

# SCDRP Annual Winter (Virtual) Meeting 2021 January 26-28, 2021

#### DAY 1

#### Tuesday, January 26, 2021

#### Session 1

#### Welcome & Resilience Updates from the SE States & Caribbean Territories

9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

To set the stage, states and territories of the SCDRP region will provide updates on the current situation of ongoing and near-term resilience and climate adaptation activities, recent successes, and ways in which they are managing resilience strategies. Representatives from NC, SC, GA, FL, Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands will then participate in a panel discussion, followed by Q&A from the audience. The brief welcome includes opening remarks from the executive director of the SCDRP parent-program, and an introduction to the SCDRP strategic plan and membership structure.

- •Debra Hernandez
- •Barbara Bischof (moderator)
- •Geno Olmi (moderator)
- Amanda Martin
- Emily Bentley
- Jennifer Kline
- Whitney Gray
- Pablo Méndez-Lázaro
- Hilary Lohmann

#### Session 2

#### What's it take to be resilient? Lessons Learned from LA, NJ, and VA

2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

More and more states throughout the Southeast and nationwide are adopting a statewide resilience approach but are achieving it through different means. This panel features three states outside of the Southeast and Caribbean (Virginia, New Jersey, and Louisiana) that are moving the needle on resilience in different ways. Discussion will focus on successes and lessons learned, and what kind of internal and external support each approach needs.

- Charles Sutcliffe
- Dave Rosenblatt
- Ann Phillips
- Mark Wilbert (moderator)
- Elizabeth Fly (moderator)

#### DAY 2

#### Wednesday, January 27, 2021

#### Session 3

#### Green Infrastructure & the Evolution of BRIC

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

A discussion on green infrastructure practices that are paving the way for resilient communities through the support of FEMA's Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities (BRIC) program.

- Gavin Smith (moderator)
- Camille Crain
- Heidi Stiller
- Rod Braun
- Andy Fox
- Danielle Irwin

#### Session 4

#### **Building Coastal and Stormwater Resilience**

12:45 PM - 2:45 PM

This session will include three separate discussions on the importance of building flood resilience in coastal communities through infrastructure development and planning, and living shorelines development.

- Jim Avitabile (moderator)
- Alex Reed
- Carolina Maran
- Jay Borkland
- Trevor Lancaster
- Dana Reading
- Crystal Goodison
- Chris Dailey
- Michael "Scott" Bartkowski

#### Session 5

#### Applied Research & Community Engagement on Resilience

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

What previous and ongoing research is being conducted on coastal resilience? How is this research applied towards protecting our communities? Join us for a discussion on the applied work happening throughout the Southeast and Caribbean.

- Gavin Smith (moderator)
- David Perkes
- Marci Jackson
- Graciela Rivera
- Olivia Vila

#### DAY 3

#### Thursday, January 28, 2021

#### Session 6

#### Disaster Recovery & Resilience in the Private Sector

10:00 AM- 12:00 PM

This session will focus on extreme weather and disaster recovery from a business perspective. Speakers will discuss lessons learned from recent experiences and helpful resources for disaster preparedness and resilience strategies.

- Amanda Farris (moderator)
- Dan Burger (moderator)
- Jennifer Helgeson
- Ellie Pierel
- Brooks Nelson
- Lawrence Bowdish
- Bill Gould
- Carlos Lee

### Session 7

2:00 PM - 4:30 PM

# Justice, Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity in Disaster Mngment & Adaptation & Wrap-up

The Southeast and Caribbean is a diverse region. This session will explore how we can center the needs of at-risk communities into disaster recovery and resilience efforts. Where have we had success, and how do we replicate it? Where have we failed, and what can we learn? Speakers will approach this issue from multiple perspectives - emergency management, community organizing, planning, and adaptation.

- Jason Liechty (moderator)
- Sean Bath (moderator)
- Chauncia Willis
- Louie Rivers
- Ariadna Michelle Godreau-Aubert
- Mayra Cruz
- John Cooper
- Andy Anderson
- Jennifer Kline

## SCDRP 2021 Annual Meeting Panelists by Alphabetical Order



Andy Anderson (Session 7) is an Advocate at Disability Rights North Carolina. Andy helps to connect the agency with community partners. He has helped to develop and lead community leadership development and engagement in various areas. He aims to expand the impact of DRNC through partnerships, community engagement and collaboration on targeted initiatives. Andy has over 25 years of experience in the behavioral health industry, where he has recruited, trained, motivated and led hundreds to pursue the creation of a culture of excellence. Andy has led organizations that continue to employ hundreds people in several sites in communities across North Carolina. Mr. Anderson has presented on the local, state, national and international levels. He holds a B. A.

in Political Science/Public Administration from North Carolina Central University. Andy serves as Vice Chairman of the North Carolina Rural Economic Center. In 2000, Andy was awarded the prestigious Marshall Fellowship and was chosen to travel to The European Union to discuss social and economic issues with international leaders. He participated in meetings at NATO, in Spain, Poland, Denmark and Germany. In 2002, he was invited back to Europe as a special guest of the Chancellor of Germany, Gerhard Schröder, in Berlin. More recently, Andy Anderson completed the William Friday Fellowship for Human Relations. After college, Andy returned to his hometown and began work in his community. He partnered with one of his mentors, Mrs. Evelyn Troy, in helping in the establishment of the D.R.E.A.M. Center where hundreds of children now have the opportunity to supplement their education through tutorial, mentorship and technology programs. He is a volunteer basketball coach with Whiteville High School; serves on the Partnership for Children Board (former Chairperson); Friends of the NC Museum of Natural Science Board; the BB&T Bank Advisory Board, is a member of Eveready Lodge #765; Life Member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Life Member of the NAACP; and Life Member of the North Carolina Central Alumni Association.

(Session 4) Living Shoreline Solutions Inc., (LSS) was established in 2010, bringing the 13 years of research, development and engineering successes of Artificial Reefs & Coastal Restoration Inc. to the next level. Founded by Michael "Scott" Bartkowski, the President and inventor of the world's only site-specifically designed and scientifically engineered Wave Attenuation Device (WAD®) System. This system has been used throughout the world to emulate natural barrier reefs systems as productive, stable and durable marine life ecosystems, while at the same time, stabilizing shorelines. In many cases, this site-specifically modeled system reversed erosion and naturally rebuilt shorelines and marshes through natural sediment accretion. Through the past 23 years of using this technology, LSS has secured a 100% success rate in stopping erosion, while at the same time providing Infrastructural



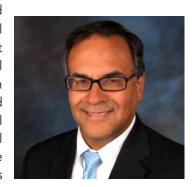
Protection, Shoreline Stabilization, Productive Oyster Barrier Reef development, Protection of Wetland Restoration Sites, Dredge Material Placement Sites, General Shoreline Protection, Barrier Island Restoration including Marsh Creation and Stabilization, all with the added benefits of Productive, Essential Fish Habitat.



Emily Bentley (Session 1) is the chief of the Recovery and Mitigation Section with the South Carolina Emergency Management Division (SCEMD) since January 2019. She leads 30-plus staff members who manage \$1 billion in federal recovery and mitigation grants and who support local governments in other aspects of disaster recovery and hazard mitigation. She previously led two bachelor's degree programs in emergency management and was an emergency management consultant. From 2002-2006, she served as executive director of the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP), the national standards and

accreditation program for state and local government emergency management. Before her work in emergency management, she practiced law and early in her career was a journalist. She earned her bachelor's degree from Auburn University and her law degree from Faulkner University Jones School of Law.

Jay A. Borkland, PG., (Session 4) operates as Sr. Engineering Manager and Renewables Lead in the Americas at Lloyd's Register North America; a Global Strategy, Engineering, and Assurance consulting organization providing expert support for both local and global private clients as well as local and federal government entities and NGO's. He is also a Visiting Scholar and Research Professor at Tufts University, conducting research and teaching in the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department in the Offshore Wind and Coastal Resilience areas. He is a coordinating author on the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) Guidance and Stewardship publications on Ocean Renewable Energy in the UN's Sustainability initiatives. He has worked as a coastal structures and environmental engineer and scientist for over 34 years.





Dr. Lawrence Bowdish (Session 6) is Senior Director, Research and Issue Networks with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation's Corporate Citizenship Center. He started consulting the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation Corporate Citizenship Center on its Issue Network research in May 2013. He conducts long-term research projects concentrating on issues or topics prominent in corporate social responsibility. By working directly with companies, chambers of commerce, nonprofits and associations to determine compelling research questions, he leverages qualitative and quantitative tools that create rigorous projects that have meaningful impact and broad appeal.

Previously, he was a Professor for the American Military University and The Ohio State University teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in U.S. History, Women's History, Economic History, and the History of Technology. He also worked as a consultant for county health departments that were instituting public health initiatives for youth and teens in the state of Florida.

Resilience Program in Florida, Rod Braun is responsible for developing policies and strategies around various climate actions, including mitigation and adaptation. He leads the effort on coastal resilience strategies for the Florida Chapter and serves on the steering committees of both SE FL Regional Climate Compact and East Central Florida Resilience Collaborative. Prior to his role at TNC, he worked at the South Florida Water Management District where he managed the West Coast CERP Program, and local stormwater and restoration initiatives. Rod has a bachelor's degree from Cornell University and a master's from Florida Tech.





Dan Burger (Session 6) is a Senior Program Manager for the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Gulf Research Program. Dan's work focuses on improving community health and resilience through applied research, strategic partnerships and community-based capacity building. Prior to joining the Academies, Dan held senior management and leadership positions for the South Carolina Coastal Zone Management Program, working in support of intergovernmental coastal resource management, hazard mitigation and resilience planning efforts. Dan is also a founder and former chair of the Charleston Resilience Network, a collaborative effort among public, private, academic and nongovernmental organizations to enhance regional decision-making and improve the resilience of social, physical and economic systems. Dan has served on numerous

regional and national advisory boards, including Carolinas Integrated Sciences and Assessments (CISA) and an appointment to the NAS Resilient America Roundtable. Prior to his work in South Carolina, Dan worked to advance environmental public policy and build the capacity of nonprofit organizations in Maryland. He is an honors graduate of Western Maryland (McDaniel) College and holds a Master of Public Administration in urban public affairs from the College of Charleston.

**Dr. John Cooper** (Session 7) has dual titles as the Assistant Vice President for Public Partnership & Outreach and the Director of Texas Target Communities. Dr. Cooper earned a bachelor's degree in Economics as well as his Master's in Urban Planning from Texas A&M before completing a PhD in City and Regional Planning at University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill (UNC). Dr. Cooper's research and teaching focuses on participatory planning, particularly as it relates to preparing socially vulnerable populations to prepare for, survive and recover after disasters. From 2005-2010, he was a Program Director at MDC Inc. in Durham, NC, where he directed the FEMA-funded Emergency Preparedness Demonstration Program (EPD). The EPD



was a \$2.5 million effort to increase disaster awareness and preparedness in marginalized communities in eight (8) states along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts. Dr. Cooper serves on the advisory board for the UNC Coastal Resilience Center and on the board of directors for the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities. Dr. Cooper is also a member of the advisory council for the Center for Disaster Philanthropy and was recently named to the National Academies Board on Gulf Education and Engagement.



H. Camille Crain (Session 3) is the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Section Chief at FEMA Headquarters. In this role it is her responsibility to design and administer FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance's newest grant program, BRIC. Camille came to FEMA HQ from FEMA Region 6 where she served as the Hazard Mitigation Assistance Branch Chief in the Mitigation Division. It was her responsibility to manage FEMA's three HMA grant programs and the HMA staff for the five states and 68 tribes located in Region 6. She administered in excess of \$3 billion of mitigation funding. Camille formerly worked for FEMA Region 4 where she has served as a Senior HMA Program Manager, serving as the Team Lead and Supervisor for the States of

Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi. She also was responsible for HMA training needs in the Region, Mitigation Planning coordination with HMA and Standard Operating Procedures development for the HMA Branch. Camille also served as the FEMA Region 4 representative on the Federal Interagency Community Resiliency Workgroup.

Camille was the State Hazard Mitigation Officer for the Commonwealth of Kentucky, where she managed the Commonwealth's hazard mitigation grant program and planning.

Mayra Cruz (Session 7) Mayra is the Climate Justice Director at Catalyst Miami. She manages CLEAR (Community Leadership on the Environment, Advocacy, and Resilience) and HEAL (Housing, Equity, Advocacy, and Leadership), which provide training around social justice and community organizing around the issues of climate change and affordable housing, respectively. Collectively the programs have graduated over 300 leaders who are more civically engaged and advocating for resilient solutions to Miami's most pressing problems. She also supports Catalyst's work around disaster preparedness and advocating for equitable resilient strategies for vulnerable communities. As a



Steering Committee Member of the Miami Climate Alliance, she advocates for access to clean energy for low-wealth communities. She is passionate about addressing the social determinants of health and combating climate change from a public health perspective. Mayra graduated from Columbia University with an MPH in Environmental Health Sciences with a Certificate in Climate and Health.



Chris Dailey (Session 4) is a Senior Environmental Scientist with RS&H, Inc. Chris leads NEPA studies and environmental permitting for roadway and airport projects throughout Florida. Chris has been conducting benthic habitat studies, seagrass surveys and developing mitigation plans in Florida for more than 25 years.

Andy Fox (Session 3) is a Professor of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning, University Faculty Scholar, Center for Geospatial Analytics Faculty Fellow, and Community Engaged Faculty Fellow at North Carolina State University. He is also a licensed landscape architect, Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects, and a founding co-director of the Coastal Dynamics Design Lab (CDDL), an interdisciplinary research and design initiative that addresses critical ecological and community development challenges in coastal regions and shoreline communities. Professor Fox specializes in the development and management of high-performing public landscapes with expertise in natural infrastructure, resiliency planning, community design, and land/water conservation assessment.





Ariadna Michelle Godreau-Aubert (Session 7) is a human rights lawyer. She obtained a JD from the University of Puerto Rico School of Law and a Masters in Law degree in International Human Rights Law at the University of Oxford, UK. Ariadna has worked in several access to justice initiatives, which include strategic litigation at local and international levels, the use of technology to increase legal literacy and organizing movements lawyers. She is the founder and Executive Director of Ayuda Legal Puerto Rico, Inc. Ariadna is also an adjunct professor at the Universidad de Puerto Rico, where she teaches courses on human rights, political theory and international relations. Her academic scholarship revolves around human rights, gender, austerity, housing and the

right to protest. Her first book, which offers a feminist approach to the Island's debt crisis, "Las propias: Apuntes para una pedagogía de las endeudadas" was published on March 2018. Her upcoming book, which is due for fall

2021, is titled Indebted, Unresolved and Dispossessed: The Impact of Austerity and Unsustainable Debt on the Right to Housing of Those Living in Colonial Lands.

**Crystal Goodison** (Session 4) is an Associate Scholar and Associate Director of the GeoPlan Center, a research and teaching center specializing in geospatial systems and technologies. Crystal leads geospatial projects which provide mapping data, tools, and technical training to the State, regional, and local governments to assist with sea level rise and coastal resiliency planning efforts.





William A. Gould (Session 6) is the Director of the USDA Caribbean Climate Hub and a Research Ecologist with the USDA Forest Service International Institute of Tropical Forestry. His research is focused on interactions of landscape, biodiversity, climate, and people as they infuence ecosystem structure and functions. As Drirector of the Climate Hub he oversees the mission to develop and deliver science, tools, and outreach that helps reduce the risks of climate change to tropical forestry and agriculture and improves sustainability of these services in the U.S. Caribbean.

Whitney Gray (Session 1) has been the Administrator of the Florida Resilient Coastlines Program in the Florida Coastal Office of DEP since December of 2017. Her bachelor's and master's degrees are from the University of Florida (Go Gators!) where she studied zoology and systems ecology. She first worked on climate change vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning with the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council. From 2012 to 2015, Whitney served as Sea Level Rise Coordinator for both the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and Florida Sea Grant, specializing in the effects of sea level rise on coastal ecosystems serving as a subject matter expert during the Imperiled Species Management Planning process. Whitney is a 5<sup>th</sup> generation Florida native from the Gulf Coast.





**Dr. Jennifer Hegelson** (Session 6) is a research economist in the Applied Economics Office of the Engineering Laboratory (EL) at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). She currently leads the office's work on the "Economics of Community Resilience Planning." Dr. Helgeson's research revolves around resilience to hazards in the built environment, with consideration for cost-effectiveness of community-scale mitigation and adaptation efforts. Dr. Helgeson is a member of the National Construction Safety Team (NCST) Technical Investigation of Hurricane Maria and its impacts on Puerto Rico. She leads a project to determine the impacts to and recovery of small and medium-sized manufacturers (SMMs), and retail and service industries. Also, as part of her business resilience research, Dr. Helgeson leads a primary data collection effort in partnership with NOAA. This study focuses on decision-making processes for

small- and medium-sized businesses in response to hurricane events and extreme flooding in South Carolina, Texas, and other areas.

Debra Hernandez (Session 1) currently serves as Executive Director of the Southeast Coastal Ocean Observing Regional Association (SECOORA). SECOORA is one of eleven regional partners in the U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System, and is a nonprofit operating in the states of NC, SC, GA and FL. SECOORA's mission is to catalyze and integrate the efforts of multiple ocean and coastal monitoring interests to deliver user defined products that save lives, conserve the marine environment and support the economy of our coastal regions. Debra is a civil engineer with 30 years of experience in coastal and ocean engineering, management and policy. She served on the National Academies' Ocean Studies Board and the Ocean Research and Resources Advisory Panel,



currently serves on the SC Sea Grant Consortium Program Advisory Board and is Chair of the IOOS Association. She graduated from Clemson University and is a native of Charleston, SC, living in Mt. Pleasant with her son John.



Danielle Irwin (Session 3) is an oceanographer and regulatory expert, consulting with public and private clients on waterfront developments of all kinds including marinas, shipyards, ports, coastal construction, beach nourishment, dune management, inlet management, dredging and shoreline stabilization including resilient seawalls and living shorelines. Danielle previously served as Deputy Director of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Water Resource Management and is still active with policy and rulemaking statewide. More recently, Danielle serves as a Director at Cummins Cederberg, a marine and coastal engineering firm. She enjoys projects that improve sea level rise resiliency in public spaces and parks best and has been having good success in getting those projects funded through various resiliency grants. Danielle is a Certified Floodplain Manager, Professional Wetland Scientist ad LEED Accredited Professional. Her

newest certification is as a WEDG Professional, applying resilient Waterfront Edge Design Guidelines (WEDG) to her projects. She obtained her BS in Biology and BA in Environmental Studies from the University of Southern California, and her Masters in Oceanography from Florida State University.

Marci Jackson (Session 5) is the Silver Jackets Coordinator & Special Projects Section Chief Planning Division, Jacksonville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). She graduated from the University of Alabama with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. She has over 16 years with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and has practiced Planning for ten of those years. She has experience in hydrology and hydraulics, project management, dam safety, and civil works planning and policy. She worked for Sacramento, CA District Office where she was the Planning Lead for the Isabella Dam Safety Modification Study (2010 – 2015). She also for Huntington, WV District Office as a National Planning and Policy Advisor for the Dam Safety Modification Studies (2015 – 2018). She now works in



the Jacksonville, FL District Office as the Silver Jackets Coordinator and Chief of the Special Projects Section in the Planning Division. She is the Silver Jackets Coordinator for the State of Florida, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. As section chief, she oversees non-traditional Planning studies for Florida, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. She is certified as an Agency Technical Reviewer for USACE flood risk management planning studies, she is a USACE Water Resource Certified Planner, a member of the Planning Associates Class of 2013, and holds a Risk Management Certificate from the University of Maryland, Notre Dame.



Jennifer Kline (Session 1 & wrap-up) is a Coastal Hazards Specialist for the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Coastal Resources Division where she has worked for the last 16 years. She is a Specialist for the Georgia Coastal Management Program, which represents 11 coastal counties. Ms. Kline works closely with local governments in relaying information from federal and other state agencies regarding coastal hazards planning and climate change impacts. She is leading the state and Coastal Georgia in Disaster Recovery and Redevelopment Planning making Georgia the first state to have a completely resilient coast based on FEMA's National Disaster Recovery Framework by the year 2020. Before joining the Coastal Resources Division, Ms. Kline worked for the Department's

Environmental Protection Division as an Industrial Compliance Specialist from 2001 to 2005. This provided the opportunity to oversee activities related to Air Quality, Hazardous Waste, Solid Waste, Water Quality and Water Supply. With a combined total of 20 years with the Department, Ms. Kline has made it a priority to foster the mission and goals of DNR as well as ensure that the Public Trust is a consistent priority. Ms. Kline graduated from Valdosta State University with degrees in Environmental Geography and Geology.

Mr. Trevor Lancaster (Session 4) serves as the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Coordinator for the US Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District. He has served in this position since August 2016. He is responsible for overseeing an enterprise geospatial program for users across the states of North Carolina and Virginia, as well as serving as the GIS lead for Emergency Management in the District. Previously he served as a Geographer in the Engineering Branch of the USACE Wilmington District since 2009. Mr. Lancaster has served as the geospatial lead for a variety of Wilmington District projects and programs including Federal Coastal Storm Risk Management projects, Floodplain Management Services, Planning Assistance to States, and the National Levee



Database. Currently Mr. Lancaster serves as the geospatial discipline lead for the South Atlantic Coastal Study, a four-year, large-scale regional study analyzing costal risk and vulnerability in the Southeastern United States and Territories. Trevor also serves on the National USACE GIS Cadre, providing technical support to large-scale disasters. Most recently supporting Hurricanes Matthew, Irma, Maria, and Florence. Additionally, since 2013, Trevor has served as a subject matter expert on the Civil Military Emergency Preparedness program, providing technical geospatial support to DOD partner nations in Europe and Asia. Mr. Lancaster graduated from the University of North Carolina-Wilmington in 2009 with a BA in Geography and Environmental Studies as well as a certificate in Geographic Information Systems. Mr. Lancaster has been a certified GIS professional since 2015.



Carlos Lee (Session 6) is President of Lee Engineering and a licensed engineer in Puerto Rico. In 2006, Mr. Lee obtained the designation of Certified Infrastructure Preparedness Specialist. He has been involved in post-hurricane disaster evaluations during his 37-year engineering career and in private-forest management practices for the past 45 years. He consults on and sells low-impact logging and timber processing equipment and has been the construction manager on projects using locally harvested hardwoods. Mr. Lee was the proponent of the University of Puerto Rico's project Developing the infrastructure for a Puerto Rico Wood Products Team and is the business/industry ad honorem collaborator on this project. On May 2019, this project received a grant from the US Forest Service under the Wood Innovation Program.

Hilary Lohmann (Session 1) is the Coastal Resilience Coordinator for the US Virgin Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources. She started in this position when it was created in 2019, after a Fulbright Fellowship in Barbados and the NOAA Coral Management Fellowship in the USVI. Hilary has a Masters in Marine Affairs from the University of Rhode Island and has worked in small island resilience for seven years.





Amanda Martin (Session 1) is Deputy Chief Resilience Officer with the State of North Carolina. Amanda is passionate about building resilience in ways that advance economic prosperity, strengthen housing options, and celebrate cultural and natural heritage. In her current work with the North Carolina Office of Recovery and Resiliency, she advances the state's resilience through policy advising, stakeholder engagement, and technical assistance. She recently completed her PhD in City and Regional Planning at UNC-Chapel Hill, where her dissertation examined post-disaster home buyouts in North Carolina from the perspectives of resilience, recovery, and racial justice. Amanda has

over a decade of experience in climate resilience, disaster recovery, and community development, and she holds a Masters in City Planning from MIT and Bachelor's degree from Harvard. She lives with her wife and two children in Durham, North Carolina.

Dr. Pablo Méndez-Lázaro (Session 1) is Associate Professor at the Department of Environmental Health of the University of Puerto Rico, Graduate School of Public Health. He studied Geography at the University of Puerto Rico; Marine Sciences at the University of Cádiz, Spain; Environmental Sciences and Water Resources at the University of Salamanca, Spain; and he did a Post Doc on "Climate Change, Extreme Events and Remote Sensing" at the University of South Florida. He has been involved in multiple researches analyzing climate and weather extreme events impacts on public health. Pablo is an active Member of the Puerto Rico Climate Change Council, a Member of the Executive Committee on Climate Change Adaptation Plan for the Government of Puerto Rico, a researcher on San Juan ULTRA



(Urban Long Term Research Area) and a City Co-Lead in UREx-SRN (Urban Resilience to Extreme weather events-Sustainability Research Network).



Carolina Maran, Ph.D., P.E. (Session 4) is the District Resilience Officer with South Florida Water Management District. In her role, she is responsible for coordinating resilience efforts across federal, state, regional and local agencies, advancing scientific research and data analysis to ensure the District's resilience planning and projects are founded on the best available science; and, developing and implementing comprehensive resiliency goals to mitigate and adapt to the challenges facing the District's infrastructure and core functions from sea level rise and other climate change impacts. Carolina has nearly 19 years of experience working on water resources planning, management, and regulation; water resilience, allocation rules and conflict resolution; hydrologic and hydraulic modeling, decision

support systems and GIS. Prior to joining SFWMD, Carolina was the Water Manager at Broward County, worked over 10 years as a Water Resources Specialist for the Federal Water Agency in Brazil, and collaborated with International Organizations as part of technical consulting teams. She holds a Ph.D. in Civil and Environmental

Engineering – Water Resources from Colorado State University and a Master's Degree in Water Resources Engineering from Parana Federal University in Brazil. Currently, she serves on the Florida Water and Climate Alliance Steering Committee, and on the Board of Directors of South Florida Hydrologic Society and the Resilient Utility Coalition.

Brooks Nelson (Session 6) manages the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation Corporate Citizenship Center's Disaster Preparedness, Relief, and Recovery program. In this position, Brooks leads programming around the private sector's role in disaster preparedness and community resiliency. Brooks also coordinates the Center's response to natural and man-made disasters through the Corporate Aide Tracker, business delegation trips, and coordination calls. In addition to leading the global resilience program, he also supports the execution and management of the annual Corporate Citizenship Awards. Brooks began working with Corporate Citizenship Center in March



2009 as a researcher for the Together for Recovery campaign. Prior to joining the Center, Brooks was with USA Freedom Corps, the civic engagement office of the White House under the Bush Administration. Brooks is a graduate of Iowa State University where he holds two bachelor of science degrees, one in Public Service and Administration and the other in Apparel Merchandising, Design, and Production with an emphasis in creative design. Brooks is originally from New Providence, Iowa.



David Perkes (Session 5) is a licensed architect and Professor for Mississippi State University. He is the founding director of the Gulf Coast Community Design Studio, a professional outreach program of the College of Architecture, Art + Design. The design studio was established in Biloxi, Mississippi following Hurricane Katrina and is providing resilient planning, landscape and architectural design support to many Gulf Coast communities and non-profit organizations. Before creating the Gulf Coast Community Design Studio, David was the director of the Jackson Community Design Center and taught in the School of Architecture's fifth year program in Jackson, Mississippi AIA, and Gulf States Community Design Studio has received multiple Mississippi AIA, and Gulf States Region AIA design awards, and David was awarded the 2017 AIA Presidential

Citation. Other awards include a Terner Award for Innovative Housing, an EPA Gulf Guardian Award for the Bayou Auguste restoration project and a Curry Stone Design Prize. The Gulf Coast Community Design Studio was part of one of ten teams selected by HUD to participate in "Rebuild By Design," which is a program to identify resilient design strategies for communities affected by Hurricane Sandy. The design studio was selected in 2015 to be part of the National Resilience Initiative, a program of the American Institute of Architects to create a national network of design studios working on resilience. In 2011 David was part of a four-person national team to receive the Latrobe Prize from the American Institute of Architects. The prize supported research in Public Interest Practices in Architecture. David has a Master of Environmental Design degree from Yale School of Architecture, a Master of Architecture degree from the University of Utah, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Utah State University. In 2004 David was awarded a Loeb Fellowship from the Harvard Graduate School of Design.

Ann C. Phillips (Session 2) is the Special Assistant to the Governor for Coastal Adaptation and Protection for the State of Virginia. Prior to joining the administration, she worked to address sea level rise and climate impact on national security at the regional, national and international level, and chaired the Infrastructure Working Group for the Old Dominion University-convened Hampton Roads Sea Level Rise Preparedness and Resilience Intergovernmental Pilot Planning Project. Preceding her work on climate impact and sea level rise, Ann served nearly 31 years on active duty in the US Navy as a Surface Warfare Officer. She had the honor to commission and command USS MUSTIN (DDG 89) and to command Destroyer Squadron 28. Her final Flag command was as Commander, Expeditionary Strike Group TWO, including all the Amphibious Expeditionary Forces on the East Coast of the United States.





Eleanor Davis Pierel (Session 6) is a PhD Candidate in the University of South Carolina's Department of Geography. Eleanor studies the impact of complex hazards on small business, a critical component of local economic health and community well-being. Recently, she conducted a survey of Carolina businesses focused on their experiences and adaptations during COVID-19 and the 2020 hurricane season. This research consequently expanded into a national survey studying the broad range of hazards experienced by communities in 2020. As climate change progresses, Eleanor plans to leverage her research to improve our understanding and support of community resilience.

Alex Reed (Session 4) was appointed Director of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection in November 2019. Created to centralize the agency's coastal management priorities, the Office employs a multi-faceted approach to resilience, including coral reef protection, conservation of coastal and aquatic management areas, comprehensive beach and inlet management, implementation of ecosystem restoration projects and strategic planning to prepare Florida's coastal communities and state-managed lands for the effects of sea level rise, coastal flooding, erosion and future storms. Alex began her tenure with the department in 2009, joining the Beach Management Funding Assistance Program and most



recently served as the Director of the Division of Water Resource Management. Alex earned a B.S. in geology from Florida State University.



Dana Reiding (Session 4) is an Administrator in the Office of Policy Planning at FDOT. She is the project manager for the state's long range transportation plan (Florida Transportation Plan) and oversees implementation activities that include resiliency, safety, and community planning. Prior to joining FDOT, Dana was the Policy Director at the Florida Department of Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles, where she did strategic planning and performance management. Dana holds an MBA from FSU and is a certified Project Management Professional.

Graciela Rivera (Session 5) is the Territorial Hazard Mitigation Office and has served in this role for over a year. Ms. Rivera started her role in Hazard Mitigation in 2018 as the Deputy Hazard Mitigation Officer for the district of St. Croix. Formerly, Ms. Rivera worked for over 20 years in a variety of leadership roles in the Telecommunications industry that covered areas such as Cable TV Operations, Broadcast Television Management, Marketing, Sales Management, Accounting, among others. Ms. Rivera is enthusiastic about being part of the Disaster Recovery in the USVI and being able to be part of the process of making her home, the USVI a more resilient community.





Louie Rivers (Session 7) is an associate professor at North Carolina State University in the Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources. His research focuses on the examination of risk and decision process in minority and marginalized communities, particularly in regards to the natural environment and juvenile crime.

Dave Rosenblatt (Session 2) is the State's Chief Resilience Officer and Assistant Commissioner for the Climate and Flood Resilience (CFR) Program in the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The program consists of four organizational areas: the Division of Coastal Engineering, the Division of Dam Safety and Flood Engineering, the Bureau of Climate Resilience Design and Engineering, and the Bureau of Climate Resilience Planning. Dave, with forty-two years in DEP, previously served as Assistant Commissioner and Administrator of the Engineering and Construction program for fifteen years. He has also served as Chief of the Atlantic



Coastal and South Jersey Bureau in the Division of Watershed Management for five years. Dave and his CFR Program staff are developing the Statewide Climate Resilience Strategy and the Coastal Resilience Plan, as directed by Governor Murphy's Executive Order 89. Dave previously managed the preparation of The New Jersey Governor's Delaware River Flood Mitigation Task Force Report (2006) and The Report to the Governor: Recommendations of the Passaic River Basin Flood Advisory Commission (2011). Dave graduated from the Rutgers College of Agriculture and Environmental Science (BS, Environmental Science '76) and The College of New Jersey (Master of Arts, Teaching '97).



Heidi Stiller (Session 3) is the South Regional Director for NOAA's National Ocean Service (NOS) Office for Coastal Management (OCM), and she is based in St. Petersburg, Florida. Heidi serves as a focal point for senior level coastal partner interaction at the regional, state, and local levels from North Carolina around to Texas and including the Caribbean. She helps to implement national and regional statutory and other coastal and ocean programs, responds to the needs of users, partners and coastal decision-makers, and delivers technical assistance to meet coastal and ocean challenges. Before joining NOAA, Heidi worked for the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management, and spent three years at the Florida Coastal Management Program. Planning that incorporates hazard mitigation, climate adaptation, and natural resource sustainability is a focus of

Heidi's work, including providing data and tools to help communities address and communicate coastal inundation risks. She has experience with post-disaster recovery planning, and recently served as an author on the coastal chapter of the Fourth National Climate Assessment.

Charles Sutcliffe (Session 2) is the Chief Resilience Officer for Louisiana's Governor's Office: Coastal Activities. He began with a strict policy focus related to the implementation of the Coastal Master Plan and now seeks to integrate an understanding of coastal change into other departments across state government. He coordinates closely with other state agencies, non-governmental organizations, and philanthropies as the State of Louisiana broadens its approach to managing the many implications of coastal change and positioning itself to capitalize on the opportunities that may arise. Charles is also



one of three members of the Governor's Office team working on the Climate Initiatives Task Force which will make recommendations for how Louisiana can reach net zero emissions by 2050. Charles has a Master of Arts (M.A.) in Humanities and Social Thought from New York University, a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in History and a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Animal Sciences from Louisiana State University. Before coming to the Governor's Office he worked as a science teacher in Baton Rouge and Pittsburgh; with the Allegheny County Department of Human Services; and with Louisiana State University's Economics & Policy Research Group.



Olivia Vila (Session 5) is a third year PhD student at North Carolina State University. She received her bachelor's degree in psychology from Colorado State University and her master's degree in geography from Memorial University of Newfoundland in St. John's, Canada. Throughout Vila's academic career, she has been involved with various types of social-environmental research (weather and climate), but has found her passion with disasters. Specifically, she is interested in using research to help empower marginalized communities to recover from disasters, mitigate future hazards, and build long-term

resilience. Olivia is also interested in federal-, state-, and local-level policy associated with hazards and disasters. Recently, she provided support to FEMA during the development of their new Building Resilience Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant program.

Mark Wilbert (Session 2) is the Chief Resilience Officer and Senior Policy Advisor to the Mayor for the City of Charleston, South Carolina. Mark is focused on leading City Staff and the Charleston community in planning for the effects of changing weather, including flooding and sea level rise, in a thriving city of 150,000 residents and seven million visitors annually. Since becoming Charleston's first Chief Resilience Officer in 2018, Mark has led the development and implementation of the City of Charleston's Flooding and Sea Level Rise Strategy, and has served as city project lead for the Charleston Dutch Dialogues. He also continues as city project lead for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Flood Risk Management Study for the Charleston Peninsula and



successfully led the city team through the recently completed All Hazards Risk and Vulnerability Analysis. Prior to assuming his current role, Mark served as the City's Emergency Management Director for five years following active

duty service in the U.S. Coast Guard for 35 years, retiring as Captain. During his Coast Guard career, Mark served in roles involving Search and Rescue, Law Enforcement, Counter –Terrorism and protecting the maritime environment. He was also involved in planning and responding to numerous weather related disasters and events including the G-8 Summit in 2004 and the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill in 2010.

Chauncia Willis (Session 7) is the Co-Founder and CEO of the Institute for Diversity and Inclusion in Emergency Management (I-DIEM). Ms. Willis is certified as an Emergency Manager, Professional Coach, and Cultural Diversity Professional with over 20 years of experience. Her expertise includes disaster management, national security event planning, leadership coaching, immigrant and refugee outreach, as well as diversity, equity and inclusion training. Prior to co-founding I-DIEM, Chauncia served as the Emergency Manager in Tampa, Florida for over 14 years where she developed successful programs benefiting marginalized populations. She has led national emergency planning efforts for political conventions, national football league games and international award shows. In her role as CEO for I-DIEM, she leads the effort to integrate equity into all facets of disaster policy, programs, and practice with the goal of increasing cultural

competence and mitigating the harmful impacts of bias on underserved groups. Regarded as a national expert, Ms. Willis has provided witness testimony to the U.S. House of Representatives on multiple occasions on matters of diversity, equity, and inclusion, as well as policy implementation. She is the author of "Stretching: The Race towards Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in America," set for release on December 15, 2020. Chauncia Willis hails from St. Petersburg, Florida and is a graduate of Loyola University New Orleans and Georgia State University, Andrew Young School of Policy Studies.

#### SCDRP Winter 2021 Meeting Planning Committee

This year's meeting planning committee had extra challenges with developing this three-day online event. This committee is comprised of standing members of the SCDRP who volunteered to support planning this meeting. These members have been working for months to engage members in their professional networks and develop these great sessions for our growing resilience community. There is no way the SCDRP could have brought you this event without them. A very big Thank you!



James Avitabile, PE, DBIA – Vice President & Strategic Initiatives Leader. Jim leads Strategic Initiatives related to RS&H's Transportation & Infrastructure Practice, and has directed and participated in the programming, planning, environmental permitting, design and procurement of complex infrastructure projects for federally funded projects throughout the United States. Mr. Avitabile's career has included the management and implementation of regional public transit programs, limited-access highways, bridge, toll roads, freight rail, recreational and pedestrian facilities projects. He serves as a technical advisor to many public Agencies and has developed a strong understanding of federal programs that are aligned with state government and local government needs related to capital improvement program development. His is focused on RS&H's development of Sustainability and Resilience Adaptation, Emerging Technologies,

Clean Energy assessment and State Broadband Expansion programs. Jim has assisted the FHWA Office of Innovative Project Delivery through invited participation in industry forums related to Best Practices in Design-Build and P3 project delivery. As an active member of SCDRP and several other professional organizations, Jim leverages his national thought leadership with clients to help navigate the constant challenges facing their organizations, such as climate change. Jim received his BSCE and MSCE from Northeastern University in Boston Massachusetts, is a Registered Professional Engineer in FL, MA, ME and GA and is a certified DBIA Professional.



**Sean Bath** (he/him/his) is a Program Specialist for the Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments (RISA) Program at the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). RISA supports the development of knowledge, expertise, and abilities of decision makers to plan and prepare for climate variability and change. The RISA Network comprises a core of eleven regional teams, including a full RISA team in the Carolinas and new collaborative planning activities in the Southeast and Caribbean regions. Sean helps coordinate the RISA network, scope its funding opportunities, and highlight its accomplishments. He is adamant about the role human networks and trusted relationships should play in addressing our biggest challenges, as well as the lens of justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion. Sean is originally from Charleston, SC, but is now based in Silver Spring, MD.



Brandy Bones is a Vice President at ICF, an international consulting firm where she works with federal agencies, states and localities to design, plan and implement disaster recovery and mitigation, neighborhood stabilization, and affordable housing programs. She specializes in managed retreat programs and helping disaster-impacted communities maximize their funding resources to build more resilient communities and improving outcomes and economic opportunities for vulnerable populations most affected by disasters. Brandy is a Natural Hazard Mitigation Association (NHMA) Board member, a certified planner and holds an MBA from the University of Florida and a BA from Colgate University. She lives in Detroit.



Amanda Farris is the Program Manager for the Carolinas Integrated Sciences & Assessments (CISA) program, a NOAA-funded Regional Integrated Sciences & Assessments team based at the University of South Carolina. Amanda is the lead planner for the biennial Carolinas Climate Resilience Conference and serves on planning committees for the Southeast and Caribbean Disaster Resilience Partnership annual meeting and National Adaptation Forum. Through these and other stakeholder engagement activities, Amanda works to bridge the gap between climate science research and stakeholder communities. She also conducts research to advance understanding of drought and related impacts in the Carolinas and enhance adaptive capacity in the region. Amanda received her B.A. from Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC and her Master's degree from the University of South Carolina.



Elizabeth Fly, Ph.D. is the Marine Conservation Director for the South Carolina chapter of The Nature Conservancy. She is expanding the Conservancy's engagement in important coastal and offshore issues facing South Carolina, including using nature-based solutions to mitigate flood risk, promoting open space preservation, encouraging regional sediment management and beneficial reuse of dredged material, and supporting sustainable fisheries. Liz is originally from St. Louis, Missouri, but has lived in South Carolina for 14 years working on marine-related issues. She received her

Ph.D. in Biological Sciences from the University of South Carolina, studying climate change impacts on marine mussels around the world. Liz spent a year in Washington D.C. as a Knauss Marine Policy Fellow, working on ocean and coastal issues for the Third National Climate Assessment which was released in 2014. Before joining the Conservancy, she was the coastal climate specialist for the South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium and the Carolinas Integrated Sciences and Assessments program, providing science-based information and technical support for coastal climate adaptation issues.



Ginger Garte is Americas Environmental & Sustainability Director at Lloyd's Register Marine & Offshore. Ginger is passionate about the planet. She finds it empowering to lead environmental cleanups and creates guite a buzz with her team of Island Huggers in South Florida. Whether the clean ups are by sailboat, kayak, or electric car, no discarded one time use plastic item is safe from her team of sustainability stewards. She is armed with over 25 years of maritime experience. Ginger is responsible for growth, strategy and delivery of environmental and sustainability services for Americas Marine & Offshore marine clients including ferries, naval, cargo, and cruise ships. Her expertise includes global aspects for waste and waste water management, port facilities infrastructure, environmental regulations, supply chain risk, as well as natural resource conservation and protection strategy. She obtained her Geological Science degree from Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University and was immediately selected to serve as a U.S. Commissioned Officer with the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Upon completion of Officer Training School, Ginger served for five years on board NOAA's research vessels and land based laboratories. Her geological research led to a number of

publications on South Florida ecosystems. She has also served as Superintendent, Environmental Health and

Safety Department, at Carnival Cruise Lines and Senior Analyst, Environmental Stewardship Department, serving all cruise lines within Royal Caribbean Cruises Limited. Ginger takes an active role in the community where she is a board member of UpGyre's.org, a non-profit that develops technologies that transform ocean plastic pollution into useful products. She also serves as council member and judge for The Fairchild Botanical Garden Challenge and is a member of Women's International Shipping & Trading Association (WISTA).



Jennifer John is a Biologist for the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District. Part of the Watershed section of the Planning and Policy Division, Jennifer works on ecosystem restoration in the Florida Everglades. She received a Master of Marine Science and a Master of Public Policy from Jacksonville University in 2020 and a Bachelor of Science in Ecology and Evolution from the University of Pittsburgh in 2014. Jennifer's policy capstone work developed a Low Impact Development model ordinance for Northeast Florida and Southeast Georgia to protect the St. Marys River from stormwater pollution. Prior to graduation and working for the Corps, she worked for the Laboratory and Environmental Services at JEA, Fuels Laboratory at Northside Generating Station. Jennifer enjoys CrossFit, traveling with her husband, and spoiling her husky puppy, Echo.



Sean Lahav serves as Resiliency Coordinator for the Northeast Florida Regional Council (NEFRC). He has experience in public policy, local government planning, intergovernmental relations and congressional lobbying. In working to build resilient communities across the region, Sean's current focus is to engage the public, private and nonprofit sectors on stakeholder engagement initiatives related to adaptation planning, economic resilience, floodplain management and sea level rise. He recently worked with the City of Atlantic Beach on its successful pursuit to become the first LEED certified community in Florida; and is currently working with the City of Jacksonville on efforts related to the City Council Special Committee on Resiliency. His work has been highlighted by magazines, television features,

radio appearances, podcasts, newspapers and more. Sean is also the producer of "Exploring Northeast Florida's Special Places," a video series on WJCT that highlights the public parks of Northeast Florida. He is an avid wilderness photographer with a portfolio focused around mountain, desert and alpine landscapes; and graduated from the National Outdoor Leadership School in 2015 following a remote wilderness semester spent in the mountains of Wyoming, Utah and Colorado. He holds an M.P.A. focused in Public Policy and a B.A. in Political Science, summa cum laude, from the University of North Florida; and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. from Florida State University in Urban and Regional Planning.



Jason Liechty is Senior Environmental Project Coordinator with the Broward County Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department, where he manages environmental policy and legislative issues and contributes to many of the County's climate, energy, and resilience initiatives. He is also a key staff member of the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact and serves as the Compact's policy and legislative coordinator. Jason has also worked as a planner, legislative aide, nonprofit director, and office manager of a craft distillery. He earned a BA in international studies from American University, a Fulbright Fellowship to Germany, and a master's in urban planning from the University of Illinois. Jason recently stepped down after six years on the City of Fort Lauderdale

Sustainability Advisory Board, including four years as chair. He is alumnus and former co-director of the Broward County chapter of New Leaders Council, a nonprofit leadership training organization, and the proud servant of two rescue cats.



Dr. Geno Olmi serves as the Coordinator for NOAA's Southeast and Caribbean Regional Collaboration Team, which works to improve the effectiveness of NOAA's products and services through communication and coordination amongst NOAA personnel and partners in the region. In this capacity, Geno coordinates a 21-member team of NOAA and partner representatives to identify regional issues and find innovative solutions to bring NOAA and partner resources to bear on those issues. Geno has been with NOAA 24 years in varying capacities. Geno earned a BS degree in Biology from

Furman University (SC) and then worked for several years as a fishery biologist at the SC Department of Natural Resources. He earned a MS degree in Marine Biology from the College of Charleston (SC), and a Ph.D. degree in Marine Science from the College of William and Mary School of Marine Science.



Kelly Pflicke, AICP serves as a Resiliency Specialist with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region II and is responsible for moving forward initiatives that enhance the resilience of communities in the region, which includes New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands and eight Tribal Nations. Prior to joining FEMA, she served as a Senior Planner with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection where she led planning projects to help communities adapt to climate change and spearheaded recent agency efforts to incorporate equity and socially vulnerable populations into policy and planning frameworks. Kelly holds a Master of City and

Regional Planning from Rutgers University and a Bachelor of Arts in Geography from Georgia Southern University.



Gavin Smith is a Professor in the Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning at North Carolina State University. His research focuses on hazard mitigation, disaster recovery, and climate change adaptation and the integration of research and practice through deep community engagement. Educational efforts include the development of a graduate certificate in disaster resilient policy, engineering, and design and helping to coordinate a university-wide effort focused on disaster resilience spanning research, teaching, and engagement-related activities. Dr. Smith has written the text Planning for Post-Disaster Recovery: A Review of the United States Disaster Assistance Framework (Island Press, 2011) and served as the co-editor

of the text Adapting to Climate Chance: Lessons from Natural Hazards Planning (Springer, 2014) as well as writing numerous peer reviewed journal articles, book chapters, and practice-oriented reports. Smith was a co-PI on a six-year study assessing the quality of state and local hazard mitigation plans. Smith's current research includes assessing the state of disaster resilient design education at U.S. Universities, the analysis of a national survey assessing the role of states in building the capacity of local governments to implement hazard mitigation grants and a comparative assessment of hazard-prone housing acquisition programs in the US, New Zealand, and Australia.

William A. (Skip) Stiles, Jr. is executive director of Wetlands Watch, a statewide nonprofit environmental



group based in Norfolk, VA. Prior to assuming his current position in 2006, since 1998, Mr. Stiles was an independent consultant, providing editorial and public policy services to clients such as: The While House Office of Science Policy, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Pew Charitable Trusts, RAND Corporation, and the National Academy of Sciences. For the previous 22 years, from 1976 to 1998, Mr. Stiles served in a number of senior staff positions in the US House of Representatives, working at the intersection of science, environment, and public policy. His positions included chief of staff to a member of congress, subcommittee staff director, and legislative director for the House Science Committee.

#### **SCDRP Director**



Barbara Bischof, Ph.D., is the Director and Coordinator of the Southeast and Caribbean Disaster Resilience Partnership. Prior to this role, she served as Director for the National Oceanographic Partnership Program, supporting and managing eight Federal inter-agency committees and working groups that were focused on ocean science research needs and collaborative project development. She holds an undergraduate degree in geology from the College of Charleston; an MS in marine geology and geophysics from the University of Miami Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences; an MA in journalism, and academic certificate in science communication and reporting from New York University; and a Ph.D. in geography from Florida State University. Her doctoral work examined how scientific processes and discourse affects knowledge and perceptions of fact. Following the Deepwater Horizon disaster, she was asked to participate in various environmental science missions in the Gulf of Mexico to work as an observer and consultant on

sampling sites and data-management. She then joined Stetson University as a Visiting Professor, teaching geography and environmental science; and following Hurricane Sandy, served on a faculty advisory committee for recovery and resilience planning. While in academia, and still a main interest today, her work focused on identifying ways that social constructions of space and place can influence management approaches and policy implementation in marine and coastal communities and ecosystems. She continues to serve on the Editorial Board for the *Journal of Ocean and Coastal Management* and is authoring a book for Elsevier that will provide a core text in the subdiscipline of marine geography. Barbara also serves as part of a marine rescue special operations team with Virginia Beach EMS, which provides emergency services for water-related incidents and supports response and recovery operations during extreme weather events and disasters.