

Leveraging the National Climate Assessment to Empower Communities - A Workshop

Committee

Rachel Gallery

Chair

Dr. Rachel E. Gallery is the Thomas E. Lovejoy Endowed Chair in Biodiversity, Conservation Science, and Policy and a Professor of Microbial Ecology in the School of Natural Resources and the Environment at the University of Arizona. With an emphasis on enhancing equity and inclusion in STEM, Rachel builds opportunities to support global biodiversity conservation. Her research focuses on the ecology and conservation of soils and on sustaining ecosystem resilience in the face of wildfires, droughts, species invasions, and climate change. Rachel holds a Ph.D. in Plant Biology from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and a B.S. in Biology from American University. A former Research Fellow of Wolfson College and Postdoctoral Research Associate at the University of Oxford, she was also a Staff Scientist at the National Ecological Observatory Network before joining the University of Arizona faculty. A Fulbright Scholar and a former fellow and current member of the American Association of University Women, Rachel serves on nonprofit advisory boards, international working groups, and proposal review panels and regularly speaks at local outreach events and international conferences.

Jamaji C. Nwanaji-Enwerem

Member

Dr. Jamaji C. Nwanaji-Enwerem is a Health Equity Presidential Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. He also serves as the Executive Director of Elnd, a community environmental education/improvement organization. Dr. Nwanaji-Enwerem graduated Phi Beta Kappa, Valedictorian from Morehouse College. He earned his PhD in the Harvard University Biological Sciences in Public Health program, his Master's in Public Policy (MPP) from Harvard Kennedy School, and his MD from Harvard Medical School. He completed a postdoctoral research fellowship in Environmental Health Sciences at the University of California, Berkeley School of Public Health. He completed his residency in emergency medicine at Emory University School of Medicine and served as chief resident. He is an NIH National Research Service Award Principal Investigator and has served as a member of the White House Environmental Justice Advisory Council, the White House Office of Public Engagement Roundtables on Clinical Innovation and Health Equity, the World Health Organization technical advisory group for the occupational burden of disease estimation, and the International Society of Exposure Science Board of Directors. Dr. Nwanaji-Enwerem is the recipient of numerous honors including being named a National Minority Quality Forum 2021 40 Under 40 Leader in Health, a Schmidt Futures International Strategy Forum Fellow, a Paul & Daisy Soros New American Fellow, and an Agents of Change in Environmental Justice Fellow. He has authored several peer-reviewed publications and given many domestic/international lectures on his research, which leverages molecular biomarkers to better understand how environmental exposures impact human aging and health, particularly for the underserved. His work further emphasizes the need for public policy solutions aimed at fostering greater health equity and environmental justice.

Julian Reyes

Member

Dr. Julian Reyes is the Climate Adaptation Program Lead at the Bureau of Land Management, where he integrates climate science, services, and adaptation strategies across programs and decision-making processes. Julian was recently Assistant Director for Climate Services at the White House Office of Science and Technology and U.S. Global Change Research Program advancing a whole-of-government effort to cohesively and collaboratively advance on actionable climate science and services. He has experience building decision-support tools, translating science for diverse audiences, and nurturing partnerships while the National Coordinator for the USDA Climate Hubs program helping farmers, ranchers, and foresters understand their climate risks and co-producing useful and usable climate and risk management data, tools, and resources. Julian was also an author on the Fifth National Climate Assessment providing expertise on agriculture, natural resources, and climate services. He has received two USDA Secretary Honor Awards for his contributions to the NCA5 and 2021 USDA Climate Adaptation Plan. Julian is a member of the American Geophysical Union and American Meteorological Society.

Lynée L. Turek-Hankins

Member

Dr. Lynée Turek-Hankins is a postdoctoral fellow at Dartmouth College, in the Neukom Institute for Computational Science and Thayer School of Engineering. She researches equitable climate change adaptation and mitigation responses with an emphasis on the interconnected housing and energy sectors. Dr. Turek-Hankins combines data science and co-production to identify multisector drivers of residential extreme heat risk and to assess response opportunities for the housing-energy nexus. Her data-driven research approach is decision relevant and rooted in collaborations with diverse knowledge holders and practitioners, such as state and municipal governments and community groups. She also studies procedural justice in knowledge production and decision-making processes. Dr. Turek-Hankins received her PhD in Environmental Science and Policy from the University of Miami as a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow and her B.S.E. in Mechanical Engineering from Stanford University. She served as a chapter author for the Fifth U.S. National Climate Assessment's Chapter 18, "Sector Interactions, Multiple Stressors, and Complex Systems," and she was an adjunct researcher with the RAND Corporation.?

Jim Yoon

Member

Dr. Jim Yoon is a Senior Scientist at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. His research focuses on the development and application of advanced modeling and simulation techniques to understand, quantify, and evaluate climate and socioeconomic impacts on coupled human-natural systems, identifying solutions that can enhance system resilience, sustainability, and equity under changing and adverse conditions. Dr. Yoon leads several climate adaptation and agent-based modeling research efforts being conducted for the Department of Energy Office of Science Multi-sector Dynamics (MSD) Program and the Department of Defense. He is a member of the MSD Community of practice scientific steering group and chair of the MSD Human Systems Modeling Working Group. Dr. Yoon obtained his M.S. and Ph.D. from Stanford University where he was integrated model lead on the Jordan Water Project, an international interdisciplinary research project focused on the development of a multi-agent hydrologic-economic model for evaluation of water security in Jordan and the Middle East. Prior to his work at Stanford, Dr. Yoon spent several years working as a water resources engineer at MWH Global in Southern California, consulting for municipal clients across the western U.S. He is also co-founder of WellDone International, a non-profit organization working to support clean water and sanitation projects in underserved regions across the developing world. Dr. Yoon holds a B.S. in Civil Engineering with an English Literature minor from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Komal Syed

Staff Officer