

RESILIENT FUTURES SYMPOSIUM

*Interdisciplinary Perspectives on
Climate Change, Migration & Habitation*
April 13 - 14, 2022

Learn more: architecture.ou.edu/resilientfutures



Todd Stewart, OU School of Visual Arts

Weds., April 13th OPENING KEYNOTE

Traci Rose Rider, North Carolina State University
Nielsen Hall, Rm. 170
4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 14th ALL-DAY SYMPOSIUM

Featuring three sessions, a closing panel discussion & closing reception
Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art Auditorium
9:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Schedule at a glance

Morning

9:00 – 9:30 Coffee & light breakfast
9:30 – 9:45 Welcome & Introductions
9:45 – 11:30 Session 1: Presentations & Panel Discussion

Lunch

11:30 – 12:30 Lunch served in Sandy Bell Gallery for all moderators and presenters*

Afternoon

12:30 – 2:15 Session 2: Presentations & Panel Discussion
2:15 – 2:30 Coffee Break
2:30 – 4:15 Session 3: Presentations & Panel Discussion
4:15 – 4:30 Coffee Break, Prepare Stage for Closing Panel
4:30 – 5:30 Closing Panel Discussion

Reception

5:30 – 6:30 Reception in the Lightwell Gallery, OU School of Visual Arts (next door)

The Resilient Futures Symposium is made possible with support from the OU Gibbs College of Architecture Bruce Goff Chair of Creative Architecture (organizing sponsor), as well as the OU Institute for Resilient Environmental and Energy Systems (lunch sponsor), and the OU Arts and Humanities Forum, OU Data Institute for Societal Challenges, and OU School of Visual Arts (coffee break sponsors).

See following pages for detailed descriptions of all session talks.

Moderators:

Stephanie Pilat, OU Architecture

Shane Connelly, OU Institute for Community and Society Transformation

Presenters:

Rachel Riley, Southern Climate Impacts Planning Program

“Climate Change and Its Implications for the United States and Oklahoma”

This presentation will begin with a brief overview of climate change. Next, historical trends, future projections, and impacts for the United States will be described before focusing on Oklahoma. Some examples of how researchers and practitioners are working to address the climate-related challenges we face will be shared.

Simone Domingue, OU Geography & Environmental Sustainability

“Centering Social Justice While Planning for our Climate Future”

Many communities are tired of the trope of “resilience.” Drawing from theory and research, I elaborate on the pitfalls of resilience discourse, enumerate equity issues that are embedded in societal adaptation to climate hazards and disasters, and discuss building resilience in ways that center social justice.

Francesco Cianfarani, OU Architecture

“Urban Growth and Housing Models for Climate Migration Scenarios”

The talk introduces predicted urban growth and densification models in response to domestic climate migration in the US. Potential of existing urban areas in Oklahoma will be discussed, considering relationships between existing infrastructure and different scales of the built environment.

Xiaochen Angela Zhang, OU Journalism and Mass Communication

“Agency, Trust, and the Road to Recovery”

The presentation will discuss the idea of “soft power” of a resilient future with a particular focus on individual and community resilience perceptions. The presentation will articulate the need for and importance of resiliency cultivation and will discuss ways to increase individual and community resilience vis-à-vis results of a few research studies on disaster and pandemic resilience.

Tom Mueller, OU Geography & Environmental Sustainability**“Well-being in Rural America: Trends, Challenges, and Opportunities”**

Rural America has faced persistent difficulties over the past fifty years. Due to economic restructuring, migration, and other factors, many dimensions of well-being remain worse in rural America than in urban areas. Although difficulties persist, these areas are resilient and remain clear avenues for positive change.

Lunch Break | 11:30 – 12:30 p.m.

Note: Catered lunch to be provided for symposium speakers and moderators

Virtual Keynote

Introduction of Saskia Sassen’s virtual keynote (available online streaming, on-demand)

SESSION TWO | 12:30 – 2:15 p.m.

Moderators:

Angela Person, OU Architecture

Tim Filley, OU Institute for Resilient Environmental and Energy Systems

Presenters:

Sharon Hausam, South Central Climate Science Center

“Indigenous Engagement in Adaption Planning”

Dr. Sharon Hausam will discuss the significance of and some challenges to equitable climate adaptation planning for and with Indigenous communities, focusing on tribal sovereignty, data sovereignty and traditional knowledges, and community-based and collaborative planning processes as tools for decision-making and implementation.

Lauren Mullenbach, OU Geography & Environmental Sustainability**“City climate adaptation planning: A health equity and environmental justice issue”**

This talk will cover climate adaptation planning in U.S. cities, ways they are—and are not—equitable, and will briefly present a paper on health equity and other unintended consequences, such as gentrification, that arise from city climate plans.

Todd Stewart, OU School of Visual Arts**“Destiny Manifest: An Intertextual Reading of the Desert West”**

As a photographer, I have explored the American desert for over two decades. Although each site I visit is unique and layered with its own set of histories, narratives, ideologies, etc., they are all interconnected. A reading of one landscape informs and contextualizes the reading of another and vice versa.

Randy Peppler, OU Geography & Environmental Sustainability**“‘Things are not balancing out’ – Perceptions of a changing climate among Native agriculturalists and traditionalists in southwestern Oklahoma”**

In 2008-11, Peppler conducted research to understand how Native American agriculturalists and traditionalists in southwestern Oklahoma conceptualize weather and climate in local and cultural ways and to learn their thoughts and perceptions on climate change and its potential impacts on their agricultural and cultural activities.

Vanessa Morrison, OU Institute for Quality Communities**“Engaging Communities for Resilient Futures”**

Through a case study of the town of Tullahassee, Oklahoma’s oldest, surviving Black township, this talk will explore how community engagement can be used as a tool to learn from communities while empowering them to address near and long-term climate challenges.

SESSION THREE | 2:30 – 4:15 p.m.**Moderators:**

Daniel Butko, OU Architecture

Kimberly Marshall, OU Arts & Humanities Forum

Presenters:***Felipe Flores & Nayifa Nihad, OU Security in Context Graduate Fellows***

To introduce their upcoming "Youth Perspectives on Climate Change" online symposium, Wednesday, April 20th, 10:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Central

Register via Zoom:

https://oklahoma.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_cS7xPDzhT0ypyX6ESzllgA

Emma Colven, OU International & Area Studies**“Imagining Urban Futures: Adaptation and the Politics of Possibility in Jakarta”**

In 2020, the Indonesian President announced that the nation’s capital would be relocated away from Jakarta to East Kalimantan. His decision seemed to confirm what the media have already long been speculating: Jakarta is doomed. I reflect on the use and work of dystopian climate imaginaries, and what it means to forecast disaster and uninhabitability for cities that for many will continue to be home.

Wenwen Cheng, OU Landscape Architecture**“Climatically Responsive Landscape Architecture Design and Research”**

Climate change and extreme heat place a severe toll on American cities. Outdoor environments can be modified through climatically responsive landscape design and planning (CRD). Through heat vulnerability index, children’s thermal comfort model, and neighborhood microclimatic study, this presentation demonstrates heat vulnerable locations, populations, and CRD strategies.

Lee Fithian, OU Architecture**“Urban Climate Resilience: Multi-Scale Planning Model for Urban Heat Islands and Street Canyons to Address Air Quality Issues related to Urban Form and Related Health Outcomes”**

Urban planning and design guidelines lag considerably behind the growing science of climate change and are inadequate in considering multi-parameter heat-related and air quality health risks. Evaluating and predicting the impact of urban planning and design at different scales in mitigating future heat stress and air quality is critical to developing effective policy interventions and public health guidance. This problem creates a critical need to investigate the physical characteristics contributing to the vulnerability of our urban populations and provide design interventions to mitigate the problem. Evidence-based, climate-resilient urban planning and design is essential to resolve and mitigate global challenges. This presentation involves the VPRP funded Big Idea Challenge XGEM core working group and specifically our teams’ interactions and contributions to the project.

Chie Noyori-Corbett, OU Social Work**“Feminization of Survival Migration: Cases of Refugees and Human Trafficking Victims”**

This presentation summarizes the presenter’s research investigating the vulnerability of women in this era of globalization, who leave their countries of origin and resettle in countries in the Global North. The cases of human trafficking in Japan and Myanmar refugee women in the United States will be explored. The presenter will introduce the current plan via her transdisciplinary research team to initiate their Humanitarian Innovation Center for better resettlement model creation.

David Ebert, OU Data Institute for Societal Challenges**“Intelligent Human-Computer Teaming for Resilient Communities”**

We have an opportunity to improve our resiliency through combining advanced human-guided analytics and artificial intelligence for better planning, preparation, operation, and response to short-term and long-term challenges facing our communities and businesses from our changing environment. In this talk, I'll describe our work, challenges, and opportunities.

CLOSING PANEL DISCUSSION | 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

All presenters take stage for three small-group discussions.

CLOSING RECEPTION | 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Lightwell Gallery, *OU School of Visual Arts*
520 Parrington Oval, Norman, OK