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AccessEU Sea Level Rise Transatlantic Best Practices Symposium

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AccessEU

Transatlantic Best Practices

Dr. Regina Karp

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European-American Conference



*Project Mission



ACCESSEU – Transatlantic Best Practices builds on the successful implementation of Old Dominion University’s first ‘Getting to Know Europe’ grant. That project, ACCESSEU – A Hampton Roads Initiative, engaged the Hampton Roads region of Southeastern Virginia, a major port area, in a series of programs, events, and activities that enhanced the regional community’s understanding of Europe, the European Union, and transatlantic relations. This second project continues critical conversations begun in the first ACCESSEU project, with a focus on best practices and challenges common to both sides of the Atlantic. The follow-up project will increase knowledge and visibility of the European Union, while further strengthening the strategic alliances between regional and European stakeholders. The program will again be based at Old Dominion University, in Norfolk, Virginia.

- * Transatlantic
- * Interdisciplinary
- * Global and local
- * Communication among and between groups and stakeholders
- * Science in an economic and political context



*** What Makes This Project Unique?**

- * Two major problems associated with the consequences of a warming planet are political and psychological challenges to adapting to rising seas.
- * Politically, how can the U.S. and the EU move beyond intransigent positions in addressing sea level rise? I
- * In what ways can the discussion move beyond politics in order to address environmental, social, spatial, and economic risks?
- * What can be done to broaden the understanding of sea level rise and its consequences among US and EU citizens?
- * Moreover, what role do actual and perceived risk affect citizens' perceptions of sea level rise and its impacts?

* **Political, Psychological and Ethical Challenges to Adaptation**



- * In the US, flood coverage is only available from the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), which is currently more than \$25B in debt. With rising sea levels and increased weather volatility, this deficit is expected to increase.
- * Is flood coverage by private insurance feasible in the US?
- * What lessons can the US learn from Europe?
- * What mix and form of private and government flood insurance would lead to the most sustainable development of flood prone areas?

❖ Flood Insurance: Lessons from Europe



- * Rising sea levels and climate change pose significant national security challenges to the Hampton Roads region and other low lying areas around the world.
- * Given the high concentration of key national security facilities in the Hampton Roads region, the consequences of not taking action may be very severe.
- * What do we know and what needs research?



* Preparing for Coastal Flooding Disasters The National Security Dimension

- * This workshop will address best practices in effective approaches to communication, education, and outreach of the risks of sea level rise and steps that can be taken to adapt.
- * Do we understand the knowledge, attitudes, and mental models of our stakeholders?
- * Do we understand the knowledge gaps about risks between climate scientists and local stakeholders?
- * How much SLR should be planned for and do we effectively communicate estimates of uncertainty?
- * Do we fully understand the needs of our vulnerable populations, especially in times of extreme events, and can we effectively communicate risk to these populations?

* **Sea Level Rise Risk Communication,
Education, Community Engagement**



- * This group will discuss
 - * The causes of sea level rise and the frequency of storms
 - * How they are related to local changes, as well as remote influence from global SLR, changes in circulation, changes in frequency and intensity of storms, etc.
- * These issues can be discussed from two perspectives
 - * Analysis of local and remote sensing data
 - * Numerical climate models
- * Different ways to estimate future projections of SLR



* The Physical Threat - Rising Sea Level and More Extreme Storms

* October 30 Wednesday

- * 08:00 Breakfast
- * 09:00 Welcome and Introductory Remarks

Speakers:

- * 09:10 Opening Address
Speaker: President John Broderick,
Old Dominion University
- * 09:20 Keynote Speech
Speaker: Professor Robert Nicholls
- * 10:00 Coffee Break
- * 10:30 Presentation of Conference Themes
and Working Groups

Speakers: Conference Hosts and Moderators of Working Groups 1-5

- * 12:00 Lunch
Lunch speaker
- * 13:00 Working Group Breakout Session I
- * 15:00 Coffee Break
- * 15:30 Working Group Breakout Sessions II
- * 18:00 Reception
- * 19:00 Presidential Lecture

October 31 Thursday

- * 08:30 Recap and updated guidance
to Working Groups
Speakers: Conference Hosts
- * 08:40 Working Groups Breakout
Sessions III
- * 10:00 Coffee Break
- * 10:30 Reports from Working Groups
to Plenary and General
Discussion

Speakers: Moderators and Rapporteurs from Working Groups 1-5

- * 12:30 Lunch
Lunch Speaker
- * END of Conference
- * Optional Afternoon/Evening Tour or
Cruise and Networking
- * Working Groups

* **Schedule**

Questions?

