



Adirondack Research Consortium

Better Information for Better Decisions

AND THE



Present

Women in Conservation Advocacy and Policy
Identifying Research Needs, Gaps and Opportunities
Sponsored by the Walbridge Fund and the International Paper Foundation

Thursday, February 15th, 2018, Pine Room, Paul Smith's College

The purpose of this workshop is to identify challenges and opportunities for women pursuing careers in conservation advocacy and policy in the Adirondacks.

9:30 Coffee

10:00 Welcome, **Amanda Lavigne**, President, Adirondack Research Consortium
Dr. Cathy Dove, President, Paul Smith's College
Diane Fish, Deputy Director, Adirondack Council

10:15 **Dr. Jillmarie Murphy**, Director of the Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Program, Union College, "Gendered Spaces: Affect Theory, New Materialism, and the Power of Place Identity."

10:45 Fish Bowl Conservation: Women Leaders in Conservation Advocacy and Policy
Diane Fish, Adirondack Council, Moderator
Liz Moran, Environmental Advocates of New York
Jessica Bassett, Communications Consultant
Jessica Ottney Mahar, The Nature Conservancy
Kathy Regan, NYS Adirondack Park Agency

12:00 Lunch with Keynote Speaker, **Kathleen M. Moser**, Deputy Commissioner, Natural Resources, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, "Supporting Women in Conservation: 30+ Years of Experience, Mistakes and Successes."

1:30 Facilitated Discussion: Identifying Potential Actions and Research Needs to Further Gender Equity

3:00 Adjourn

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Countess Alicia Spaulding-Paolozzi Environmental Research and Education Center
Paul Smith's College Campus



Jessica Bassett is a strategic communications and government relations professional with extensive experience working in and with New York State government. She currently splits her time between consulting and serving as the communications director for the Health Global Access Project (Health GAP), a small global AIDS treatment advocacy non-profit, where, in addition to traditional communications responsibilities, Jessica has helped the organization significantly increase its fundraising from individual donors via high-impact online donor communications. She also specializes in building effective media events from the ground up, and has done press and site advance for First Lady Michelle Obama, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, former President Bill Clinton and Attorney General Eric Schneiderman. Previously, Jessica spent four years with SKDKnickerbocker’s Albany office, crafting and implementing earned media campaigns for a variety of political, non-profit, labor and corporate clients. Before joining SKDK, Jessica served in intergovernmental affairs and communications offices for State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli and former Governors David Paterson and Eliot Spitzer. Jessica grew up in the North Country and now lives at the edge of the Adirondack Park in the Town of Saranac with her husband, toddler and two dogs.



Jessica Ottney Mahar is the Policy Director for The Nature Conservancy in New York. Since joining the Conservancy in 2007, Jessica has led and participated in efforts to successfully enact more than a dozen new state laws and regulations to protect and restore New York’s natural resources and increase funding for environmental conservation. Jessica also oversees The Nature Conservancy’s involvement in partnerships that support the advancement of the organization’s policy priorities. Jessica has more than fifteen years of environmental policy experience in New York. Prior to joining The Nature Conservancy,

she worked as Legislative Associate for The Adirondack Council in Albany, and Program Coordinator for Citizens Campaign for the Environment in Buffalo and on Long Island. She currently serves on the New York Advisory Board of the Land Trust Alliance, where she is Policy Committee Co-Chair. Jessica has a bachelor’s degree in English and Political Science from the State University of New York at Buffalo. She lives in Niskayuna, New York with her husband Sean Mahar, Director of Communications for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, and their five year old daughter Stefanie.



Elizabeth Moran is Water and Natural Resources Director for Environmental Advocates of New York. Liz joined Environmental Advocates in 2014. As Water & Natural Resources Director, she leads advocacy efforts on fracking, water pollution, land use and conservation, and invasive species issues. Prior to joining Environmental Advocates, Elizabeth worked with the New York Public Interest Research Group as a Legislative Associate, Board Member, and Student Organizer. She also worked as an Education Organizer with the Alliance for Quality Education of New York and as an Intern with the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority. Elizabeth has a B.S in Environmental Science with a concentration in Geology from the University at Albany. In her free time she enjoys snowboarding, reading, blogging, and various outdoor activities. She is the author of

the reports, License to Dump, on fracking waste entering New York State, as well as Tapped Out: New York's Clean Water in Peril.



Kathy Regan is the Deputy Director for Planning at the Adirondack Park Agency (APA). Her responsibilities include overall direction and administration of state land policy issues and local government services at the Agency. In 2007 Kathy was contracted by the Adirondack Park Agency as a Project Coordinator for an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Wetland Demonstration Program. In 2008 Kathy joined the APA staff in their Planning Division as a Natural Resource Planner. Kathy was promoted to the position of Deputy Director, Planning in September 2014. Kathy’s work experience began with The Nature Conservancy (TNC) at the Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program. She also worked at TNC’s Worldwide office in Arlington

Virginia before transferring to the Adirondack Chapter in 1989. There she developed and implemented their Science and Stewardship program, including the Summit Stewardship Program. Kathy received her undergraduate degree in Botany from the University of Vermont and her Master of Science, also in Botany, from Miami University (Ohio).

Kathy Moser is the Deputy Commissioner for Natural Resources, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. Ms. Moser was appointed Deputy Commissioner in December 2011 and leads the Divisions of Fish and Wildlife, Lands and Forests, and Marine Resources. Approximately 600 staff work for these three divisions across the state with annual budgets of over \$130 million. She works on wide-ranging policy issues such as the Adirondack & Catskills forest preserves, sportsmen licenses, land acquisition, endangered species, fish hatcheries, freshwater/marine fisheries, invasive species, wetland protection, habitat restoration/remediation, and natural resource damage cases. Prior to DEC Ms. Moser worked as Managing Director for Strategic Initiatives at World Wildlife Fund. Her major project with WWF was a country-wide conservation initiative in Mexico with Carlos Slim. Kathy held various senior positions at The Nature Conservancy in New York State and in their International Program from 1992 to 2009. Ms. Moser has her undergraduate degree in botany and master's degree in forest productivity, both from Duke University. She is fluent in Spanish and resides in the City of Albany with her husband and three daughters.



Jillmarie Murphy is an associate professor of English and Director of the Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Program at Union College, in Schenectady, NY. Jill's teaching and research interests encompass the field of American literature from the seventeenth through the early twentieth century. She has published books, journal articles, and essays that focus on Puritan poetics, literature of the early American Republic, prominent and lesser-known antebellum literary figures, trans-Atlantic writers who span the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and American realist and naturalist novels. Her primary research interests and publications employ the psycho-social paradigm of attachment theory and draw on topics considering parenting, gender, race, class, and ethnicity and their relationship to human-to-human, human-to-place, and human-to-animal bonding in literature. Her most recent book, *Attachment, Place, and Otherness in Nineteenth-Century American Literature: New Materialist Representations* (Routledge 2018), examines the role interpersonal and place attachment bonds play in crafting a national identity in American literature.



Diane W. Fish is the Deputy Director of the Adirondack Council. Diane joined the Council staff in 2001 and works with Executive Director Willie Janeway to manage staff and Board activities to effectively implement strategic initiatives to expand the number of advocates engaging in conversations about the Park's future, participating in advocacy actions and supporting the Council's work to protect the Adirondacks. Diane shares other Council supporters' love of the Adirondacks, enjoys the Park's many outdoor recreation activities, and appreciates the astounding beauty of the Park every day.



Save-the Dates!

25th Annual Conference on the Adirondacks

The Conference Center at Lake Placid, Lake Placid, NY

May 22nd and 23rd, 2018

“25 Years – Research Needs Yesterday, Today, and in the Future”

Featuring: Sherburne B. Abbott, Vice President for Sustainability Initiatives and University Professor of Sustainability Science and Policy, Syracuse University



Adirondack Research Consortium

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