



#### **Environmental Advocacy Webinar Series**

# Teaching Advocacy: Planting the Seeds of Change

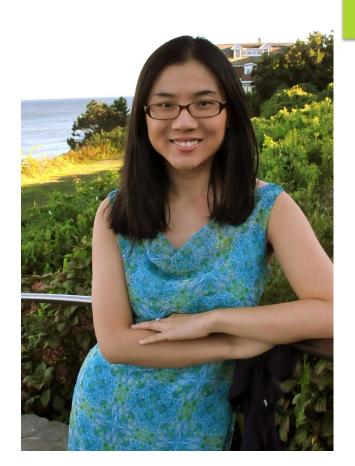
January 13th, 2021 12:00-1:00 PM ET

### Clara Fang

Organizer of the Environmental Advocacy Webinar Series

Graduate Assistant, Center for Climate Preparedness & Community Resilience

PhD Candidate, Antioch University



# Webinar Logistics



Everyone should be connected via Audio Broadcast upon entering the webinar. You do not need to call in & you are automatically muted



The presentation will be recorded and posted to the Antioch CCPCR web site within one week



Please submit any questions you have for the presenter in the Q& A section



If you are having trouble with any aspect of the broadcast, use the Chat section to message the Host directly





#### **Environmental Advocacy Webinar Series**

# Environmental Advocacy as a Career: A Calling and a Practice

Wednesday, February 24, 2021 – 12:00-1:00 PM ET

http://www.communityresilience-center.org/ environmental-advocacy-webinar-series/



# Special Issue on Environmental Advocacy

**June 2021** 

Fang, C.C. The case for environmental advocacy. *J Environ Stud Sci* (2021). https://doi.org/10.1007/s13412-020-00650-5

### **Local Solutions for Strong Communities**

... a series of online courses focused on the fundamentals of climate change resilience.

- Enroll for graduate credit or audit the course
- Increase your skill set in climate resilience for better outcomes
- Discover solutions to local issues you face on the job or in your community.
- Register for one course or the whole series.



http://www.communityresilience-center.org/climate-change-resilience-series/

### **Local Solutions for Strong Communities**

... a series of online courses focused on the fundamentals of climate change resilience.

### Join us for our next online course in this series

### **Climate Justice & Equitable Adaptation**

Climate change disproportionately affects communities of color and communities facing poverty. This module will focus on understanding how the intersections of social injustice and climate change can intensify the effect of climate impacts in communities that have been historically marginalized.

**January 31 - February 21, 2021** 

Registration Deadline: January 26, 2020



Instructor: Sarika Tandon

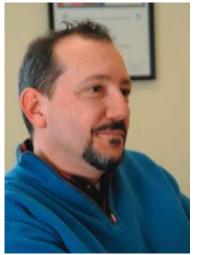
http://www.communityresilience-center.org/climate-change-resilience-series/



Dr. Abigail Abrash
Walton serves as
faculty and director
of the Environmental
Studies Master's of
Science program at
Antioch University
New England.



Eban Goodstein is an economist, author, and public educator who directs both the Center for Environmental Policy and the MBA in Sustainability at Bard College.



Neil Leary is Director of the Center for Sustainability Education at Dickinson College.



Dr. Mary Ellen Mallia has her PhD in Ecological Economics and is the Director of Sustainability at the University at Albany. She spent several years teaching at the high school and college level before assuming the director position in 2008.

Abigail Abrash Walton, PhD
Faculty/ES MS Program Director
Department of Environmental Studies
Antioch University New England

Advocacy as a Critical Knowledge and Skill Domain for All Environmental Professionals

### What is Advocacy?

"the pursuit of influencing outcomes ... that directly affect people's lives [and ecosystem health]. Advocacy consists of organized efforts and actions based on the reality of 'what is.' These organized actions seek to highlight critical issues that have been ignored and submerged, to influence public attitudes, and to enact and implement laws and public policies so that visions of 'what should be' in a just, decent society[, stable climate and biodiverse planet] become a reality"

(Cohen et al., 2001; adapted by Abrash Walton, 2020).

# Three Propositions about Environmental Advocacy

- ► All environmental professionals need to understand the essentials of effective advocacy.
- ► Advocacy has been core to effective environmental outcomes for generations (Agnone, 2007; Dowie, 1996; Layzer and Rinfret, 2020; Moyer et al., 2001).
- ► Advocacy is a critical knowledge and skill domain for environmental professionals and an important subfield within environmental studies and sciences.

**Source:** Abrash Walton, A., Hoskins, M., & Sinnes, E.(forthcoming). An annotated guide to environmental and general advocacy degree programs in the United States. *Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences*.



Image sources: Drew Angerer/Getty Images (vox.com); Erv Schleufer (<a href="https://nwlaborpress.org/">https://nwlaborpress.org/</a>; Kenneth K. Lam/Baltimore Sun; washingtonpost.com; <a href="https://nwlaborpress.org/">http://apen4ej.org/</a>)





- community education and organizing
- strategic campaigning
- tactical research
- formal legal actions
- creating and advancing petitions and referenda
- informing regulatory rules and legislative processes
- nonviolent direct action
- media work



Experiential Learning: Advocacy Methods class trip to NH State House



### EJ Class at Barrick's Pipeline Gold Mine



Field Studies and Service Learning: Advocacy Methods graduate student Gaby Cebada Mora accompanying Western Shoshone elder and advocate Carrie Dann, U.N. Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues



Connecting theory with practice: Antioch students calling for University to divest from fossil fuels

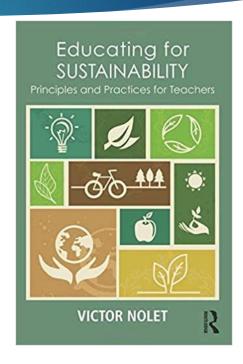
Neil Leary, Dickinson College

Learning for Action: a Sustainability Worldview Approach

### Sustainability Worldview

The "ultimate goal of education for sustainability is to help learners develop a sustainability worldview."

Victor Nolet, Educating for Sustainability, Principles and Practices for Teachers, 2016



### Sustainability Worldview

Motivates and guides acting effectively for sustainability

Values

Knowledge

Dispositions

Agency

Self-Efficacy

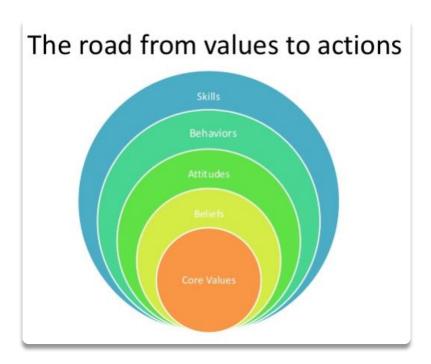


Image from N. Elhagene, <u>The energy to do – motivation</u> training









































THE EARTH CHARTER VISION, ACTION, ETHICS.





### Pedagogies

- Experiential
- Collaborative
- Inquiry-based
- Project-based
- Community-based research

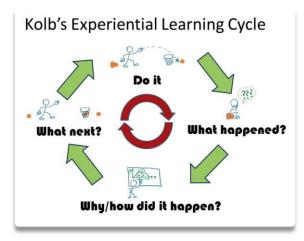


Image from R. Rahmanian, Kolb's Learning Cycle

# Sustainable & Resilient Communities Community Action Project

### Project

- Project proposal
  - Problem or opportunity
  - Vision of change
- Research
  - Community asset map
  - System map, leverage points
  - Options for action
  - Decision analysis
- Recommendations for Action
  - Stakeholder memo



Collaboration with Stakeholders

#### **Topics**

- Pandemic resilience
- Workforce development
- Diversity & inclusion policies
- Farmers' participation in watershed protection
- Urban farming and food security
- Academic success of at-risk vouth
- Equitable transportation
- Promotion of renewable energy
- Services for affordable housing residents
- Public support of farmland preservation





# Underlying models and tools to frame approach

### **Collective Impact**

**Five Conditions for Collective Impact** 



https://ssir.org/articles/entry/collective\_impact

### **Kotter 8 Step Process**



https://www.kotterinc.com/8steps-process-for-leading-change/

#### **UN Global Goals**



www.globalgoals.org

# Approaches to advocacy with freshmen - 2 seminar courses

#### Intro to Environmental Advocacy

Objective: provide education, raise awareness and explore potential actions. Educate, Engage, Empower

Approach: students given information (articles, speakers) to process and discuss through a combination of self discovery with group reflection. In addition, they were required to volunteer at sustainability events and attend campus programs.

https://ecochallenge.org/take-action/discussion-courses/

#### **Eco-Rep Change Agent**

Objective: acquire skills, facilitate student action, and research campus solutions

Approach: team based approach to analyze campus sustainability problem, provide students with process to effectively examine solutions. Designed to be a primer for undertaking change agent projects in subsequent semesters

https://cbsm.com/

### Eban Goodstein

Director, Bard Center for Environmental Policy and MBA in Sustainability at Bard College

 $Bard \ {}^{\text{Graduate Programs}}_{\text{in Sustainability}}$ 

# Change Minds. Change the Rules. Change the Game.

Lead the Change



The Princeton Review Best Business Schools 2021



#### Education or Advocacy? Engaging a Hotter World

Professors have an obligation to respond to the crisis of global climate change with a new form of engaging their students, writes Eban Goodstein.

By Eban Goodstein // January 20, 2009

This winter, I am doing an unusual thing for a professor of economics. Working with thousands of other professors across the country, I am organizing a national teach-in on global warming solutions. Together we are urging campuses and communities to debate an ambitious goal for America: cuts in carbon of 40 percent below current levels by 2020. Events are happening at more than 600 colleges, universities and K-12 schools across the country — with lectures, faculty and student symposia, debates, theater performances, technology fairs, art shows. And at every school, we are encouraging students to engage directly with their political leaders about polices for a stable climate.



#### A Global Dialog-Green Recovery / Climate Solutions / Just Transition

University and high school students across the planet will tune into 100 same-day events in fifty countries, university-hosted regional webinars critical to their future: how an ambitious Green Recovery based in state and local action can put us on the way to solving climate change by 2030. Climate-concerned university and high school faculty worldwide, and across disciplines, will assign these webinars as homework, using them as a springboard for discussing regional climate solutions, energy justice, and a Green Recovery.



#### #MakeClimateaClass

Assign Your State's Climate-Solutions
Wehinar

Then Use our Teacher's Guides for Subjects From Art to Economics, Music to Statistics

 For ALL climate-concerned educators, from HS to University

# ONLINE, COLLABORATIVE INTERNSHIP Social Media for Climate Activism

Five HOURS PER WEEK, Feb 3-April 15, 2021

More info: ebangood@bard.edu

## Vision → Reality (in four years)

### ETSY CRAFTS A PLAN FOR CARBON NEUTRAL ONLINE SHOPPING





Wired, 2/26/19



### leading change

- Vision
- Courage
- Network
- Story-telling
- Asking



### Bard Degree Options

- Bard Center for Environmental Policy
  - M.S. Environmental Policy
  - M.S. Climate Policy
  - M.Ed. Environmental Education
- M.B.A. in Sustainability

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- JD/MS with Pace Law School
- Masters + Peace Corps
- MS Policy/MBA in Sustainability

#1 Green MBA

The Princeton Review Best Business Schools 2021 Top 10 MBA Program for Non-Profits

The Princeton Review Best Business Schools 2021

# Questions?