

8th Annual Sustainable Raritan Conference and Awards Ceremony



RU on the Raritan

Exploring an agenda for Rutgers' stewardship of the Raritan River, basin and bay

Douglass Student Center

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
100 George Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Friday, June 10, 2016

Participant Biographies

Lisa Auermuller, Watershed Coordinator, Jacques Cousteau National Estuarine Research Reserve, Rutgers University. Lisa Auermuller has been the Watershed Coordinator for the Jacques Cousteau National Estuarine Research Reserve (JC NERR) in Tuckerton, NJ since 2002. Lisa's role includes assessing the needs of coastal decision makers and assembling training opportunities through JC NERR's Coastal Training Program. These programs are designed to better inform decision makers through the use of science-based applied research, visualization tools and best practices. Most recently, Lisa's primary areas of interest have coastal community vulnerability and resilience as they relate to current and future coastal hazards. Lisa has worked with a variety of partners and stakeholders to develop tools and protocols to help communities understand their risks, plan for those risks and put resiliency, mitigation and adaptation measures into place. Lisa oversees a team of Coastal Resilience Specialists who work one-on-one with municipal staff and elected and appointed officials to assess municipal vulnerability and risk, facilitate a resilience preparedness and planning assessment process and to recommend implementation options at short and long-term scales. Lisa's work combines natural and social science aspects of the coastal decision making process.

Michele Bakacs, Environmental and Resource Management Agent for Middlesex and Union County, Rutgers Cooperative Extension. Michele joined Rutgers Cooperative Extension in 2009 and has 17 years of experience in watershed management primarily focused on stormwater management, green infrastructure, and water quality protection. Currently, Michele conducts research, educational programming, and technical assistance in the areas of water resource protection, organic land care, and safe practices for urban gardening. She has collaborated on numerous state and federal grants focused on researching the water quality of rainwater harvesting and bioretention systems, and helping municipalities disconnect impervious surfaces utilizing rain gardens, rain barrels, and permeable pavements. Michele works in urbanized communities teaching residents about contaminated garden soil and best practices for remediation for which she received the 2014 Diversity/Multicultural Individual award from Epsilon Sigma Phi. She helped develop and coordinate the Rutgers Organic Land Care Certificate Program for professional landscapers, recognized by the state's top industry organization, the NJ Turfgrass Association, with their 2014 Environmental Stewardship Award. Michele also

coordinates the Environmental Stewards program in Middlesex County, which teaches citizens about local environmental issues and enables them to create positive change in their communities.

Kate Boicourt, Restoration Program Manager, New York-New Jersey Harbor & Estuary Program. Kate Boicourt is the Restoration Program Manager of the NY-NJ Harbor & Estuary Program, where she focuses primarily on habitat, public access, and climate change. Most recently, she has focused on assessing and developing tracking mechanisms for habitat and public access in the Harbor, and manages an interagency Restoration Work Group. Prior to her work at the Harbor & Estuary Program, Kate led a team of experts to develop a Climate Change Adaptation Plan for the State of Maryland in partnership with the Maryland Commission on Climate Change, and has held multiple roles conducting field research and synthesizing coastal science for public audiences.

Michael Catania, JD, Executive Director, Duke Farms Foundation. Duke Farms, serves as a model of sustainability and environmental stewardship on 2,700 acres in Hillsborough, NJ. Michael founded Conservation Resources Inc., a nonprofit conservation group that provided financial and technical assistance to the conservation community in New Jersey. Previously, he served as Deputy Commissioner of the NJ Department of Environmental Protection, Executive Director of The Nature Conservancy of NJ, and he has been the Chair of the NJ Natural Lands Trust for more than 12 years. Michael currently serves as Co-chair of the New Jersey Climate Adaptation Alliance.

Kimberly A. Cenzo, Section Chief, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Kim is a graduate of Douglass College - Rutgers University and holds her bachelor's degree in Geology. While working for the NJDEP over the past 27 years, she attended the Bloustein School of Planning and Policy and earned a Master's Degree in City and Regional Planning. Currently, Kim is the Section Chief for the Bureau of Environmental Analysis, Restoration and Standards (BEARS) within the Division of Water Monitoring and Standards. She oversees the development, adoption, and administration of New Jersey's Surface Water Quality Standards and the New Jersey Ground Water Quality Standards. BEARS is responsible for determining the causes and sources of water quality impairment, the results of which are reported every two years in the New Jersey Integrated Water Quality Assessment Report, which includes the Section 303(d) List of Water Quality Limited Waters (303(d) List) and developing the pollutant reductions needed for restoration of water quality through Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) and watershed restoration plans. She also manages the Clean Water Act Section 319(h) Nonpoint Source Pollution Control grant program, Citizen Scientist Volunteer Monitoring Program as well as the AmeriCorps New Jersey Watershed Ambassadors Program. She may be reached at Kimberly.cenzo@dep.nj.gov or at (609) 633-1441.

Robert Chant, Ph.D., Professor, Marine and Coastal Sciences, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, Rutgers University. Dr. Robert J. Chant received his B.S. in Electrical engineering from SUNY Buffalo in 1985, a Masters Degree in Marine Science from SUNY Stony Brook in 1991 and a Ph. D. in coastal Oceanography from SUNY Stony Brook in 1995. Dr. Chant spent one year working at the Institute of Marine and Atmospheric research in Utrecht the Netherlands before moving to New Jersey in 1995 as a Post-Doctoral fellow at the Institute of Marine and Coastal Science (IMCS) at Rutgers University. Dr. Chant was appointed to Assistant Professor in 2002, received tenure and 2008 and promoted to full professor in 2013. Dr. Chant integrates research, teaching and service focused on estuarine and coastal dynamics and the impact that the resulting circulation and mixing has on the marine ecosystem. His research interests include field and modeling studies of mixing processes and transport in estuaries and river plumes and includes the effect of these processes on the dispersion and transport of salt, sediment, larvae and pollutants. He has published articles on physical and biogeochemical processes in many of

New York's and New Jersey's coastal and estuarine systems including, the New York Bight, the Hudson River, The Kills/Newark Bay complex, the Navesink River, Barnegat Bay, Great South Bay, Great Bay and Little Egg Harbor. He teaches classes in physical oceanography to graduate and undergraduate students and graduate classes in geophysical data analysis, coastal and estuarine dynamics, and coastal ocean observing systems. He serves as ad-hoc reviewer for over 25 journals and funding agencies, and has advised local, state, federal and foreign governments on issues related to the marine environment. His interest in the marine sciences grew out of his work as a professional clam-digger and amateur sailor on Long Island's Great South Bay.

Jennifer Clear, Ph.D., Post Doctoral Researcher, Marine & Coastal Sciences, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, Rutgers University. Jennifer is the project manager of the EPA approved DEP grant entitled NJ wetlands past, present and future: using sediment archives to inform and guide wetland protection, restoration and resilience. Her research focus is on Holocene environmental change and the impact of anthropogenic activity and climate variability as drivers of ecosystem dynamics. Essentially, using applied paleoecology (e.g. pollen, diatoms and foraminifera) combined with geochemistry to quantify long-term environmental change and disturbance (e.g. storm) frequency. These long-term sedimentary records are combined with short-term historical and instrumental data to model present and future scenarios to inform conservation and management policy. Jennifer graduated from the University of Liverpool with a BSc in Physical Geography (2006), MSc in Environment and Climate Change (2008) and PhD on Holocene fire and vegetation dynamics in the northern European forests (2014) and joined Rutgers University (2015) after a postdoc position in the Department of Forest Ecology, Czech University of Life Sciences, Prague (2013-). Jennifer is the primary scientific leader of the new PAGES working group FOREST DYNAMICS (2016-2019).

Richard L. Edwards, Ph.D., Chancellor, Rutgers-New Brunswick. Richard L. Edwards, is a well-known scholar, educator and administrator in social work education and professional practice. On August 1, 2005, he assumed the position of dean of the School of Social Work at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. On July 1, 2011 he was appointed as the interim vice president for academic affairs. In June 2014, he was named Chancellor of Rutgers--New Brunswick.

In a career spanning 40 years, Edwards has held deanships at Case Western Reserve University's Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences and the School of Social Work at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he served as Interim Provost and where he most recently had been Alumni Distinguished Professor of Social Work. He is a past president of the National Association of Social Workers. He has written extensively and consulted widely on issues related to social work education and nonprofit and public management.

As an administrator, Edwards has been an effective advocate and innovative leader for his institutions. Under his leadership at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill from 1992 to 2000, new doctoral and certificate programs were developed at the School of Social Work, while external funding for research, training and technical assistance increased dramatically. Under his leadership at Rutgers over the past four years, Edwards led the development of a new Institute for Families and four new academic centers.

As a scholar, Edwards has studied the management and organizational effectiveness of public-sector and nonprofit organizations. He has been a visiting professor at Babes-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca, Romania, and Memorial University in Newfoundland, Canada, and served as a consultant for the Soros Foundation's Open Society Institute on the development of gerontology education for professionals in 18 central and eastern

European countries. In 2008, Edwards spent several weeks at Ben Gurion University in Israel as a Fulbright Senior Specialist.

Edwards is the author of numerous articles and book chapters and served as editor-in-chief of the 19th edition of the *Encyclopedia of Social Work*, published in 1996. He serves on the editorial boards of several professional journals and served for several years as associate editor for North America for *Social Work Education: The International Journal*.

Edwards has been honored as a distinguished alumnus by the School of Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago, where he received his master's degree, and the Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy at the State University of New York at Albany, where he earned his doctorate. He holds a bachelor's degree from Augustana College in Illinois.

The Rutgers School of Social Work, headquartered in New Brunswick, is one of the largest social work educational programs in the U.S., with approximately 1400 students. The School also serves students from the university's campuses in Camden and Newark. It offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in social work and dual degree programs in conjunction with the law schools in Newark and Camden and with the Princeton Theological Seminary, along with several certificate programs.

Nicole Fahrenfeld, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering, School of Engineering, Rutgers University. Her research focus is at the interface of environmental chemistry and microbiology to promote water quality and sustainability, with applications in natural, agricultural, and engineered systems. Research areas include pathogen fate and transport (e.g., microbial source tracking, antibiotic resistance), combined sewer overflow impacts and treatment technologies, bioremediation of oil, explosives, and solvents, and the fate and transport of emerging contaminants (e.g., microplastics, unconventional oil and gas wastewater). She teaches courses on environmental biotechnology, groundwater engineering, fluid mechanics, and hydraulics. She earned her BS from Johns Hopkins University and MS from Clemson University in Environmental Engineering, and PhD from Virginia Tech in Civil Engineering with a concentration in Environmental and Water Resources Engineering. She completed her postdoctoral training at Virginia Tech studying the impacts of agriculture and reclaimed water on environmental sources of antibiotic resistance.

Robert M. Goodman, Ph.D., Executive Dean of Agriculture and Natural Resources at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. In that capacity, he serves as the executive director of Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station and executive dean of Rutgers School of Environmental and Biological Sciences. Dean Goodman is a plant biologist and virologist by training. In recent years, his work has been in microbiology, specifically on the diversity of microorganisms in soil that are recalcitrant to cultivation. Before coming to Rutgers in June 2005, Dean Goodman was a professor of plant pathology and environmental studies at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, where he also served as chair of the undergraduate major in molecular biology. Dean Goodman has served as senior scholar-in-residence at the National Research Council/National Academy of Sciences, executive vice-president of R&D at Calgene, Inc., and a professor at the University of Illinois Urbana–Champaign. His work has appeared in premier journals, including *Nature*, *Science*, *Virology*, and the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. He is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and is a past chair of the Agriculture, Food and Renewable Resources section of the AAAS. He's also a fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology and a trustee of the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT). He holds a

bachelor's degree in plant sciences and a doctorate in plant pathology from Cornell University. His postdoctoral fellowship in plant virology was completed at the John Innes Center in Norwich, England.

Qizhong (George) Guo, Ph.D., P.E., Professor, Civil & Environmental Engineering, School of Engineering, Rutgers University. Dr. George Guo is a widely recognized water resources engineer. His specialty and research areas are hydraulics and hydrology, urban stormwater and flood management, inland and coastal water environment restoration, and green and sustainable water infrastructure. Dr. Guo has directed over 40 research projects as the principal investigator, including the post-Hurricane Sandy flood mitigation strategy studies for the State of New Jersey as well as the post-Sandy flood mitigation and ecosystem restoration project for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. He has published over 140 journal papers, conference papers, and technical reports, and has given over 120 presentations including many conference keynote speeches and other invited talks. Dr. Guo has also actively served the profession. He has chaired the stormwater technology certification guidelines task committee for the American Society of Civil Engineers, served on a project steering committee for the Water Environment Research Foundation, and served as President of the Chinese American Water Resources Association. Dr. Guo received his B.E. degree from Tianjin University (China) and both his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from University of Minnesota. He is a licensed civil engineer and a diplomate of the American Academy of Water Resources Engineers.

JeanMarie Hartman, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Landscape Architecture, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, Rutgers University. Jean Marie Hartman received her Ph.D. in Ecology from the University of Connecticut, after first earning her M.S. in Landscape Architecture and B.S. in Botany from the University of Wisconsin - Madison. This complimentary blend of education and experience enables her to bring a unique expertise to her position in the Landscape Architecture Department of Rutgers University, a position she has held for over 25 years. Her current McIntire Stennis project focuses on watershed function and forest cover. One of the products of this research will be a series of recommendations related to forest protection and management as well as implementation of green infrastructure to mitigate forest loss and the concurrent changes in surface water quality. While teaching Watershed Management for the last eight years, Dr. Hartman has developed an understanding of living shoreline and green infrastructure technology through case studies, design projects, and site visits.

Jeanne Herb, Associate Director, Environmental Analysis & Communications Group, Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. Jeanne's work at the Bloustein School focuses on collaborative research and applied projects that advance sound environmental and sustainability policy and practices at the state, local and regional levels. Among other projects, Jeanne co-leads the *Sustainable Raritan River Initiative*, co-facilitates the *New Jersey Climate Adaptation Alliance*, a network of governmental, non-profit, and business organizations focused on advancing climate change policies and practices in New Jersey, and co-facilitates the *Planning Healthy Communities Initiative* that seeks to integrate consideration of health into all policies. Prior to joining the Bloustein School, Jeanne was the Assistant Commissioner for Policy, Planning and Science at the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection where she led multidisciplinary and cross-program efforts related to climate change and energy, Environmental Justice, smart growth and sustainable development, environmental health and science policy and coastal management. Earlier in her career, Jeanne was the Manager for the Public Policy Program at the non-profit Tellus Institute, was the founding Director of the New Jersey Pollution Prevention Program and oversaw risk reduction and risk communication efforts at the New

Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Jeanne has a Master degree in environmental journalism from The New York University and a Bachelor's degree in environmental studies and education from Rutgers University.

Wolfram Hoefler, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Landscape Architecture, School of Environmental & Biological Sciences, Rutgers University. Dr. Wolfram Hoefler is an Associate Professor at the Department of Landscape Architecture at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey and serves as Graduate Program Director for the department. He also serves as Co-Director of the Rutgers Center for Urban Environmental Sustainability. In 1992, Dr. Hoefler earned a Diploma in Landscape Architecture from the Technische Universität Berlin and received a doctoral degree from Technische Universität München in 2000. He is a licensed landscape architect in the state of North-Rhine Westphalia, Germany. His research and teaching focus is the cultural interpretation of brownfields as potential elements of the public realm.

James W. Hughes, Ph.D., Dean, Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. Dr. James W. Hughes is Distinguished Professor and Dean of the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. He is also the Director of the Rutgers Regional Report, which has produced over 40 major economic, demographic, and real estate studies on New Jersey and the broader metropolitan region.

He is a nationally-recognized academic expert on demographics, housing, and regional economics. He is author or co-author of 34 books and monographs and more than 150 articles. Among his books are *New Jersey's Postsurburban Economy* (Rutgers University Press), *New Brunswick, New Jersey: The Decline and Revitalization of Urban America* (Rutgers University Press), *The Atlantic City Gamble* (Harvard University Press). He was also a contributing editor to the magazine *American Demographics* for 14 years.

Among his recent awards are the 2014 Distinguished Service Award of the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, the Rutgers School of Engineering 2014 Medal of Excellence, the Warren Hill Award of the New Jersey Bankers Association, the Rutgers' Richard P. McCormick Award for Excellence in Alumni Leadership, the Distinguished Service Award of the New Jersey Chapter of the American Planning Association, and the Rutgers Presidential Award for Distinguished Public Service. Dean Hughes has been both a Woodrow Wilson and Ford Foundation Fellow and was a Distinguished Fellow of the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties.

Dean Hughes has provided extensive budgetary and economic testimony before many New Jersey State Legislative committees, and has provided numerous policy briefings both in Washington and Trenton on demographics, housing and the economy. He has served on numerous commissions and task forces, including NJ Governor's Commission on Jobs, Growth and Economic Development, the Economic Advisors Board of the Council of the City of New York, the NJ Governor's World Class Economy Task Force, and the NJ Governor's Property Tax Commission. Dean Hughes was previously on the corporate boards of the E'Town Corporation and the Cali Real Estate Investment Trust, and was a member of the Board of Directors of the Cooperative Housing Foundation in Washington, D.C.

Dean Hughes is a military veteran who served as an artillery officer in the U.S. Army.

William Kibler, JD, Director of Policy, Raritan Headwaters Association. RHA protects, preserves, and improves water quality and other natural resources of the Raritan River headwaters region through science, education, advocacy, land preservation and stewardship. Bill was the Executive Director of the South Branch Watershed

Association from 2005 until RHA was created in 2011. An attorney (JD, Syracuse University) whose practice focused on environmental law, land use, and corporate sustainability, he served in the Army Corps of Engineers after graduating from the United States Military Academy. Bill serves on the campaign committee for Keep It Green, and the board of trustees of the New Jersey Highlands Coalition. He lives on the South Branch of the Raritan River in Califon and is a past chief of the Califon Fire Company.

Ken Klipstein, Director, Watershed Protection Programs, New Jersey Water Supply Authority. Ken has managed the NJ Water Supply Authority's Watershed Protection Programs since March 2008. Prior to joining the Authority, Ken worked for 20 years at the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, where he most recently served as Bureau Chief for Watershed Planning. His non-profit interests include board positions with the Pinchot Institute for Conservation, the New Jersey Conservation Foundation, the New Jersey Invasive Species Strike Team and the Tewksbury Land Trust. He holds a B.S. in Environmental Planning from Cook College, Rutgers University, and an A.A.S. in Civil Technology from the University of New Hampshire.

Richard G. Lathrop, Jr., Ph.D., Director, Grant F. Walton Center for Remote Sensing & Spatial Analysis and inaugural holder of the Johnson Family Chair in Water Resources and Watershed Ecology. Rick Lathrop was appointed to the Johnson Family Chair in December 2015 to lead an interdisciplinary program to study the intersection of human activities, aquatic ecosystems and stewardship of water resources in the Raritan watershed. He co-leads the Sustainable Raritan River Initiative, has been a professor in the Department of Ecology, Evolution & Natural Resources, School of Environmental & Biological Sciences, Rutgers University since 1989, and has served as Director of the Walton Center for Remote Sensing & Spatial Analysis since 1999. The mission of the Walton Center is advancing the development and application of geospatial information science and technology to address issues in the environment, agriculture and natural resources. Rick received his doctorate from the University of Madison – Wisconsin in 1988 for *The Integration of Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems for Great Lakes Water Quality Monitoring*. He holds an MS in Environmental Monitoring and an MS in Forestry from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a BA in Biology from Dartmouth College. Dr. Lathrop's research program works to integrate insights from landscape ecology and geography with the application of geo-spatial information science and technology to improve our understanding of the structure and function of coupled human-environmental systems. Working with partners, he attempts to translate that understanding into place-based decision-making that promotes informed and effective natural resources conservation, watershed management, and land use planning policies.

Karen Lowrie, Ph.D., Associate Director, Environmental Analysis & Communications Group, Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning & Public Policy, Rutgers University. Karen Lowrie is an Associate Director for EAC. Since the 1990s, she has managed projects for both the National Center for Neighborhood and Brownfields Redevelopment and the Center for Transportation Safety, Security and Risk. Specific projects have included assessing socioeconomic impacts of large contaminated sites, building local capacity for urban neighborhood planning, addressing health and risk issues with community-based health interventions, producing training videos, and developing a brownfields manual for community-based organizations. Dr. Lowrie also serves as a Facilitator of the Planning Healthy Communities Initiative, where she conducts health impact assessment studies, and works with local municipalities on community-based approaches to advancing health objectives. She is the Managing Editor for the journals *Risk Analysis* and *Journal of Planning Education and Research*. She also teaches traditional and online classes in health impact assessment and transportation security, and has published numerous articles in popular and peer-reviewed publications.

Sara Malone, MES, Facilitator, Sustainable Raritan River Initiative, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. Sara is a Senior Research Specialist in the Environmental Analysis & Communications Group at Bloustein where she works with the Sustainable Raritan River Initiative, the New Jersey Healthy Homes Initiative and on several land use planning projects including a Brownfield to Greenfield project in Perth Amboy, a Statewide climate adaptation/habitat vulnerability assessment project, and a Municipal Public Access Plan and Coastal Vulnerability Assessment for New Brunswick. She is a part-time lecturer at Bloustein and co-taught a graduate planning studio on wetlands and habitat restoration for a working waterfront in the Raritan Center. She has a background in regional planning, project management, accounting, and human resources management and has training in ecological restoration and landscape design. Sara holds a Bachelor of Science from the University of Massachusetts/Boston and she received a Master of Environmental Studies from the University of Pennsylvania in 2012 where her academic focus was on ecology, wetlands restoration, and damaged lands reuse. Sara is Chair of the Franklin Township Shade Tree Commission, serves on the Township's Green Team, and is caretaker for an historic Dutch home and barns in Somerset.

Kristi MacDonald, Ph.D., Director of Science, Raritan Headwaters Association. Raritan Headwaters has been working to protect water resources of the Upper Raritan Region for over 57 years through programs in science, education, policy and stewardship. Since joining Raritan Headwaters in 2015, Kristi completed a trend analysis of groundwater contaminants obtained from 30-years of well test data. She is now working on a long-term trend analysis of stream monitoring data. Kristi received her PhD in ecology from Rutgers University in 2008. Her research has mainly focused on understanding how species respond to human-caused stressors such as urban and agricultural land use, pollution, invasive species and climate change. Prior to joining RHA she worked with the Wildlife Conservation Society, Hudsonia, and NY/NJ Baykeeper on programs to guide decision-makers on how they might incorporate protection of habitat and other ecosystem functions into local and regional land use planning.

Debbie Mans, Esq., Baykeeper and Executive Director, NY/NJ Baykeeper. Debbie has been Baykeeper and Executive Director since April 2008. NY/NJ Baykeeper is the citizen guardian of the NY-NJ Harbor Estuary. Prior to joining NY/NJ Baykeeper, Debbie was the Environmental and Energy Policy Advisor for NJ Governor Jon S. Corzine. Debbie is a graduate of The University of Michigan and holds a J.D. from Vermont Law School. She is the Chair of the New Jersey League of Conservation Voters and Treasurer of the New Jersey League of Conservation Voters Education Fund.

James (Ken) Mitchell, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, Department of Geography, School of Arts and Sciences, Rutgers University. Ken holds degrees from the University of Chicago (Ph.D.), the University of Cincinnati (M.A.; M.C.P.) and the Queens University of Belfast (B.S. Hons). Before retiring from teaching in January 2016 he had completed 45 years of service at Rutgers, conducted field research on human dimensions of natural hazards in North America, Europe, East Asia and Australia, and authored more than 140 professional publications. During 1999-2000, Ken organized the Great Raritan Flood project, a department-wide research and outreach initiative that examined local effects of Hurricane Floyd. He has chaired the National Academy of Science's ad hoc Committee on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction and the International Geographical Union's Study Group on the Disaster Vulnerability of Megacities. He is a Fellow of the American Academy for the Advancement of Science, a member of the International Research Committee on Disasters, and founder of the international journals *Global Environmental Change* and *Environmental Hazards*. Recent publications include: an assessment of risk governance in the world's largest cities; an advocacy piece on an expanded role for natural hazards education

in the UNESCO's World Heritage Site Program; and forthcoming papers on local recovery from Super Storm Sandy and the co-production of storm surge risk information. He is currently completing a project supported by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Pew Research Trusts that explores the utility of Health Impact Assessment in the process of post-disaster recovery.

Christopher C. Obropta, Ph.D., P.E., is the Director of the New Jersey Water Resources Research Institute, an Extension Specialist in Water Resources with Rutgers Cooperative Extension, and an Associate Professor with the Department of Environmental Sciences at the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, Rutgers University. He has a doctorate in Civil Engineering from Stevens Institute of Technology, an M.S. in Civil Engineering from New Jersey Institute of Technology, and a B.S. in Civil Engineering from New Jersey Institute of Technology. Prior to joining Rutgers, Dr. Obropta was an environmental consultant for 12 years at Omni Environmental Corporation in Princeton, New Jersey. With his extensive and impressive background, Dr. Obropta leads his highly specialized staff from the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program to identify and address community water resources issues using sustainable and practical science-based solutions throughout New Jersey. Over the last several years, he and his staff have been working with communities to implement green infrastructure practices throughout the urban centers of New Jersey. These practices have been designed to be climate resilient and to help communities reduce their flooding risk.

Robert Pirani, M.R.P., Program Director, New York-New Jersey Harbor & Estuary Program. Robert Pirani is the program director for the New York-New Jersey Harbor & Estuary Program at the Hudson River Foundation. HEP is a collaboration of government, scientists and the civic sector that helps protect and restore the harbor's waters and habitat. It is one of 28 such programs around the country authorized under the Clean Water Act. Prior to joining the Foundation in 2014, Mr. Pirani was vice president for energy and environment at Regional Plan Association and executive director of the Governors Island Alliance. Mr. Pirani has received awards from the Environmental Advocates of New York, National Trust for Historic Preservation, and The New York Harbor School Foundation. Mr. Pirani has served as a founding board member of the four state Highlands Coalition, Governors Island Alliance and Brooklyn Greenway Initiative. Mr. Pirani holds a Masters Degree in Regional Planning from Cornell University and BA in Environmental Studies from Hampshire College.

Beth Ravit, Ph.D., Co-Founder, Center for Urban Environmental Sustainability, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. Dr. Ravit's research focus is rehabilitation of the Hudson-Raritan Estuary, with emphasis on the region's wetlands and coastal resiliency. A research priority is the re-introduction of native Eastern Oysters to this urban ecosystem. Dr. Ravit is working in collaboration with NY/NJ Baykeeper at Naval Weapons Station Earle to install up to 11 acres of Eastern Oyster reef, leading an interdisciplinary research team to determine the effect of this native species with respect to shoreline stabilization and protection from erosion and storm surges in the Hudson-Raritan Estuary. Dr. Ravit has recently initiated a new research program studying the presence and effects of microplastic pollution in the freshwater portion of the Raritan River. In 2006, Dr. Ravit co-founded the Rutgers Center for Urban Environmental Sustainability (CUES), a unique collaboration established jointly by the Departments of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Sciences. As Co-Director of CUES, Dr. Ravit collaborates and coordinates interdisciplinary teams composed of Rutgers faculty, staff, and students who participate in CUES research initiatives. She is also the primary CUES liaison with New Jersey's environmental non-governmental organization (NGO) community. Dr. Ravit also Co-Chaired the Sustainable Jersey Brownfields Task Force to develop Action Items for municipal Green Team volunteers that support the reduction and reuse of NJ's Brownfields inventory. Dr. Ravit has

authored or co-authored over a dozen scientific peer-reviewed articles, and co-authored two book chapters. She is the Managing Editor of the scientific journal *Soil Science*.

Oscar Schofield, Ph.D., Professor and Chair of Marine and Coastal Sciences, Rutgers University. He is co-Director of the Rutgers University's Center for Ocean Observing Leadership (RU COOL). His group over the last two decades has focused on developing and deploying ocean observing networks consisting of satellites, radars, autonomous underwater robots, and data assimilative numerical models. The networks are deployed in tropical, temperate and polar seas. Results are used to inform a wide range of applied as well fundamental research questions spanning from ecosystem responses to rapid climate change, improving the ability to forecast typhoons, to the biophysical regulation of plankton productivity. He teaches a range of hands-on research courses that have students use data collected by the international network of ocean observatories. He received his PhD from the University of California at Santa Barbara in cellular biology and conducted postdoctoral training at the Agricultural Research Service focused on the aquaculture production.

Erin Stretz, StreamWatch Coordinator, Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association. For five years, Erin has managed water quality programming at the Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association – an organization that seeks to protect and restore clean water and healthy habitats in central New Jersey. One of the pillars of SBMWA's Science Department is the StreamWatch volunteer water quality monitoring program. StreamWatch engages hundreds of volunteers in monitoring water chemistry, macroinvertebrate populations, and pathogenic bacteria concentrations in streams and lakes in the Millstone watershed. Erin has also developed water monitoring project plans and protocols for local low-head dam removals and bacterial source tracking. She is currently developing a new drinking water testing program, TapWatch, in response to growing concerns nationally and locally about safe drinking water systems. Erin has a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Geography and plans to begin graduate school to study Environmental Science in the spring.

Dan Van Abs, Ph.D., PP/AICP, Associate Professor, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. Daniel J. Van Abs, PhD PP/AICP is an Associate Professor of Practice for Water, Society & Environment at Rutgers University, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences. Previously, he was Senior Director for Planning & Science with the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council (NJ), where he managed staff efforts regarding implementation of the Highlands Regional Master Plan. Dan also has served as Director of Watershed Protection, NJ Water Supply Authority for over eight years; with the NJ Department of Environmental Protection for 12 years, six as manager for statewide water resources planning; and as Technical Director of the Passaic River Coalition for four years. He holds a Ph.D. in Environmental Science from SUNY-College of Environmental Science and Forestry. He is a licensed Professional Planner in New Jersey, a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners, and former Chair of the New Jersey Clean Water Council. Dan is co-editor with Karen O'Neill of a new Rutgers University Press book (June 2016) *Taking Chances: The Coast After Sandy*.

James Waltman, MES, Executive Director, Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association. Jim Waltman is the Executive Director of the Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association, a position he has held since April 2005. The Watershed Association works to protect and restore clean water and the natural environment in central New Jersey through conservation, advocacy, science and education. Jim is responsible for setting the strategic priorities and goals of the organization and working with its staff and Board of Trustees to implement programs that advance its mission. Jim led the organization's successful \$8.5 million capital campaign and oversaw the

planning, design, permitting and construction of the Association's Watershed Center for Environmental Advocacy, Science and Education. The Center has received LEED-Platinum certification from the U.S. Green Building Council—the highest recognition granted through its Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design program. Jim also serves (since 2008) as a member of the State Agriculture Development Committee, which oversees New Jersey's farmland preservation program and administers its Right-to-Farm program. He was also a founding Board member of the NJ League of Conservation Voters, a non-partisan public education and political action organization. Prior to joining the Watershed Association, Jim was the Director of Wildlife Programs for the Wilderness Society for ten years, and before that he was a Wildlife Specialist for the National Audubon Society between 1990 and 1995. Jim graduated from Princeton University with honors in biology and he received a master's degree in environmental studies from the Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

Frank Wong, LA, PP/AICP, Executive Director, Planning and Development, Division of Institutional Planning and Operations, Rutgers University. Frank Wong is the Executive Director of University Planning and Development at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. His office is engaged in campus planning and capital project development for the New Brunswick, Newark and Camden Campuses, as well as coordinating with municipal, county, state and local agencies on regional infrastructure projects that impact the campuses. He recently oversaw the completion and adoption of Rutgers 2030, the comprehensive long-term physical master plan for the university. He holds two degrees from Rutgers University, including a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Planning and Design, and a Master of Public Administration. He is both a Licensed Landscape Architect and Licensed Professional Planner in the State of New Jersey. He is a member of the Society of College and University Planning, and formerly served its Mid-Atlantic Regional Council.

Steven Yergeau, Ph.D., Environmental and Resource Management Agent for Ocean and Atlantic Counties, Rutgers Cooperative Extension. Steve joined Rutgers Cooperative Extension in 2014 as the Environmental & Resource Management Agent for Ocean & Atlantic Counties, after previously working as a Senior Program Coordinator with the Rutgers Cooperative Extension's Water Resources Program for 2 years. He has been involved in water quality monitoring and watershed management throughout the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Regions over the past 20 years. Steve works with municipalities, farmers, residents, and non-profits developing programs and solutions to environmental issues affecting coastal water quality. His programs focus on implementing water saving practices for homeowners such as native landscaping and rainwater collection, agricultural irrigation system management, soil health improvement focused on mitigating soil compaction, and implementing practices with towns to decrease pollution, especially nitrogen, entering Barnegat Bay. Steve received his Ph.D. in Environmental Sciences from Rutgers University in 2010.

Photo Credit: "Rutgers women's rowing team on the Raritan River" by Rutgers Athletics

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