

Consortium for Scenario Planning Conference 2023

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Sulabh Aryal, Transportation Planning Manager, PlanRVA

Sulabh Aryal brings over 14 years of experience in transportation planning and leads the development of the Richmond, Virginia, region's Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). His professional interests cover the development and use of innovative analytical tools for various planning applications, including performance-based project prioritization, scenario planning, and transportation economic impact analyses. He has master's degrees in urban and regional planning and in GIS from Virginia Commonwealth University.



Uri Avin, Affiliate, National Center for Smart Growth

Uri Avin has applied research projects and scenario planning tools to numerous aspects of growth management at the county, regional, and statewide scales. A former consultant, he was also previously the planning director for Howard, Maryland, and the deputy director in Baltimore and Harford Counties. He has directed the Partnership for Action Learning in Sustainability (PALS) at the Center and holds master's degrees in architecture, urban design, and city planning from the University of Pennsylvania.



Camille Barchers, Assistant Professor of Regional Planning, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Camille Barchers has practiced as a regional planner throughout Florida, the Southeast, and the mid-Atlantic. Her work examines how planners use technology to engage with the public, in addition to how big data applications can be used for long-range planning. Her work also explores the interaction between land use and transportation planning. She is also part of the faculty team at the Northeast Center for Coastal Resilience.



Gabriela Rengifo Briceno, Sociologist, Grupo Prospectiva para Políticas Públicas

Gabriela Rengifo Briceno's research focuses on agrarian and rural development, as well as food systems. She currently works as a research assistant for the Prospective Group of Public Policy at the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú in Lima. She holds a master's degree in public policy from the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú.

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Bo Carpen, Teaching Assistant in Regional Planning, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Bo Carpen is a candidate for dual master's degrees in landscape architecture and regional planning at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. They also hold an MS in ecological design and planning from the Conway School. Their current research investigates domestic U.S. climate migration and risk perception for climate resilience planning, and they are interested in planning for uncertainty and designing climate-adaptive landscapes.



Richard Chavez, National Long-Range and Strategic Planning Lead, WSP USA

Richard Chavez brings more than 30 years of department of transportation and metropolitan planning organization experience in a variety of planning, project, and program initiatives in transportation, land use, and environmental planning. Currently focused on expanding WSP USA's long-range planning practice with strategic methods for improved decision-making, he coordinates best practices and optimizes the creation of more livable, mobile, resilient, and equitable communities.



Arnab Chakraborty, Professor of Urban and Regional Planning, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Arnab Chakraborty's research concerns critical questions surrounding governance of land, housing, and infrastructure, and it has been funded by the National Science Foundation, the Federal Highway Administration, and the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, among others. His work on restrictive zoning and planning responses has received national attention. He was a visiting fellow at the Lincoln Institute, and he serves as an associate editor of the *Journal of the American Planning Association*.



Gabriel Cuellar, Professor in Practice, University of Minnesota

Gabriel Cuellar is an architect, urban designer, and educator whose current work focuses on the spatial implications of real property, design approaches for contemporary environments, and the role of architecture in land relations. He was the Oberdick Fellow at the University of Michigan in 2018–2019 and previously completed studies in architecture and urban design at Carnegie-Mellon University and at the Berlage Institute.

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Joseph DeAngelis, Research Manager, American Planning Association

Joseph DeAngelis is a planner and research manager at the American Planning Association, where he focuses on climate adaptation, natural hazard risk, and community resilience. He holds a master's degree in urban planning from City University of New York—Hunter College.



Catie DeMets, Doctoral Candidate, University of Wisconsin–Madison

Catie DeMets has collaborated extensively with farmers, ranchers, and other food systems affiliates through projects related to local economic development, transformative food system planning, technical assistance for beginning farmer business planning and capacity building, farmland protection, food system policy analysis, conservation, land transfer and financing, and Cooperative Extension food systems program development. She holds an MS in environmental studies and is pursuing a PhD in urban and regional planning.



Sarah Dominguez, Program Manager, Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)

Sarah Dominguez oversees the development of Connect SoCal, the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, a long-range visioning plan that balances future mobility and housing needs with economic, environmental, and community goals. This includes policy development, community engagement, and technical analysis. Previously, she worked for the California Air Resources Board and received her master's in planning from the University of Southern California.



Ellen Esch, Senior Data Scientist, Metropolitan Council

Ellen Esch works on land use modeling, develops new data sets, and builds tools to help communities apply research findings to local planning efforts. She is particularly interested in helping the Twin Cities region understand global change processes to plan for a more sustainable and equitable future. She has a BA in biology and environmental studies from Carleton College and a PhD in biology from the University of California San Diego.

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Todd Graham, Principal Forecaster, Metropolitan Council

Todd Graham provides project leadership in demography, development monitoring, land use analysis, and economic analysis and is currently part of the team implementing new techniques for the Metropolitan Council's 2050 socioeconomic and land use forecasts. Previously, he was a regional analyst and regional analysis manager for the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development and chairman of the Census State Data Centers Network; he is currently the board chair of TwinCitiesResearch.org.



Baris Gumus-Dawes, Senior Researcher, Metropolitan Council

Baris Gumus-Dawes manages special projects for the Metropolitan Council's Community Development Division and leads its scenario planning efforts in preparation for the 2050 regional planning cycle. Previously, she worked as a researcher and a policy analyst at nonprofit organizations and research institutions. She holds an MA in economics from the University of Cambridge and a PhD in sociology from Yale University.



Angela Hansen, Founder, Food Systems Foresight

Angela Hansen founded Food Systems Foresight in 2019 to help food system decision makers illuminate systems dynamics, spur social innovation, and ensure sustainable development. Previously, she has served as the CEO of GKI and as director of agriculture and food security at Dalberg, a global strategy firm. She is currently completing her PhD and lecturing at the University of Cape Town Graduate School of Business.



Ryan Maye Handy, Policy Analyst, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

Ryan Maye Handy is a policy analyst and planner with the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy. Her work focuses on training communities to use scenario planning to prepare and plan for uncertain futures through the Consortium for Scenario Planning. Previously, she worked as an urban planning consultant and spent a decade as a newspaper reporter. She has a BA in comparative literature and Russian language from Georgetown University, an MS in journalism from Columbia University, and an MURP from the University of Colorado Denver.

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Heather Saucedá Hannon, Associate Director of Planning Practice and Scenario Planning, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

Heather Saucedá Hannon runs the Consortium for Scenario Planning and advances planning practices through its initiatives. Previously, she was a transportation planner consulting for the U.S. Department of Transportation. She has also worked in regional and state planning at the Massachusetts Department of Transportation and in campus planning at Harvard University and the University of Massachusetts Boston. She earned her AB in architecture from Princeton University and her MUP from Harvard University's Graduate School of Design.



Jim Holway, Director, Babbitt Center for Land and Water Policy

Jim Holway has 40 years of experience, include serving for 12 years as an elected Board Member of the Central Arizona Project, as Assistant Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources, and as a professor of practice and Arizona Water Institute coordinator for Arizona State University. Jim earned his bachelor's degree in political science from Cornell University and both a Ph.D. and Master's in Regional Planning from the University of North Carolina.



Petra Hurtado, Director of Research and Foresight, American Planning Association

Petra Hurtado is an expert researcher on urban sustainability, smart cities, emerging technologies, and environmental psychology who teaches community visioning with foresight at the University of Maryland and at the Vienna University of Technology, from which she also holds a PhD in urban planning. Additionally, she has guest lectured at Loyola University Chicago, the University of Maryland, the Harvard Graduate School of Design, and the Universidad Tecnológica De Bolívar.



Redowan Kabir Kaushik, Graduate Student, University of Maryland, College Park

Redowan Kabir Kaushik is a graduate student in the Master of Community Planning program at the University of Maryland, College Park. He has a background in architecture and previously worked in academia as an urban design studio guide at a university in his home country of Bangladesh. Currently, he works as a graduate assistant at the Maryland–National Capital Park and Planning Commission, in its Community Planning Division.

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Sara Khoeini, Lead Consultant, WSP USA

Sara Khoeini has experience with travel demand modeling and forecasting, as well as various applications for planning purposes. Previously, she was an assistant research professor of transportation systems at Arizona State University, where she studied new transformations in transportation systems. Passionate about transportation equity, she develops quantitative metrics for studying equity in travel. She earned her PhD from the Georgia Institute of Technology.



Jamin Kimmell, Partner, Cascadia Partners

Jamin Kimmell is an experienced urban planner whose work includes affordable housing plans, transit-oriented development, comprehensive plans, commercial district revitalization, urban design, development permitting, zoning codes, permitting processes, and development code updates. His recent projects have focused on planning and code initiatives to shape a more equitable and affordable housing market. He holds an MURP from Portland State University and is a graduate of the University of Colorado Boulder.



Gerritt Knaap, Professor, University of Maryland

Gerritt Knaap is a professor of urban studies and planning and director of the National Center for Smart Growth at the University of Maryland. He researches the interactions between housing markets and policy, the economics and politics of land use planning, and the impacts of environmental policy. He earned his BS from Willamette University, his MA and PhD from the University of Oregon, and did post-doctoral training at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, all in economics.



Dan Marckel, Planning Analyst, Metropolitan Council

Dan Marckel focuses on producing the Twin Cities' regional development guide for 2050, coordinating shared efforts by teams working in land use, transportation, water supply, water quality, wastewater, housing, and regional parks. He has spent time in the private, nonprofit, and academic sectors and is an adjunct faculty member in the College of Design at the University of Minnesota.

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Elizabeth Mekonnen, Graduate Student, University of Maryland, College Park

Elizabeth Mekonnen is a dual-degree graduate student at the University of Maryland, College Park, focusing on historic preservation and community planning. She is currently a community fellow at Maryland's Department of Housing and Community Development. Previously, she interned with a focus in neighborhood revitalization at the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.



Julia Michel, Senior Associate, Cascadia Partners

Julia Michel focuses on mapping and data management and analysis, particularly in land use and housing policy, and she works with cities to dissect the impacts that land use regulation and policy have on housing production and affordability. She has a BA in urban studies from San Francisco State University and an MURP from Portland State University.



Carolina Mueller, Coalition Manager, National Young Farmers Coalition

Carolina Mueller is a cook, gardener, weekend rancher, potter, and food systems practitioner who has worked in food service, for nonprofits, and on farms for over a decade. She holds a master's in public affairs with a focus in agriculture and food systems and is interested in program evaluation and bridging big-picture policy and people's lived experiences.



Athar Mufreh, Lecturer, University of Minnesota School of Architecture

Athar Mufreh is a designer and educator who has previously served as a lecturer at the University of Michigan Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning. Currently, her research concerns multi-generational housing, kinship relations mediated by landscape ecologies, and emerging modes of citizenship. She received a bachelor's in architecture from Birzeit University and a master's in integrated urbanism and sustainable design from Stuttgart University and Ain Shams University.

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Chet Parsons, Director of Transportation, PlanRVA

Chet Parsons leads staff for the Richmond Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RRTPO) and the Central Virginia Transportation Authority (CVTA), overseeing an interdisciplinary team of planners that conduct regional transportation studies, provide technical assistance to municipalities, and research critical policy issues facing the Richmond, Virginia, region. In this role, he works alongside elected officials and staff from nine member jurisdictions, regional stakeholders, and other agencies and municipalities to develop a regional transportation vision and then dedicate federal and state funding to specific improvements.



Ray Quay, Research Professional, Arizona State University

Ray Quay is the director of stakeholder relations at the Decision Center for a Desert City, part of the Global Institute of Sustainability and Innovation at Arizona State University, where he researches urban planning, water resources, climate change adaptation, urban heat islands, regional growth policy, and scenario analysis. He holds a BS from Baylor University, an MSCRP from the University of Texas at Austin, and a PhD from Arizona State University.



Jules Reynolds, Graduate Researcher, University of Wisconsin–Madison

Jules Reynolds has worked as a researcher and community organizer for food systems in Oregon and abroad in Malawi and South Africa. Her current research centers on community-engaged practices, resilience, and transformation within the farm-to-table and local food movements. A joint PhD candidate in the Department of Geography and at the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies, she earned her MS in agroecology from the University of Wisconsin–Madison.



Paul Runge, Senior Associate, Cascadia Partners

Paul Runge previously worked for the State of Oregon’s demographic research office and in corporate business consulting. His current projects and advocacy focus on housing affordability, with work ranging from regulatory reform to pre-development planning for subsidized housing. Paul lives and works in Portland, Oregon.

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Kristi Tatebe, Research Associate, Kwantlen Polytechnic University Institute for Sustainable Food Systems

Kristi Tatebe is a registered professional planner who works on food policy and planning in support of sustainable food systems, which has included a scenario-driven examination of the benefits of zeroing in on food systems according to bioregions. Her current work includes the creation of a toolkit for planning professionals, outlining best practices for food systems planning in Canada.



Kaelan Watson, Research Associate, Kwantlen Polytechnic University Institute for Sustainable Food Systems

Kaelan Watson's applied research focuses on food policy and sustainable food systems planning. She is currently working on projects that examine best practices in effective food systems planning, and policy solutions to support the apple growing industry in British Columbia, Canada. She is also a registered professional planner candidate.



Patrick Welch, Policy Analyst, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

Patrick Welch is a policy analyst on the climate strategies team at the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, contributing to the Institute's work on land-based climate finance, equitable climate adaptation and resilience, and scenario planning. He has more than eight years of experience working in planning, international development, and environmental policy at a variety of scales in both the public and private sectors. He obtained his BA in urban environmental studies from Birmingham–Southern College, and his master's in city and regional planning from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



Carolina Zegarra, Landscape Architect, Alimentando Futuros

Carolina Zegarra currently leads research focused on the relationship between landscape and food systems at all scales, and her current projects explore landscapes as refuges from the climate crisis and how their management can negatively or positively impact the food systems and food security. She holds a master's in landscape architecture from the Universidad Politécnica de Cataluña and a bachelor's in architecture from the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú.