

changing climate, changing coasts

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today's speakers

Howard "Bud" Ris

Bud Ris has been president of the New England Aquarium since 2005. As a senior fellow at the World Economic Forum in Geneva, Switzerland in 2004 and 2005, he had principal responsibility for organizing an international consortium of 25 global companies to advise UK Prime Minister Blair on the G8 climate change agenda. From 1984 to 2003, Mr. Ris served as president and executive director of the Union of Concerned Scientists, where he oversaw the organization's research and policy programs on climate change, fuel economy and renewable energy. In that capacity, he also chaired the US delegation of NGOs to the UN Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol.

Larry Madin, Ph.D.

Larry Madin is executive vice president and director of research at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI). He received an A.B. degree from the University of California, Berkeley, and a Ph.D. from U.C. Davis. He has been at WHOI since 1974, where he has also served as chair of the biology department and director of the Ocean Life Institute. His research interests are in the biology and ecology of oceanic plankton and deep-sea zooplankton and fishes. He was among the first biologists to use SCUBA and submersibles for the in-situ study of the oceanic plankton. He is currently interested in the development of international research partnerships for WHOI.

Daniel Schrag, Ph.D.

Harvard professor Dan Schrag studies climate and climate change over the broadest range of Earth history. He has examined changes in ocean circulation over the last several decades, with particular attention to El Niño and the tropical Pacific. He has worked on theories for Pleistocene ice-age cycles, including a better determination of ocean temperatures during the Last Glacial Maximum, 20,000 years ago. He also helped develop the Snowball Earth hypothesis, proposing that a series of global glaciations occurring between 750 and 580 million years ago may have led to the evolution of multicellular animals. Currently, he is working with economists and engineers on technological approaches to mitigating future climate change.

Scott Kraus, Ph.D.

Scott Kraus is vice president of research at the New England Aquarium. He has been a research scientist in the Aquarium's Edgerton Research Laboratory since 1980. Kraus received a B.A. from College of the Atlantic, an M.S. in biology from the University of Massachusetts, and a Ph.D. from the University of New Hampshire. He has conducted research on North Atlantic right whales and other species since 1980 and has published numerous papers on marine mammal biology and

conservation. He currently serves on the U.S. Harbor Porpoise Take Reduction Team and the U.S. Large Whale Take Reduction Team. His recent work is focused on investigating methods for reducing incidental bycatch of cetaceans in fishing gear and on identifying and mitigating the conservation issues faced by endangered species and habitats in an increasingly urban ocean.

Scott Doney, Ph.D.

Scott Doney is a senior scientist in the department of marine chemistry and geochemistry at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. He spent eleven years in the Advanced Study Program and Climate and Global Dynamics Division the National Center for Atmospheric Research. He is currently working on ocean acidification, which is caused by rising atmospheric carbon dioxide levels from fossil fuel burning. He is also working on the responses of marine ecosystems to climate change and the feedbacks between climate and the carbon cycle. This will likely decrease the ability of the land biosphere and oceans to store carbon; the resulting carbon-climate feedbacks would accelerate human induced climate-change.

Ellen Douglas, Ph.D.

Ellen Douglas is an assistant professor of hydrology at the University of Massachusetts, Boston. She was previously a research scientist at the University of New Hampshire. Her research involved the analysis of regional to global scale hydrologic processes and the impacts of human water use (particularly agricultural irrigation) on the hydrologic cycle. Specific research activities include quantifying non-sustainable water use globally, identifying the role of water scarcity in social conflict in Africa and investigating the impacts of moisture fluxes from irrigation on land-atmosphere interactions in India. At UMB, she is developing a research program that will also include sustainable water use and water management issues at the watershed to regional scale. Her specific areas of interest include quantifying the impacts of agricultural irrigation on the water cycle; investigating the effects of suburbanization on watershed process; and estimating the impacts of climate change on coastal systems.

Porter Hoagland, Ph.D.

Porter Hoagland is a senior research specialist in the Marine Policy Center at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, where he has worked for more than 25 years. His academic training is in public policy and natural resource economics. His research focuses on the optimal management of ocean and coastal resources and their uses; the design of institutional arrangements for ocean and coastal resources; and the economic impacts of marine natural hazards.

Gary Yohe, Ph.D.

Gary Yohe is the Woodhouse/Sysco Professor of Economics at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Conn., and visiting professor of economics at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. He is a researcher on the economics of climate change and integrated assessment modelling. He collaborated with others as lead author in the preparation of the Climate Change Challenge Paper for the 2008 Copenhagen Consensus exercise and as senior member of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) during the preparation of the Third and Fourth Assessment Reports of the IPCC, works for which the IPCC shared the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize with Al Gore.

Kevin Knobloch

Kevin Knobloch brings 30 years of experience in legislative policy, media and advocacy to his job as president of the Union of Concerned Scientists. He is knowledgeable about a wide range of environmental and arms control issues, including natural resource and clean energy economics, advanced technology vehicles, nuclear weapons, forest conservation, renewable energy and corporate responsibility. He recently served as chair of the Green Group, a coalition of the CEOs of 34 national environmental organizations, and currently serves as co-chair, along with Frances Beinecke of NRDC, of the Green Group Climate and Energy Committee. He led UCS delegations to the United Nations International Climate negotiations in Montreal (2005), Bali (2007) and Poland (2008).

Alice LeBlanc

Alice LeBlanc is director of the Office of Environment and Climate Change in the Corporate Affairs Department of American International Group (AIG). Her responsibilities include implementation of AIG's corporate climate change strategy. This includes supporting business units in development of climate change related products in insurance, investments, financial products and consulting, as well as internal and external communications and advocacy, work with non-profit organizations, and initiatives to engage employees and reduce AIG's environmental footprint. She is trained as an economist and has worked for the past 15 years to promote market mechanisms as tools for environmental protection and sustainable development.

Ralph R. Willmer, AICP

Ralph Willmer is a senior planner/project manager with Vanasse Hangen Brustlin. He works on municipal planning projects in New England and New York, particularly in the areas of master planning, zoning, affordable housing, and open space and natural resource planning. He served as a member of the American Planning Association's Board of Directors and is a member of its Legislative and Policy Committee. He participated in the drafting and adoption of APA's policy guides, including the recently adopted Policy Guide on Planning and Climate Change.

Bruce K. Carlisle

Bruce Carlisle is the assistant director for the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM), providing oversight and administration of the agency. At CZM, he directs policy development, planning efforts and technical approaches for program areas including shoreline and floodplain management, habitat restoration, ports and harbors planning, water quality, seafloor and tidal habitat mapping, and GIS/data management. He also supervises CZM regulatory review of coastal projects ranging from local waterfront development and dredging projects to offshore wind turbines and deepwater Liquid Natural Gas ports. Formerly, he served as the manager for the state's Wetlands

Restoration Program, where he coordinated efforts to restore former and degraded wetlands, and he worked as the project manager and principal investigator for coastal wetland assessment projects, developing and implementing biotic and abiotic indicators of condition and examining their response to stressors. Bruce has been with CZM for fourteen years, with previous experience and responsibilities in water policy, regulation, and monitoring. He holds a masters degree in environmental policy from Tufts University.

Lisa Vernegaard

Lisa Vernegaard is the director of planning and stewardship at The Trustees of Reservations, where she guides planning and resource protection for The Trustees' 100 properties. Lisa recently spent a sabbatical to learn how land trusts in the U.S. and the U.K. are addressing climate change and is now working with conservation leaders from across the country to coordinate and leverage these ideas to create a comprehensive response to this monumental threat. Before coming to The Trustees in 1992, Lisa worked for the Commonwealth as a regional land manager and as a naturalist on Thompson Island in Boston Harbor. She has a master's degree in forest science from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

Tom King

Tom King is the executive director of electricity distribution and generation for National Grid. He was president of PG&E Corporation and chairman and CEO of Pacific Gas and Electric Company from 2003 to 2007. Before that, he served as senior vice president of PG&E Corporation and as president of PG&E National Energy Group, having joined PG&E Gas Transmission as president in 1998. Prior to PG&E, he served as president and COO of Kinder Morgan Energy Partners. He spent 1989 to 1997 with Enron in a series of senior operating positions with its affiliates, Enron Liquid Services, Northern Natural Gas Company, Transwestern Pipeline Company and Northern Border Pipeline Company. He also held positions at Cabot Corporation's natural gas unit, Cabot Transmission Corporation, and the Panhandle Eastern Corporation.

Ian Bowles

Ian Bowles is secretary of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. He oversees the Commonwealth's six environmental, natural resource and energy regulatory agencies. Massachusetts is the first state in the nation to combine energy and environmental agencies under one Cabinet secretary. He also serves as chairman of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority and chairman of the Energy Facilities Siting Board. He brings nearly 20 years of experience in the energy and environmental sectors. He was a director or advisor to three early-stage clean energy technology companies and has broad leadership experience in environmental policy. Secretary Bowles served in the Clinton Administration as associate director of the White House Council on Environmental Quality and as senior director of the Global Environmental Affairs directorate at the National Security Council. Following his service in the Clinton Administration, Bowles held appointments as a senior research fellow at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government and as senior advisor at the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation. Bowles also served as president and CEO of MassINC, a Boston-based research institute, and as publisher of Commonwealth magazine. Earlier in his career, Bowles was vice president of Conservation International. Bowles played a key role in the creation of one of the world's largest tropical forest national parks: the four-million acre Central Suriname Nature Reserve.