his Ph.D. from Indiana University. His major area of interest is American politics, with an emphasis on media and politics, local government, and public administration.

ABOUT OUR PANELISTS



MIKA TOSCA

Associate Professor, School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Mika Tosca is a climate scientist and Associate Professor, having completed her Ph.D. in “Earth System Science” in 2012 at the University of California, Irvine, and her postdoctoral work at the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, CA. In 2017 she took a faculty position at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and in addition to her ongoing work investigating the link between climate and wildfire, she imagines ways that artists and designers can collaborate with climate scientists in an effort to better communicate and conduct climate science research.

Tosca has written about the emerging synthesis of art and science and has been invited to speak on the ways art-science collaborations can help us build post-climate change worlds, including a role as Plenary Speaker at the 2022 American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting. In 2021, she was named to the Grist 50 Fixers list, and in 2023 she

was interviewed by both the BBC's Science in Action and HEATED's Arielle Samuelson about her work and activism. Tosca works with young artists to push the boundaries of collaboration, including a new project that explores the potential of Solarpunk.

ABOUT OUR PANELISTS



RICHARD WALLSGROVE

Assistant Professor and Co-Director of the Environmental Law Program at the William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Richard Wallsgrove is an Assistant Professor and Co-Director of the Environmental Law Program at the William S. Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawai'i, where he teaches and studies topics related to the clean energy transition.

Wallsgrove has been published in journals such as the *UCLA Journal of Environmental Law & Policy*, *Vermont Law Review*, and *Energies*. His most recent publication presents a theory of restorative energy justice by examining the legal history of the Hawaiian Electric Companies and their role in the illegal overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawai'i. He is also an author of the Pacific chapter of the forthcoming Fifth U.S. National Climate Assessment. In his role directing the school's Environmental Law Clinic, he is involved in a variety of energy and climate litigation and policy matters.

Prior to joining the University of Hawai'i faculty, he served as the Policy Director for the Blue Planet Foundation. During his time spearheading this nonprofit's clean energy advocacy, his key successes included: working to pass the nation's first 100% renewable portfolio standard; advocating to halt the expansion of the state's last coal generating station; co-founding the Drive Electric Hawai'i partnership; and creating the annual Hawai'i Energy Report Card.

He has also worked with the Center for Island Climate Adaptation & Policy to analyze climate change adaptation tools for managing water resources in the Pacific. His prior legal practice focused on complex commercial litigation and transactions.



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