Climates Initiative
conference

CHANGING CLIMATES, CHANGING MINDS

Storms, Trust and Public Perception
November 12 - 14, 2008

A joint conference of the Humanities Institute at Stony Brook, The School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences and the Department of Philosophy

CONFERENCE LOCATIONS:

Endeavour Hall (South Campus) Room 120

Humanities Building
Rooms 1006 & 1008

Please visit the HISB website for more information
http://www.stonybrook.edu/humanities

STONY BROOK
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

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CHANGING CLIMATES, CHANGING MINDS

Storms, Trust and Public Perception

This interdisciplinary event is predicated upon the belief that changing societal attitudes and practices is key to responding to the urgent issue of climate change, and to other challenges that lie at the interface of science and society. This event will bring leading scientists together with humanists and writers to discuss better ways of resolving controversies such as climate change that involve issues of trust and distrust between government, science, and society.

Organizers:

HUMANITIES INSTITUTE AT STONY BROOK (HISB)
SCHOOL OF MARINE AND ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES (SoMAS)
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY – TEMPLETON LECTURES

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Wednesday, November 12

SESSION I 12:00-5:00 P.M.

Winter Storms: Dynamics and Predictability of Nor'easters in a Changing Climate (SoMAS Session)

Location: SoMAS, Endeavour Hall, Room 120

12:00 p.m. Registration. Coffee, Tea & Cookies

1:45 p.m. Welcome and Introduction: **Minghua Zhang** (SoMAS) and SBU Provost **Eric Kaler**

2:00 p.m. Lecture: **Louis Uccellini** (National Centers for Environmental Prediction), "Advancing the Operational Prediction of Rapid Cyclogenesis"

2:45-3:15 p.m. Posters and Coffee Break

3:15 p.m. Lecture: **Paul Kocin** (National Centers for Environmental Prediction), "Long Island Snowstorms in a Changing Climate"

4:00-5:00 p.m. Discussion

POSTERS AND SOCIAL HOUR

5:00-6:00 p.m.

SoMAS, Endeavour Hall, Room 120

Thursday, November 13

Session II 8:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

North Atlantic Hurricanes: Past, Present and Future (SoMAS Session)

Location: SoMAS, Endeavour Hall, Room 120

8:00 a.m. Registration, Continental Breakfast

8:45 a.m. Welcome & Introduction: **David Conover** (Dean, SoMAS) and **Sultan Hameed** (SoMAS)

9:00 a.m. Lecture: **Kerry Emanuel** (MIT), "Recent Advances in Hurricanes"

9:45 a.m. Lecture: **Christopher Thorncroft** (SUNY Albany), "The Role of the West African Monsoon on Atlantic Tropical Cyclone Activity"

10:30-11:00 a.m. Posters and Coffee Break

11:00 a.m. Lecture: **Richard Rotunno** (National Center for Atmospheric Research), "Factors Controlling the Intensity of Idealized Hurricanes in Numerical Models"

11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Discussion

Session III 9:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Building Trust Between Scientists and the Public (Templeton/HISB Joint Session)

Location: Humanities Building 1008

9:00 a.m. Registration, Continental Breakfast

9:30 a.m. Welcome & Introduction: **E. Ann Kaplan** (Director, HISB) and **Robert Crease** (Chair, Philosophy Department)

9:45 a.m. Lecture: **Glenn Sandiford** (University of Illinois), "Community Trust and the Superconducting Super Collider: Discussion is a Two-Way Street"

10:30-11:00 a.m. Coffee Break

11:00 a.m. Lecture: **Gary H. Sanders** (Thirty Meter Telescope Project), "My Telescope Needs Your Mountain: Why Can't I Use It?"

11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Discussion

12:30-2:00 p.m. Lunch

Session IV 2:00-6:00 p.m.

Closing the Gaps: Climate Change, Controversy and Public Trust (SoMAS/Templeton/HISB Joint Session)

Locations: Humanities Building, Rooms 1008 and 1006

Humanities Building 1008

2:00 p.m. Introduction: **Edmund Chang** (SoMAS)

2:15 p.m. Lecture: **Burrell Montz** (SUNY Binghamton), "Going Coastal: Risk and Vulnerability Along our Shorelines"

3:00 p.m. Introduction: **Robert Crease** (Chair, Philosophy Department)

3:15 p.m. Lecture: **Peter Adler** (The Keystone Center), "Building Trust Across the Science-Culture Divide"

4:00-4:15 p.m. Coffee Break

Humanities Building 1006

4:15 p.m. Welcome & Introduction: **E. Ann Kaplan** (Director, HISB) and **Malcolm Bowman** (SoMAS)

4:30 p.m. Lecture: **Carl Safina** (Blue Ocean Institute), "Bringing Public Trust to the Sciences: Why Do Scientists Cling Stubbornly to Explaining Data Rather than Telling the Story?"

5:15-6:00 p.m. Discussion

Conference Banquet: Thinking Globally, Acting Locally

6:30 p.m. Jasmine Restaurant—tickets required ($25)

Welcome: **John Lutterbie** (Associate Director, HISB)

Dinner Speaker: **Patti Wood** (Grassroots Environmental Education), "How Green is My Town? Local Leadership on Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Health"

Friday, November 14

Session V 9:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Climate Change: Science and Policy (SoMAS/HISB Joint Session)

Location: Humanities Building 1006

9:00 a.m. Registration, Continental Breakfast

9:30 a.m. Introduction: **Malcolm Bowman** (SoMAS)

9:45 a.m. Lecture: **Kerry Emanuel** (MIT), "Hurricanes and Climate Change"

10:30-11:00 a.m. Coffee Break

11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Panel Discussion: **Malcolm Bowman**, moderator. Participants: **Alan Belensz** (NYS Department of Environmental Conservation), **Brian Colle** (Institute of Terrestrial and Planetary Atmospheres, Stony Brook University), **Kerry Emanuel** (MIT), **Stephen Leatherman** (International Hurricane Research Center), **Carl Safina** (Blue Ocean Institute) and **Jeffrey Waldstreicher** (National Weather Service)

12:30-2:00 p.m. Lunch

Session VI 2:00-5:00 p.m.

Seeing is Believing: Climate Change and Public Trust (Templeton/HISB Joint Session)

Location: Humanities Building 1006

2:00 p.m. Introduction: **Robert Crease** (Chair, Philosophy Department)

2:15 p.m. Lecture: **Spencer Weart** (American Institute of Physics), "Warm Weather and Heated Debate: A Short History of Beliefs about Global Warming"

3:00-3:30 p.m. Coffee Break

3:30 p.m. Introduction: **Jacqueline Reich** (Dept. of Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies)

3:45 p.m. Provost Lecture: **Heidi Cullen** (Princeton University), "Seeing the Climate, Believing the Change"

4:30-5:00 p.m. Discussion

Wine and Cheese Reception

5:00-6:30 p.m.

Humanities Building 1008

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Participants

Peter Adler is President of The Keystone Center and the author of *Eye of the Storm Leadership*, *Beyond Paradise*, *Oxtail Soup*, and co-author of *Managing Scientific & Technical Information in Environmental Cases* and *Building Trust*.

Alan Belensz is Chief of the Science and Technology Bureau in the New York State DEC Office of Climate Change. He coordinates scientific, engineering and economic analyses of climate change mitigation strategies for the Office. Previously, as an environmental scientist with the NYS Office of the Attorney General, he coordinated expert testimony and scientific studies to support NYC climate change lawsuits and policy initiatives.

Malcolm Bowman is Professor of Physical Oceanography and Distinguished Service Professor at the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences, Stony Brook University. He has recently been appointed by Mayor Michael Bloomberg to serve on the New York City Panel on Climate Change, whose role is to advise the Mayor on the threats of climate change and rising sea level to the City's infrastructure and the steps needed to protect the City and the security of its residents.

Edmund Chang is Professor of Atmospheric Sciences in the Institute for Terrestrial and Planetary Atmospheres at the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences, Stony Brook University. He is an expert in climate dynamics and variations. As a member of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), he was a co-winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007.

Brian A. Colle is an Associate Professor of Atmospheric Science at Stony Brook University. He serves as an Editor for the American Meteorological Society (AMS) journal *Weather and Forecasting*. In 2000 he was awarded a Young Investigator's Award by the Office of Naval Research, and in 2007 he won the AMS Editor's Award for the journal *Monthly Weather Review*.

Robert P. Crease is Professor and Chairman of the Department of Philosophy at Stony Brook University. His books include *The Great Equations: Breakthroughs in Science from Pythagoras to Heisenberg* (forthcoming); *The Prism and the Pendulum: The Ten Most Beautiful Experiments in Science,* and *J. Robert Oppenheimer: A Life*, by Abraham Pais with Robert P. Crease. He writes a monthly column, "Critical Point," on the social dimensions of science, for *Physics World*.

Heidi Cullen is the climate expert at The Weather Channel, where she reports on climate, energy policy and the environment. She is also a senior research scientist with Climate Central, a think tank in Princeton, NJ that provides the public and policy makers with the latest peer-reviewed information on climate change. Dr. Cullen's program *Forecast Earth* is the first weekly TV series to focus on climate change and the environment.

Kerry Emanuel is Professor of Meteorology at MIT, where he has been on the faculty since 1981. He is the author or co-author of over 100 peer-reviewed scientific papers, and two books, *Divine Wind: The History and Science of Hurricanes* and *What We Know about Climate Change*.

Sultan Hameed is Professor of Atmospheric Sciences in the Institute for Terrestrial and Planetary Atmospheres at the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences, Stony Brook University. His main area of expertise is the analysis, impact and predictability of climate change. His recent work has focused on the study of the large-scale semi-permanent high and low pressure systems known as the Atmospheric Centers of Action.

E. Ann Kaplan is Distinguished Professor of English and Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies at Stony Brook University, where she also founded and directs The Humanities Institute. Her recent books include *Trauma and Cinema: Cross-Cultural Explorations* (co-edited with Ban Wang), *Feminism and Film*, and a monograph, *Trauma Culture: The Politics of Terror and Loss in Media and Literature*. Her books have been translated into six languages.

Paul Kocin works for the Hydrometeorological Prediction Center of the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP). He has written *Northeast Snowstorms* and *Snowstorms Along the Northeastern Coast of the United States*, co-authored with Louis Uccellini, and appeared on the Weather Channel as Winter Weather Expert.

Stephen Leatherman is the Director of the International Hurricane Research Center at Florida International University in Miami. He heads the Florida Hurricane Alliance, which focuses on improving preparedness awareness and damage mitigation. He has authored 16 books and more than 200 refereed journal articles and technical reports. He was Chair of the National Panel to Evaluate Coastal Erosion Hazards for FEMA as mandated by the U.S. Congress.

John Lutterbie is Associate Director of the Humanities Institute and an Associate Professor who holds a joint appointment in the Department of Theatre Arts and the Department of Art. He is the co-founder of the "Port Jefferson Village-Go Green" project, an outreach program of the Humanities Institute. He is the author of *Hearing Voices: Modern Drama and the Problem of Subjectivity*.

Burrell E. Montz is Professor of Geography and Environmental Studies and Chair of the Geography Department at Binghamton University. Her current research centers on various hazard topics including the effectiveness of structural and nonstructural mitigation measures, the flow and use of warning system information, and applications of GIS to understanding vulnerability to multiple hazards.

Jacqueline Reich is Associate Professor of Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies at Stony Brook University. She is the author of *Beyond the Latin Lover: Marcello Mastroianni, Masculinity, and Italian Cinema* and co-editor of *Re-viewing Fascism: Italian Cinema, 1922-1943*. She has lectured internationally on media, film, gender and cultural studies.

Richard Rotunno is at the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colorado, where he has been a Senior Scientist since 1989, and Assistant Director of the Microscale and Mesoscale Meteorology Division since 1999. Through a combination of theory and numerical modeling, his work is directed at the understanding needed to make progress in the forecasting of mesoscale weather phenomena. In 2004 he was the recipient of the American Meteorological Society's Jule G. Charney Award.

Participants (continued)

Gary Sanders is the Project Manager of the Thirty Meter Telescope project based in Pasadena, California. After a career in experimental high energy physics, he changed fields and went to Caltech where he led the construction of the Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory (LIGO) that is now searching for the minute fluctuations in space-time emitted by far off violent cosmic events.

Glenn Sandiford is a Researcher at the University of Illinois. A former environment journalist, he and two colleagues are writing an NSF-funded history of the rise and fall of the SSC. He holds a Ph.D. in urban and regional planning, specializing in environmental history and the history of science.

Carl Safina, President of the Blue Ocean Institute, is the author of more than 100 articles and three books, including the award-winning *Song for the Blue Ocean*, *Eye of the Albatross*, and the most recent *Voyage of the Turtle*. In the 1990s he helped lead campaigns to ban high-seas driftnets, rewrite federal fisheries law in the U.S., work toward international conservation of tunas, sharks, and other fishes, and achieve passage of a United Nations global fisheries treaty.

Chris Thorncroft is Chair of the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences at the University at Albany. His research is focused on improving our understanding of the processes that determine the nature and variability of the West African monsoon system, including how this impacts Atlantic tropical cyclone activity.

Louis W. Uccellini is the Director of the National Weather Service's National Centers for Environmental Prediction in Camp Springs, MD. He is the co-author of *Snowstorms Along the Northeastern Coast of the United States: 1955 to 1985* and the two-volume *Northeast Snowstorms*. He received the U.S. Presidential Meritorious Executive Rank Award (2001) and the U.S. Presidential Distinguished Rank Award (2006).

Jeff Waldstreicher is the Deputy Chief of the Scientific Services Division (SSD), NOAA/National Weather Service Eastern Region Headquarters in Bohemia, NY. He served as SSD's Technique Development Meteorologist from 1990-93, and he was the Science and Operations Officer at the NWS Forecast Office in Binghamton, NY from 1993 to 2001.

Spencer R. Weart is the Director of the Center for the History of Physics at the University of California at Berkeley. A physicist and historian, he has written or co-edited nine books, including *Nuclear Fear: A History of Images* and *The Discovery of Global Warming*.

Patti Wood is the Executive Director and co-founder of Grassroots Environmental Education. She works with the New York State Department of Health on environmental health issues. She is the author of the "ChildSafe Guidelines" and the creator of the Organic Pest Management policy for the Town of North Hempstead, where she serves as a member of the Ecological Commission. She was recently appointed to the Governor's Advisory Council on Sustainability and Green Procurement.

Minghua Zhang is Professor and Director of the Institute for Terrestrial and Planetary Atmospheres at the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences, Stony Brook University. He is an expert in climate modelling and atmospheric dynamics. His research mainly focuses on numerical modeling of climate and global climate change. As a member of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), he was a co-winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007.

Climates Initiative Planning Committee

E. Ann Kaplan, Committee Chair
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