

Adaptation All-Stars Lunch

Speaker Bios and Photos (*in alphabetical order by last name*)



Robin Leichenko, Professor, School of Arts and Sciences, Rutgers University

Robin Leichenko is Professor and Chair of Geography at Rutgers University and co-Director of the Rutgers Climate Institute. Her research explores economic vulnerability to climate change, equity implications of climate adaptation, and the interplay between climate extremes and urban spatial development. Leichenko has authored or co-authored two books and more than 70 journal articles and book chapters. Her book, *Environmental Change and Globalization: Double Exposures* (2008, Oxford University Press), won the Meridian Book Award for Outstanding Scholarly Contribution from the Association of American Geographers. Leichenko was a contributing author on the IPCC Special Report on Extreme Events.



Maria Carmen Lemos, Professor, School of Environment and Sustainability, University of Michigan

Maria Carmen Lemos is Professor of Natural Resources and Environment and co-director of the Great Lakes Integrated Sciences and Assessments Center at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Her research focuses on environmental public policymaking in Latin America and the U.S., especially related to climate change (adaptation and adaptive capacity building); the co-production of science and policy and different means to narrow the gap between useful and usable knowledge; and the role of technoscientific knowledge in environmental governance. She is a co-founder of Icarus (Initiative on Climate Adaptation Research and Understanding through the Social Sciences), which seeks foster collaboration and exchange between scholars focusing on vulnerability and adaptation to climate change. She was also a lead author of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change AR5 and has served on a number of National Academies of Sciences committees.



Karen O'Brien, Professor, Department of Sociology and Human Geography, University of Oslo

Karen O'Brien is an internationally recognized expert on climate change and society, focusing on themes such as climate change impacts, vulnerability, and adaptation including how climate change interacts with globalization processes and the implications for human security. She is interested in how transdisciplinary and integral approaches to global change research can contribute to a better understanding of how societies both create and respond to change, and particularly the role of beliefs, values and worldview in transformations to sustainability. Her recent books include *You Matter More Than You Think: Quantum Social Change for a Thriving World* and *Climate and Society: Transforming the Future* (co-authored with Robin Leichenko). She has been involved in four IPCC reports, and in 2021 she was co-recipient of the BBVA Foundations Frontiers of Knowledge Award for Climate Change. She is currently a co-chair of the IPBES Transformative Change Assessment.



Libby Wentz, Vice Provost/Dean and Professor, School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning, Arizona State University

Elizabeth (Libby) Wentz is the Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate College and a professor in the School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning at Arizona State University. She is the Director and PI of the Knowledge Exchange for Resilience, an ASU initiative to support Maricopa County, Arizona by sharing knowledge, catalyzing discovery, and exchanging responses to challenges together, in order to build community resilience. She is the former PI of ASU ADVANCE, to become a higher education leader in inclusion and diversity at all levels of the university, from undergraduates to academic leadership. Her research focuses on the design, implementation and evaluation of geographic technologies with particular emphasis on how such technologies can be used to understand urban environments. Geographic technologies, which include Geographic Information Systems (GIS), remote sensing, and spatial analysis, offer insight into how human activities and physical space relate in urban systems by using quantitative methods to measure and analyze such activities.

Moderator: Kathy Jacobs, Director, Center for Climate Adaptation Science and Solutions, University of Arizona