

# Weatherhead

## Center for International Affairs at Harvard University

Sociology Climate Pipeline Conference  
December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
William James Hall, Room 105  
33 Kirkland Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138

8:30-9:00 Welcome and Introductions (Breakfast available from 8:00)

9:00-9:15 Break

9:15-9:30 Agenda and Motivation

9:30-11:00 Session 1: Technology and Materiality

Taimur Ahmad (University of Wisconsin), How do you interview a river? Extending sociological methodology to natural entities

Taylor Davey (Harvard University), Assessing Waste-To-Biofuel Partnerships: Innovation in carbon reductions or investments in fossil economies?

Mircea Gherghina (University of Toronto), Making Cleantech: The Emergence of Carbon Capture and Technological Responses to Climate Change

Yao Li (Florida State University), Rising from Ashes: The Controversial Boom of an Environmental Industry Tackling Waste Challenge

Discussion Openers: Jason Beckfield (Harvard University)  
Guangqing Chi (Penn State University)

11:00-11:15 Break

11:15-12:45 Session 2: Power

DA Evrard (Harvard University), (Re)Distributing Power? Climate Change, Capitalist Development, and the Promise of a "Just Energy Transition"

Andrew Jaeger (UC-Berkeley), The Inflation Reduction Act and the New Political Economy of Climate Change

Margot Lurie (University of Chicago), Power for Defense: Lessons from the U.S. Rural Electrification Effort

Joshua Silver (University of Chicago), Energy Transition in Oil's Metropolis: Decarbonizing "Oil & Gas" in Houston and its Global Hinterlands, An Ethnographic Study Proposal

Discussion Openers: Mary Waters (Harvard University)  
Jason Beckfield (Harvard University)

12:45-1:45 Lunch

1:45-2:00 Break

2:00-3:30 Session 3: Migration

Kathryn McConnell (Brown University), A research agenda to critically assess the idea of wildfire managed retreat

Alexis Merdjanoff (NYU), Examining the Healthy Migrant Phenomenon among Displaced Hurricane Katrina Survivors: Analysis of Delayed Return Migration and Permanent Relocation

Jessica Miller (Penn State University), Building the Link: Examining the Role of Infrastructure Exposure to Erosion in Climate Migration Outcomes in Alaska

Betsy Priem (University of Chicago), Adapting to Climate Change: How Institutions Influence Local Decisions

Discussion Openers: Beth Fussell (Brown University)  
Max Besbris (University of Wisconsin)

3:30-3:45 Break

3:45-5:15 Session 4: Climate Policy & Politics

Major Eason (Harvard University), Fighting Back to Move Forward: Analyzing the Importance of Local Culture in Resistance to Environmental Racism

Patrick Trent Greiner (Vanderbilt University) and Rachel McKane (Brandeis University), The racial differentiation of space, and the spatial differentiation of emissions:

Understanding the relationship between redlining, and primary drivers of CO2 emissions in the U.S. cities.

Andrew Malmuth (UCLA), Policymaking without policy: How impasse on planning for sea level rise is shaping the future of coastal climate adaptation in California

Rachel Wetts (Brown University), Climate Politics as Status Politics: How Struggles over the Symbolic Worth of Educational Credentials Shape the Climate Change Debate

Discussion Openers: Max Besbris (University of Wisconsin)  
Christine Jang (CUNY Queens College)

5:15-6:30      Break

6:30-8:30      Dinner Discussion for Presenters and Discussants, Led by Ethan Raker (UBC)