

Owens Community College - Toledo Area Campus
June 19, 2013

TRAINER BIOGRAPHIES

Melissa Greene is the Sustainability Conservationist at The Lucas Soil & Water Conservation District. She is also the acting chair of The Toledo-Lucas County Sustainability Commission. She has six years of previous experience implementing sustainability initiatives at the university level. Melissa is currently managing the development of a regional sustainability plan for the community. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Policy & Analysis and Masters of Public Administration in Environmental Management from Bowling Green State University.

Patekka Bannister has worked almost fifteen years protecting natural resources. She has experience in wastewater, air, hazardous materials, and storm water programs. As Storm-water Coordinator, for the City of Toledo, she develops policies and programs for the stormwater program which includes actively encouraging green infrastructure projects and complying with Phase I MS4 requirements.

Heather Elmer is Coordinator of the Ohio Coastal Training Program (CTP) at Old Woman Creek National Estuarine Research Reserve, a partnership of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Wildlife. Heather has over 10 years of experience as a trainer, facilitator, and researcher helping Great Lakes communities achieve sustainable water resource management. She currently leads development of science-based training and collaborative research processes to bridge science with management and policy on a wide range of issues including stormwater management and climate change.

Patrick Robinson is the Co-Director and Environmental Studies Specialist for the Environmental Resources Center (ERC), which is a center jointly administered by the University of Wisconsin-Madison and University of Wisconsin-Extension. ERC has over 40 dedicated staff working on projects related to water resource management, sustainable agriculture, and integrated natural resource management. Patrick has worked on natural resource issues across the Great Lakes Region throughout his career. He is currently involved with a number of national and statewide projects and committees working on climate change related topics.

Jeff Stone (GISP, CFM) joined the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) in November 2007 as a Project Manager and GIS Coordinator. Jeff has over 20 years of experience developing and applying GIS and geospatial web technologies to a variety of public and private sector projects. As part of the Science Services Program at ASFPM he manages research and outreach projects that take a science-based approach towards investigating flood risk and hazard related data, analysis and software and their possible implications on policy and regulations at the local, state and national level.

Molly Woloszyn is the extension climatologist for the Midwestern Regional Climate Center and Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, which are both a part of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. As the extension climatologist for both programs, Molly is responsible for communicating climate-related information to various audiences throughout the Midwest. Molly's educational background includes a Master of Science in Atmospheric Science from Colorado State University and a Bachelor of Science in Meteorology from Northern Illinois University. Prior to being an extension climatologist, Molly was an Earth Science instructor at community colleges in Oklahoma and Illinois.

Jeffrey A. Andresen, Ph.D., is associate professor and the State Climatologist for Michigan with Michigan State University's Department of Geography. Dr. Andresen is Co-Director of the *Pileus Project*, with a focus on the influence of weather and climate on regional tart cherry production and on grain quality. A native of the Quad Cities area of Iowa/Illinois, he obtained a Bachelor of Science degree from Northern Illinois University in the field of meteorology, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Purdue University in the field of agricultural meteorology and climatology. He currently serves as director of the Michigan Climatological Resources Program and associated extension/outreach activities, including administration of the Michigan Automated Weather Network (MAWN), a network of automated weather stations that provides quality, detailed online weather data to the state's agricultural industry.

Tashya Allen is a Coastal Hazards Specialist working for The Baldwin Group at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Coastal Services Center, headquartered in Charleston, S.C. The Center supports state and local coastal resource managers throughout the coastal U.S. and Great Lakes. Tashya's background is in community-based risk and vulnerability assessments. She also specializes in the development of decision support tools for hazards management and community resilience planning.

Beth Gibbons is Project Manager of the Great Lakes Adaptation Assessment for Cities (GLAA-C) at the Graham Institute for Sustainability at the University of Michigan. As the GLAA-C project manager, Beth is responsible for providing place-based information needed for developing and improving policy decisions and infrastructure investments related to climate adaptation in the Great Lakes Region. Beth's work includes fostering the transfer of information on climate change and community and economic resilience from the research side at the University of Michigan to city stake holders throughout the region. Her past positions include extensive community engagement and strategic planning work in the United States and Africa. Through work collaborating with local, regional and national level stakeholders, she has developed a keen ability to communicate effectively with diverse people on a myriad of community and economic development initiatives. Beth received her Master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Michigan.

Dr. Katherine Kahl is the Great Lakes Conservation Policy & Practices Specialist for The Nature Conservancy. She works with a multi-disciplinary team of TNC staff and partners to help develop and communicate long term conservation and policy strategies across the Great Lakes region. Katie created a series of climate adaptation case studies to translate examples of climate-adapted conservation planning and on-the-ground implementation in various Great Lakes systems. Her current work is focused on intersections between TNC's Great Lakes Coastal, Climate and Aquatic Invasive Species strategies. Prior to joining TNC in 2011, Katie worked with Heart of the Lakes Center for Conservation Policy, a statewide representative for Michigan's regional land conservancies, as the Director of Conservation and Policy Research. She has also managed West Michigan Strategic Alliance's Green Infrastructure Project, connecting local units of government, businesses and conservation organizations who shared common, regional land use interests. She completed her Master's and Ph.D. at Michigan State University's Department of Fisheries and Wildlife. Katie is based in Lansing, Michigan.

Bret Shaw is an Environmental Communication Specialist for University of Wisconsin Extension and an Assistant Professor in the Department of Life Sciences Communication at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He focuses on planning and evaluating social marketing campaigns dealing with natural resource management issues such as water quality, land use and environmental conservation. He has published broadly in the areas of environmental and health communication.

Becky Fedak, PE supports a wide range of projects at Brendle Group, including greenhouse gas inventories; energy profiles; climate and sustainability planning; water footprinting; and on-site energy, water, and waste assessments. She also has extensive experience as a water resources engineer and is well versed in water operations modeling and large scale water resources planning and design. Additionally, Becky has a comprehensive set of business skills, including project management, triple bottom line analysis, and business plan development. With an undergraduate degree in civil and environmental engineering, Becky continued her education with a Master of Science degree in Business Administration focusing on global, social, and sustainable enterprise. While completing her graduate work, she founded Running Water International, a social enterprise in Kenya, Africa that addresses the water resource challenges of the developing world. She continues to serve as Technical Director for the organization's multi-cultural team.

Bob Freitag, CFM is Director of the Institute for Hazards Mitigation Planning and Research, and Affiliate Faculty at the University of Washington. The Institute promotes hazards mitigation principles through courses, student intern opportunities and research. He is coauthor of "Floodplain Management: a new approach for a new era" (Island Press 2009). Bob was past Director of the Cascadia Region Earthquake Workgroup (CREW). Before coming to the University, he had a 25-year career with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) serving as Federal Coordinating Officer (FCO); Public Assistance, Mitigation and Education Officer. Prior to FEMA he was employed by several private architectural and engineering consultant firms in Hawaii and Australia, and taught science as a Peace Corps Volunteer in the Philippines. Freitag received his Master of Urban Planning degree from the University of Washington.

Jim Schwab is senior research associate and manager of the Hazards Planning Research Center at the American Planning Association. He also serves as co-editor of Zoning Practice. He has managed numerous major APA sponsored research projects producing training or research related to hazards and environmental planning. As adjunct professor, he also teaches a course on disaster planning for the University of Iowa School of Urban and Regional Planning. Schwab received a BA in Political Science from Cleveland State University, a Masters in Journalism and Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Iowa.

Dr. Kimberly Hall is the Great Lakes Climate Change Ecologist for The Nature Conservancy (TNC), and is based in Lansing, Michigan. Her work focuses on assessing climate change impacts, and working with TNC's Great Lakes Project staff and partners to update conservation strategies and priorities so that our efforts are efficient, effective, and promote sustainable natural systems that benefit nature and people as the climate changes. More broadly, her job involves sharing information, ideas, and best practices on climate change adaptation across the Great Lakes region; examples include the Climate Adaptation Collaboratory (led by the University of Notre Dame), contributions to the Midwest Chapter of the National Climate Assessment, and active collaboration with many partners on new tools, guidance, and case studies. Prior to joining TNC in 2008, Kim received her Master's and PhD in Terrestrial Ecology/Conservation Biology from the University of Michigan.

Rachael Franks Taylor serves as The Nature Conservancy's Director of Coastal Conservation, a position that spans the Great Lakes. In this role, she is identifying and implementing coastal conservation strategies across the region, with particular emphasis on the physical processes that sustain coastal systems; coastal resilience; and restoration. Before coming to work for the Michigan Chapter in August 2007, Rachael worked for the Massachusetts Chapter in Boston for five years, where she held several positions and was most recently responsible for developing the Chapter's first marine program. Rachael earned a bachelor's degree from Kalamazoo College (Biology, English, and Environmental Studies) and a master of environmental management degree from Duke University's Nicholas School of the Environment (Coastal and Marine Science and Policy). Rachael is based in Traverse City, MI.

James Cole works for The Nature Conservancy (TNC) as their Lake Erie Coastal Program Director. More than 13 years ago and on a quest for a more fulfilling profession, James left a successful career as an electrical engineer to pursue a calling in natural resources and conservation. His current work with TNC encompasses both conservation science and practice in the western Lake Erie watershed. He is responsible for developing projects and partnerships to advance TNC's restoration goals within the coastal landscape, particularly those benefiting the globally-significant migratory bird populations that stopover in the region. Presently, James is managing several Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) projects, which focus on invasive phragmites management and coastal wetland restoration. James' office is located at The Conservancy's Oak Openings Project Office, within the Kitty Todd Nature Preserve, near Toledo.

Melinda Koslow is Regional Program Manager for Climate Change Adaptation, National Wildlife Federation. Ms. Koslow has been working at the Great Lakes Regional Center of the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) since 2008. Her work includes developing and implementing strategies for natural resource and urban adaptation, guiding climate-smart conservation and ecological restoration practices, dealing with uncertainty and hazard mitigation, and building alliances that help safeguard wildlife in the Great Lakes region against climate change. Prior to NWF, she worked as a research scientist at the Cooperative Institute on Environmental Science (CIRES) collaboratively planning adaptive practices such as urban relocation and coastal wildlife management with the Arctic city of Barrow, Alaska. Koslow holds an M.S. in Natural Resources from the University of Michigan School of Natural Resources and Environment and a B.A. in Environmental and Atmospheric Science from the University of Colorado at Boulder. She is an expert on climate change vulnerability assessment and co-author of *Restoring the Great Lakes Coastal Future*.

Gene R. Clark, P.E. is a Coastal Engineering Specialist with the University of Wisconsin Sea Grant Institute. Mr. Clark has over 31 years of coastal engineering design experience, including the last eight years as the University of Wisconsin's Sea Grant Institutes Coastal Engineering Specialist and the Universities Lake Superior field office outreach manager. As coastal engineering specialist, Mr. Clark serves Great Lakes communities, state and local agencies and shoreline property owners providing shoreline development Best Management Practice (BMP) education, coastal erosion process and erosion control guidance, and port/harbor/marina technical engineering assistance (infrastructure & dredging). Mr. Clark serves on the Great Lakes Dredging Team (GLDT) and is the GLDT state co-chair as well as the GLDT Beneficial Use of Dredged Material committee chairman. Mr. Clark also serves as the Duluth/Superior harbor technical advisory committee as the Dredging committee chairmen where he works directly with USACE harbor dredging and beneficial use issues. He also is serving on the USACE steering committee investigating the accelerated freshwater corrosion problem in the harbor. Mr. Clark is a licensed Great Lakes practicing Coastal Engineer in Wisconsin and Minnesota and has extensive Great Lakes coastal engineering shoreline process investigations and project design consulting experience. He has completed site analyses, hydrologic and hydraulic structure designs, designs for coastal protection and erosion control projects, and has been involved with dredging research. Mr. Clark holds bachelor and master's degrees in ocean, coastal, and civil engineering from Texas A & M University, the University of Florida, and University of Wisconsin.

Roger Gauthier is Principal of Roger L. Gauthier Consulting. Mr. Gauthier provides professional support services for an array of water resources engineering, planning and management projects. His expertise includes expert knowledge on Great Lakes hydrology, tributary hydraulic modeling, coastal engineering and management and geospatial data analysis and management. He formerly served as Program Director at the Great Lakes Commission where he managed an array of Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River system-wide projects, including: atmospheric toxic research and emissions inventory development; habitat restoration planning; watershed water quality assessments; and emergency response coordination. He was the inaugural Executive Director of the Great Lakes Observing System, a non-profit organization involving federal and state agencies and academic institutions. He also retired from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as a senior Hydrologist after a 30-year federal career.

Lori Cary-Kothera is a physical scientist at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Coastal Services Center. She works on a variety of projects helping local coastal resource agencies better utilize technologies including GIS and social media. Recently she has been leading much of the Center's Digital Coast project – an effort to provide data, tools, and training for coastal managers. Ms. Cary-Kothera has a BS in Biology and Environmental Science from Bowling Green State University and a MS degree in Biological Oceanography from Florida Institute of Technology.

Jeffery Adkins is an economist with the NOAA Coastal Services Center in Charleston, South Carolina who promotes the use of economics by state and local government and other managers of our nation's coastal resources. Areas of interest include ocean economics, market and non-market values, and return on investment. Mr. Adkins has a MS degree in Water Resources Administration (Southern Illinois University) and a BBA in economics (Marshall University). Jeff is the lead economist for NOAA's Economics: National Ocean Watch (ENOW) data that provide time-series data for six economic sectors that depend on the oceans and Great Lakes. For more information, see www.csc.noaa.gov/enow.

Nancy Cofer-Shabica is a physical scientist at NOAA's Coastal Services Center focusing on coastal conservation and resilience planning applications and training. She leads projects to help diverse partners apply science and geospatial information for management and decision making. Nancy holds graduate degrees in marine geology (M.S.) and marine affairs (M.M.A.).

Sarah Mazze is the Community Energy Program Manager for TRIG and a Senior Fellow at Willamette University. Previously, Sarah ran TRIG's Climate Change Education program, where she created and ran the Climate Masters at Home and the Climate Masters at Work climate change outreach programs and co-wrote the Junior Climate Stewards curriculum. These programs were authorized by the state of Oregon in the Oregon Climate Corps Act, SB 942. She works with communities nationally and internationally to replicate the Climate Master programs. Sarah managed TRIG's media program, providing training for journalists on covering climate change. Sarah has more than a decade of experience in environmental education and outreach and program management. Sarah has a B.A. in psychology from Northwestern University, with studies at Oxford University contributing towards her degree. Sarah's two M.A.s in environmental studies and journalism and her certificate in nonprofit management are from the University of Oregon. Her most recent work includes the creation of an online decision support tool to facilitate the development of community solar projects and an innovative program to boost the marketing of energy efficiency offerings by building contractors, called Energize Corvallis Green Shares. She managed Solarize Eugene, a solar bulk purchase program.