

# COLIN POLSKY

Florida Atlantic University

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tel. +1-954-236-1104 ~~Founding~~ Director, School of Environmental, Coastal & Ocean Studies

- 2014-present, Director, Center for Environmental Studies; Professor of Geosciences  
Clark University, Worcester, MA
- 2009-2014, Associate Professor; 2003 – 2009, Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Geography & George Perkins Marsh Institute
- 2011-2012, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Research, Clark University  
Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
- 2001-2003,



- US Residential Lawncare.” *Proceedings, National Academy of Sciences* 111(12) 4432-4437. DOI:10.1073/pnas.1323995111.
16. Groffman, P.M., J. Cavender-Bares, N.D. Bettez, J.M. Grove, S.J. Hall, J.B. Heffernan, S.E. Hobbie, K.L. Larson, J.L. Morse, C. Neill, K. Nelson, J. O’Neil-Dunne, L. Ogden, D. Pataki, C. Polsky, R.R. Chowdhury and M.K. Steele, 2014. “Ecological homogenization of urban America.” *Frontiers in Ecology and Environment* 12(1): 74–81. DOI:10.1890/120374.
  17. Foo, K., D. Martin, C. Polsky, C. Wool, and M. Ziemer, 2014. “A well-being framework for urban neighborhood socio-environmental resilience.” *Geographical Journal*. DOI:10.1111/geoj.12108.
  18. Giner, N.M., C. Polsky, R.G. Pontius Jr., S. Ratick, and D.M. Runfola, 2014. “Spatial prediction of lawns in suburban Boston, Massachusetts, USA.” *Cities and the Environment (CATE)*: 7(1):Article 10. Available at: <http://digitalcommons.lmu.edu/cate/vol7/iss1/10>.
  19. Foo, K., D. Martin, C. Wool, and C. Polsky, 2013. “The production of urban vacant land: relational placemaking in Boston, MA neighborhoods.” *Cities* 35:156–163. DOI:10.1016/j.cities.2013.06.012.
  20. Larson, K.L, C. Polsky, P. Gober, H. Chang, and V. Shandas, 2013. “Vulnerability of water systems to climate change and urbanization: A comparison of Phoenix, Arizona and Portland, Oregon (USA).” *Environmental Management* 52(1): 179-195.
  21. Giner, N., C. Polsky, R.G. Pontius, and D. Runfola, 2013. “Understanding the social determinants of lawn landscapes: A fine-resolution spatial statistical analysis in suburban Boston, Massachusetts, USA.” *Landscape and Urban Planning* 111:25-33. DOI:10.1016/j.landurbplan.2012.12.006.
  22. Runfola, D., C. Polsky, C. Nicolson, N. M. Giner, R. G. Pontius, and A. Decatur, 2013. “A growing concern? Examining the influence of lawn size on residential water use in suburban Boston, MA.” *Landscape and Urban Planning* 119:113-123. DOI:10.1016/j.landurbplan.2013.07.006.
  23. Gober, P., K. L. Larson, R. Quay, C. Polsky, H. Chang, and V. Shandas, 2013. “Why Land Planners and Water Managers Don't Talk to One Another and Why They Should!” *Society and Natural Resources*. DOI:10.1080/08941920.2012.713448.
  24. Tuler, S., T. Webler, and C. Polsky, 2012. A rapid impact and vulnerability assessment approach for commercial fisheries management. 71:131–140. *Ocean & Coastal Management*. DOI:10.1016/j.ocecoaman.2012.09.013.
  25. Harris, E.M., C. Polsky, K. Larson, R. Garvoille, D.G. Martin, J. Brumand, and L. Ogden, 2012. “Heterogeneity in Residential Yard Care: Evidence from Boston, Miami, and Phoenix.” *Human Ecology* 40(5):735-749. DOI: 10.1007/s10745-012-9514-3.
  26. Harris, E.M., D.G. Martin, C. Polsky, L. Denhardt, and A. Nehring, 2012. “Beyond ‘Lawn People’: The role of emotions in suburban yard management practices.” *The Professional Geographer* 65(2):345-361. DOI:10.1080/00330124.2012.681586.
  27. Roy Chowdhury, R., K. Larson, J. M. Grove, C. Polsky, E. Cook, J. Onsted and L. Ogden, 2011. “A multi-scalar approach to theorizing socio-ecological dynamics of urban residential landscapes. *Cities and the Environment* 4(1):1-19. URL: <http://digitalcommons.lmu.edu/cate/vol4/iss1/6/>.
  28. Hill, T. and C. Polsky, 2007. “Development and drought in suburbia: A mixed methods rapid assessment of vulnerability to drought in rainy Massachusetts.” *Global Environmental Change Part B: Environmental Hazards* 7:291-301.
  29. Polsky, C., R. Neff, and B. Yarnal, 2007. “Building Comparable Global Change Vulnerability Assessments: The Vulnerability Scoping Diagram.” *Global Environmental Change* (17):472-485.
  30. Young, O.R., E.F. Lambin, F. Alcock, H. Haberl, S.I. Karlsson, W.J. McConnell, T. Myint, C. Pahl-Wostl, C. Polsky, P. Ramakrishnan, H. Schroeder, M. Scouvar, and P.H. Verburg. 2006. A portfolio approach to analyzing complex human-environment interactions: institutions and land change. *Ecology and Society* 11(2):31. [online] URL: <http://www.ecologyandsociety.org/vol11/iss2/art31/>.
  31. Sorrensen, C., C. Polsky, and R. Neff, 2006. “The Human-Environment Regional Observatory (HERO) *Elleu CR Cetis*



O'Brien (Editors), Sustainable Communities on a Sustainable Planet: The Human-Environment Regional Observatory Project. Cambridge University Press, New York.

11. Polsky, C., Sorrensen, C., Whitehead, J. and Neff, R., 2009. Assessing Local Vulnerabilities: Methodological Approaches and Regional Contexts. In: B. Yarnal, C. Polsky and J. O'Brien (Editors), Sustainable Communities on a Sustainable Planet: The Human-Environment Regional Observatory Project. Cambridge University Press, New York.

7. Tuler, S., Webler, T., Polsky, C. 2009. A risk-based approach to rapid vulnerability assessment in New England fishery communities. Case study of the groundfishing sector Chatham, Massachusetts. SERI Report 09-002. Greenfield, MA: Social and Environmental Research Institute, Inc. PDF available from <http://www.seri-us.org/content/rapid-vulnerability-assessment-of-fishery-communities>.
8. Tuler, S., Webler, T., Polsky, C. 2009. A risk-based approach to rapid vulnerability assessment in New England fishery communities. Case study of the groundfishing sector in coastal New Hampshire. SERI Report 09-003. Greenfield, MA: Social and Environmental Research Institute, Inc. PDF available from <http://www.seri-us.org/content/rapid-vulnerability-assessment-of-fishery-communities>.
9. Tuler, S., Webler, T., Polsky, C. 2009. A risk-based approach to rapid vulnerability assessment in New England fishery communities. Case study of the groundfishing sector in New Bedford, Massachusetts. SERI Report 09-004. Greenfield, MA: Social and Environmental Research Institute, Inc. PDF available from <http://www.seri-us.org/content/rapid-vulnerability-assessment-of-fisherycommunities>.
10. Assefa, Sarah, Kate Del Vecchio, Laura Merner, Isaac Payano, and Colin Polsky, 2006. "Damp Northeast Still Not Immune to Drought" The Salem News (May 19, p.B7).
11. Polsky, C., 2004. "Book review: *Climate Change and Sustainable Development*." (:w:

5. October 2019: co-Principal Investigator, National Academy of Sciences. "Gulf Research Program: Why Location Matters: How Smarter Decision-Making by Renters and Homebuyers Will Increase Coastal Resilience." PI: C. Emrich, U. of Central Florida. Amount: \$3,403,554 (\$154,545 to FAU-CES).
6. August 2019: co-Principal Investigator, State of Florida Division of Emergency Management. "Watershed Planning Initiative Pilot Program: Hazard Mitigation Grant Program." PI: F. Bloetscher, Florida Atlantic University. Amount: \$1,688,955 (\$109,133 to FAU-CES).
7. February 2019: co-Principal Investigator, New York Sea Grant. "Eliciting and Modeling Residential Lawn and Landscape Practices: Systematic Information to Assess Knowledge, Explicate Behavior and Inform Management across the Long Island Sound Watershed." PI: R. Johnston, Clark University. Amount: \$370,619 (\$23,998 plus cost share to FAU).
8. February 2019: co-Principal Investigator, ICF Consulting (for the City of Miami Beach). "Business Case Analysis for the City (.6 0 Td08.000(gi(B37900cJp00Tc T00TJ( Tj5 Iy(6n(2)Td)08.0p 9 (.211cJ-0(10R)50707)10.00

25. April 2011: co-Principal Investigator, US National Science Foundation. “NSF MACRO-BIO Collaborative research: Ecological homogenization of Urban America.” PI: Peter Groffman, Cary Institute for Ecosystem Studies. Amount: \$2,700,000 (\$195,000 to Clark).
26. April 2011: Principal Investigator, Clark University Mosakowski Institute for Public Policy: “Mosakowski HERO Fellowships.” Amount: \$8,000.
27. March 2011: co-Principal Investigator, Lincoln Land Institute. “Part II: The New American Ghost Town: Foreclosure, Abandonment and the Prospects for City Planning.” PI: Justin Hollander, Tufts University. Amount: \$5,000.
28. March 2011: co-Principal Investigator, Tel Aviv University. “Catalyzing Research on Modeling Urban Growth.” PI: Itzhak Benenson, Tel Aviv University. Amount: \$13,000.
29. July 2010: co-Principal Investigator, US National Science Foundation. “Plum Island Ecosystem (PIE) LTER Site Renewal.” PI: Anne Giblin, Marine Biological Laboratory. Amount: \$2,000,000 (\$62,000 to Clark).
30. March 2010: Principal Investigator, Clark University Mosakowski Institute for Public Policy:

46. April 2008: Principal Investigator, US National Science Foundation Long-Term Ecological Research Social Science REU Supplement: "Studying the Ecological Effects of Suburbanization in a Massachusetts Coastal Zone." In collaboration with A. Giblin at the Marine Biological Laboratory. Amount: \$5,000.
47. May 2007: Principal Investigator, US National Science Foundation: "Suburbanization, Water-Use, Nitrogen Cycling & Eutrophication in the 21st Century: Interactions, Feedbacks & Uncertainties in a Massachusetts Coastal Zone." Amount: \$1,442,930.
48. May 2007: Principal Investigator, US National Science Foundation Long-Term Ecological Research Social Science Supplement: "Studying the Ecological Effects of Suburbanization in a Massachusetts

7. December 6, 2021:” FAU Researchers Say Florida's Republican and Democrat Voters Nearly Agree on Climate Change.” Tallahassee Reports. URL: <https://tallahasseeere>

25. October 2, 2017: Interview in University Press, “FAU researcher says climate change may cause hurricanes’ increasing size.” URL: <https://www.upressonline.com/2017/10/fau-researcher-says-climate-change-may-cause-hurricanes-increasing-size/>.
26. September 12, 2017: Quoted in *ClimateWire: An E&E News Publication*, “Rubio, who says he's 'not a

- Member, National Advisory Committee, “2015 National Summit on Recurrent & Increasing Coastal Flooding,” Portsmouth, NH, Oct 24-25.
- Member, Adaptation and Hazards Indicators Technical Team, U.S. Global Change Research Program, U.S. National Climate Assessment.
- Co-Convening Lead Author, “Land-Use & Land-Cover Change” Chapter, U.S. Global Change Research Program, U.S. National Climate Assessment, 2012-2014.
- NIH Panel Reviewer, Climate and Human Health program.
- Participant, NSF “Workshop on Frontiers in Ecosystem Science: Energizing the Research Agenda.”
- NSF Panel Reviewer, Long-Term Ecological Research, and Water, Sustainability & Climate programs.
- Committee Member, National Academies of Science/National Research Council (NAS/NRC) Committee on Strategic Directions for the Geographical Sciences in the Next Decade.
- Member, Faculty Advisory Board, GLP Advanced Institute on Modeling Land-Use Change



- Graduate Seminar: Research Design and Methods (GEOG 314; 8 times)
- Undergraduate Seminar: Research Design and Methods (GEOG 141;3 (8Tj/TT1 1 Tf0.457 05)8.3 hodsGG 141;3 (2(

- “Sea-Level Rise in Broward County: Impacts & Responses.” Invited panelist, “Future of Florida Summit,” the University of Florida. 15.72-

- “Global Change & the ‘Human Dimensions’: Multi-Scale Homogenization & Lawncare in 6 Cities.” Presentation, Annual Meeting of NESTVAL-AAG, Worcester, MA, October 18, 2013.
- “Implications of Urban Homogenization for U.S. Climate Vulnerabilities.” Invited presentation, University of Connecticut, Department of Geography, June 3, 2013.
- “Lawn Care Practices & Motivations: A Social & Biogeochemical Study of Six US Metro Areas.” Presentation, Annual Meeting, Association of American Geographers, Los Angeles, April 12, 2013.
- “Earth Transformed, 25 Years On: Climate-Society Studies.” Invited presentation, Clark University *ET+25 Commemorative Celebration*, April 2, 2013.
- “Environmental Spatial Social Science and Urban Planning: Towards a *U.S. Inventory of Climate Vulnerabilities*.” Invited presentation, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Department of Urban & Regional Planning, March 5, 2013.
- Vulnerability in Coastal LTER Research.” Invited presentation, Tri-Annual All-Scientists Meetings, Long-Term Ecological Research Network, Estes Park, Colorado, September 2012.

- “Socio-Ecological Research in Political Ecologies: International Collaborations I & II.” Sessions Co-Organizer. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Washington, D.C., April 15, 2010.
- “Lawn Landscapes in Suburban Boston: Human Drivers, Ecological Implications, and Ecosystem Services.” Invited presentation given at the U. of New Hampshire Environmental Sciences Seminar Series, November 5, 2009.
- “Vulnerability Research: What is it, and How do you do it?” Invited presentation given at CIRAD, Montpellier, France, July 11, 2009.
- “Understanding Suburban Landscapes: Lawns, Water, and Zoning in Boston.” Paper presentation, Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Las Vegas, March 24, 2009.
- “Understanding Coupled Natural-Human Systems – Developing Competitive Ideas for the NSF CNH Program.” Invited panel presentation, Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Las Vegas, March 23, 2009.
- “Using Lawn Maps to Catalyze Human-Environment Research: The Case of Suburban Boston.” Invited presentation at the Clark University George Perkins Marsh Institute, February 12, 2009.
- “Integrating Social and Natural Science: The Case of Climate, Land Use, and Nutrient Cycling in Coastal Zones.” Invited presentation at the University of Massachusetts Department of Natural Resources Conservation, Amherst, Massachusetts, October 17, 2008.
- “Links between the Law and Land-Change Science.” Invited presentation at the Vermont Law School, South Royalton, Vermont

- “Commentary: Climate Change Research in Massachusetts.” Presentation given at the Annual Meeting of the Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, May 5, 2006.
- “Towards a Meta-Analysis of Vulnerability Assessments.” Presentation given at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Chicago, March 11, 2006.
- “Meta-Analysis: What is it, and How Can it Help Vulnerability Studies?” Presentation given – and workshop organized – at *Germanwatch*, Bonn, Germany, October 9, 2005.
- “Socio-economic Drought in Central Massachusetts: Recent Trends in Exposure, Sensitivity and Adaptive Capacity.” Presentation given at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Denver, April 5, 2005.
- “Using the Ricardian Climate Change Impacts Technique as a Tool for Environmental Decision Making.” Invited presentation at the University of Miami, Department of Geography, March 3, 2005.
- “Modeling Interactions in LUCC/IHDP Research by Combining Multi-Level Models with Qualitative Methods.” Invited presentation at LUCC/IHDP Workshop on Interactive Drivers in Coupled Human-Natural Systems, Bonn, Germany. November 18-19, 2004.
- “Integrating Natural, Social and Medical Sciences for Research on Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability to Climate Change.” Invited Discussant, Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association of Geographers, Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada, May 28, 2004.
- “Vulnerability Assessments and Exploratory Spatial Data Analysis.” Invited lecture given at IIASA, Laxenburg, Austria. May 10, 2004.
- “Drought, Water Supply, Fire: How Does Place-Based Science Serve Society?” Invited Discussant, Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Philadelphia, March 2004.
- “Climate Change: Causes, Consequences, and Responses.” Invited Panel Speaker at public workshop, “Sustainable Solutions to Climate Change: A Challenge for Massachusetts,” December 1, 2003.
- “Adaptive Capacity: Towards a Useful Theory” Discussant, Open Meeting of the Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change, October 2003, Montreal, Canada.
- “Spatial Statistics and LUCC Research.” Presentation given at Harvard Forest, Petersham Ph1.7 (l)6.3-2.6 (,)2 .3 (to)2 (n)
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- “Global Changes and Local Places: Lessons Learned and Future Directions at Mid-Course.” Workshop attended at AAG Meridian Place, Washington, DC, December 13-15, 1997.
- “Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventories: Methodology, Accuracy & Spatial Resolution.” Presentation at Regional Science Association International Annual Meeting, Buffalo, New York, November 6-9, 1997.
- “Mid-Atlantic Workshop on Climate Change.” Workshop attended as rapporteur for White House-sponsored conference on climate change impacts, Penn State Center for Integrated Regional Assessment, University Park, Pennsylvania, September 9-11, 1997.
- “Environmental Life Cycle Assessment: From Criticizing to Carrying Out.” Workshop attended at MIT Technology, Business and Environment Program, Cambridge, Massachusetts, July 6-9, 1997.
- “Regional Forecasting and Policy Analysis Seminar and Workshop.” Workshop attended at Regional Economic Modeling, Inc., Amherst, Massachusetts, April 28 - May 2, 1997.

--end of curriculum vitae, 3/16/24--