



EPRI's 23rd Energy and Climate Research Seminar Speaker Bios

John Bistline

Dr. John Bistline is a Principal Technical Leader in the Energy and Environmental Analysis Group at the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI). His research analyzes the economic and environmental effects of policy and technological development to inform energy systems planning and company strategy. Dr. Bistline's current research activities examine renewable integration, climate risk management, electrification, and the impacts of federal and state climate policies. Dr. Bistline earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering and Engineering and Public Policy from Carnegie Mellon University, a Master of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering, and a doctorate in Management Science and Engineering from Stanford University.



Geoffrey Blanford

Dr. Geoffrey J. Blanford is a leading expert on integrated assessment and energy economy modeling. His research activities include development of analytical tools such as the MERGE model and the US-REGEN model with applications including electricity markets, end-use electrification, and international climate policy. Dr. Blanford is a Technical Executive and Program Manager for Energy and Climate Policy Analysis with the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) in Palo Alto, CA, where he has worked since 2006. He was a lead author for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Fifth Assessment Report and serves as co-director of the International Energy Workshop (IEW). He holds a B.A. in mathematics from Yale University, a M.S. in operations research from Columbia University, and a Ph.D. in Management Science and Engineering from Stanford University.



Leon Clarke

Dr. Clarke is the Research Director for the Center for Global Sustainability (CGS) and a Research Professor in the School of Public Policy. Dr. Clarke is an expert in energy and environmental issues, with a focus on climate change, climate change mitigation strategies, energy technology options, and integrated assessment modeling. Dr. Clarke formerly led the Integrated Human Earth System Science Group and directed a range of integrated assessment modeling activities at the Joint Global Change Research Institute, a collaboration between the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory and the University of Maryland. Dr. Clarke has served as an author and coordinating lead author for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the National Climate Assessment, and the National Research Council and is currently a coordinating lead author in the IPCC's 6th Assessment Report. He holds a Ph.D. in Management Science and Engineering from Stanford University and a Masters degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of California at Berkeley.



Sue Coakley

Sue Coakley is Executive Director of Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP), a regional non-profit that she founded in 1996 to facilitate regional collaboration to accelerate energy efficiency as a clean, powerful and dependable energy resource. With state commitments to climate stabilization goals, she led expansion of NEEP's regional collaboration to include efficient strategic electrification to decarbonize building energy use. She provides strategic direction for NEEP's development, management and operations; manages relationships with NEEP's broad base of sponsors and funders; and contributes to national and regional strategies to accelerate energy efficiency. A clean energy leader for over thirty years, she is a champion of collaboration as well as an expert in energy efficiency and a frequent speaker at national and regional forums. She holds a master's degree in natural resource management and administration from Antioch/New England University and a bachelor's degree in environmental science from Windham College.



Delavane Diaz

Dr. Delavane Diaz is a Principal Technical Leader in the Energy and Environmental Analysis Group at EPRI where her research focuses on the implications of climate and energy policy on the electric sector, resiliency and risk management strategies, and the social cost of carbon. Delavane served as a chapter author on the Fourth National Climate Assessment and is currently a contributing author and chapter scientist for the IPCC WGII Sixth Assessment Report. Before joining EPRI in 2008, she served as an Air Force acquisitions officer, working on a space surveillance radar program at Hanscom AFB in Massachusetts. Delavane earned her Ph.D. in Management Science and Engineering at Stanford University, examining the representation of climate impacts, adaptation, and mitigation technology costs in integrated assessment models. She is a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy with a B.S. in Astronautical Engineering and earned a M.Sc. in Environmental Change and Management at the University of Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar.



Michael Dowd

Michael G. Dowd is Director of the Air and Renewable Energy Division for the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. In that position, he oversees air quality planning, climate regulatory planning and implementation, permitting, compliance, monitoring and mobile source programs, as well as the Small Renewable Energy Permit by Rule program for the Commonwealth. Prior to joining DEQ, Mr. Dowd was an attorney in private practice with firms in Columbus, OH, Washington, D.C., and Richmond, VA. Mr. Dowd is a graduate of Columbia University and holds a J.D. Vermont Law School.



Erik Ela

Erik Ela is a Principal Manager with EPRI's grid operations and planning research group and leads the research area on electricity market operations and market design. He leads the efforts that EPRI has with its ISO and RTO market design research collaborative and is a technical leader in renewable integration research initiatives and steady-state operations modeling and software tools. Erik previously worked for the National Renewable Energy Lab and the New York ISO and has a PhD in electrical engineering.



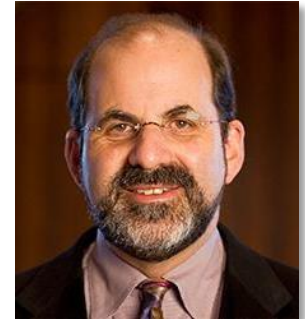
Anand Gopal

Dr. Anand R. Gopal is a program officer in the Environment Program at the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. Anand manages the program's grantmaking on clean transportation within its climate and energy strategy. Anand has worked on clean energy modeling and analysis research for almost two decades. Previously, he was a Research Scientist at Lawrence Berkeley National Lab, focused on clean transportation technology and policy in the US and India. He has a Ph.D. in Energy and Resources from the University of California, Berkeley.



Jon Krosnick

Jon Krosnick is a social psychologist who does research on attitude formation, change, and effects, on the psychology of political behavior, and on survey research methods. Author of four books and more than 140 articles and chapters, Dr. Krosnick has studied how the American public's political attitudes are formed, change, and shape thinking and action for more than 30 years, and has been conducting survey research on the American public's views of global warming for the last 20 years. He is the Frederic O. Glover Professor in Humanities and Social Sciences, Professor of Communication, Political Science, and (by courtesy) Psychology. At Stanford, in addition to his professorships, he directs the Political Psychology Research Group and the Summer Institute in Political Psychology, as well as Research Psychologist at the U.S. Census Bureau and a Research Professor at the University of Illinois.



David McCollum

David McCollum is a Principal Technical Leader in the Energy and Environmental Analysis Research Group at EPRI. His research interests include techno-economic analysis of advanced energy and transport technologies and the development and application of energy-economic systems models. Before joining EPRI, Dr. McCollum was a Senior Research Scholar with the Energy Program at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) in Laxenburg, Austria. Dr. McCollum has served as an author of the Global Energy Assessment; IPCC WG III Fifth Assessment Report and Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5 °C; among others. Dr. McCollum received a PhD and MS in Transportation Technology & Policy from the University of California, Davis; an MS in Agricultural & Resource Economics from the same institution; and a BS in Chemical Engineering from the University of Tennessee.



Andrew Revkin

Andrew Revkin is one of America's most honored and experienced environmental journalists and the founding director of the new Initiative on Communication and Sustainability at Columbia University's Earth Institute. Revkin has written on climate change for more than 30 years, reporting from the North Pole to the White House, the Amazon rain forest to the Vatican - mostly for The New York Times. In the mid 2000s, he exposed political suppression of climate findings at NASA and editing of federal climate reports by political appointees with ties to the petroleum industry. Revkin has won most of the top awards in science journalism, along with a Guggenheim Fellowship, Columbia University's John Chancellor Award for sustained journalistic excellence and an Investigative Reporters & Editors Award. He has written books on global warming, the changing Arctic and the assault on the Amazon rain forest, as well as three book chapters on science communication.



Rajinder Sahota

Rajinder Sahota is Division Chief, Industrial Strategies Division at the California Air Resources Board. Her portfolio includes several of the state's climate programs including Cap-and-Trade, Climate and Energy, Low Carbon Fuel Standard, and the development of the State's Scoping Plans to chart the path toward the 2030 climate target and mid-century carbon neutrality target. The division is supported by 150 scientists and engineers. She holds a Masters in Atmospheric Science from the University of California, Davis.



Claudia Tebaldi

Dr. Tebaldi is a research scientist with the Joint Global Change Research Institute, and her interests include the analysis of observations and climate model output in order to characterize observed and projected climatic changes and their uncertainties, with the goal of making this information useful for the modeling and estimation of socio-economic and environmental impacts. She has published papers on detection and attribution, on extreme value analysis, future projections at regional scales, the use of multiple climate model projections, benefits of mitigation, and impacts of climate change on agriculture and human health. She is currently a lead author of the sixth Assessment report of the IPCC, in Working Group 1. She has a Ph.D. in statistics from Duke University and was a researcher at the National Center for Atmospheric Research for most of her career before moving to JGCRI in the summer of 2019. She also collaborates with Climate Central's Climate Science and Impacts group and provides scientific oversight and advice on the organization's programs.



Jessika Trancik

Jessika Trancik is an associate professor in the Institute for Data, Systems, and Society at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She has developed theory and predictive models to understand why some technologies improve faster than others, and what technology features enable rapid innovation. Several of her theories and models have been applied to new and developing energy technologies, such as solar energy and batteries, and to electricity and transportation systems. Her models have also been used to inform government innovation policy, and applied in diverse industries, including finance, manufacturing, software, and consumer products. Her work has been published in journals such as *Nature*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *Nature Energy*, *Nature Climate Change*, and *Environmental Science and Technology*, and has been featured by news outlets such as the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Financial Times*, and *NPR*.



Ellen Williams

Distinguished University of Maryland Professor Ellen Williams founded the University of Maryland Materials Research Science and Engineering Center in 1991 and served as its Director from 1996 through 2009. She was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2003, to the National Academy of Sciences in 2005, and as a Foreign Member of the Royal Society of London in 2016, among others. In 2010, Williams took a leave of absence from UMD to become Chief Scientist at BP, a position which she held until April 2014. From then until early 2017 she served as Director of the U.S. Department of Energy's Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E). Williams earned her B.S. in 1976 from Michigan State University and her Ph.D. in 1981 from the California Institute of Technology. Her research interests are in surface chemistry and nanotechnology.

