

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

September 15, 2011

Ann Dalkey

Stewardship Associate in Research

Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy

Ann Dalkey is the Stewardship Associate in Research for the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy. Ann developed the science research for the Conservancy in 2006, where she oversaw the scientific activities including applied, educational, and academic studies for promoting better understanding of the natural processes within the preserve. More recently, Ann is working closely with the Stewardship staff in research, monitoring, and habitat restoration efforts.

Teresa Lang

Policy Associate

Climate Action Reserve

Teresa Lang is a Policy Associate at the Climate Action Reserve, providing support for all stages of the protocol development and management process. Most recently, Teresa has been supporting the development of three new agricultural protocols (Nutrient Management, Rice Cultivation, and Cropland Management) with research, economic analysis, and protocol drafting. Teresa also helps to manage the Reserve's Nitric Acid Production Project Protocol, as well as assists in reviewing documents required for various stages of project registration and assists in verification oversight. Teresa's background is diverse and demonstrates her commitment to climate change policy, particularly in the area of land-use. Teresa completed her Master's degree in International Affairs at Columbia University, concentrating in Environmental Policy Studies, during which time she managed a consulting project for the Climate Change Group at the World Bank on coastal adaptation policy. She earned her Bachelor's degree in Political Economy from the University of California at Berkeley and is a Los Angeles native.

Huasha Liu

Director of Land Use and Environmental Planning

Southern California Association of Governments

Ms. Huasha Liu is the Director of the Land Use and Environmental Planning at the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). At SCAG, Ms. Liu oversees numerous activities including compliance with federal and state requirements, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), climate change (e.g., AB 32 and SB 375), and Sustainability Planning to foster a healthier environment and greener region while promoting economic wellbeing. Huasha has over 20 years of experience in land use, transportation, regional, and environmental planning and related fields; including over 10 years of management experience. Ms. Liu earned her bachelor's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from Nanjing University, China. She earned her master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the School of Policy, Planning, and Development at University of Southern California.



Michelle Passero
Senior Climate Policy Advisor
The Nature Conservancy

Michelle Passero is the Senior Climate Policy Advisor to The Nature Conservancy (TNC), California office. She has over 15 years of experience working in land conservation, environmental law, and policy with particular expertise in forest and climate policy as well as related conservation transactions. Currently, Ms. Passero is leading TNC's policy efforts to establish a comprehensive role for forests and natural systems under the California Global Warming Solutions Act (AB 32). She has also published several articles regarding legal issues associated with forest carbon markets and carbon rights. She holds an LL.M. in Sustainable International Development from the University of Washington, a J.D. from the University of San Francisco.

Dave Simpson
Executive Director
Orange County Council of Governments

Dave Simpson was appointed as Executive Director of the Orange County Council of Governments (OCCOG) in October 2010. In his role as Executive Director Dave oversees all activities of OCCOG's 40-member organization which includes Orange County cities, the County of Orange, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), the Transportation Corridor Agencies, and several Orange County Special Districts. Dave served OCTA as Government Relations Manager, Media Spokesman, and as Project Manager for senior mobility programs. Previously he worked in Washington, DC, first in the Administration of President George Bush and then as Government Affairs and Communications Director for a national trade association. He received his undergraduate degree from UCLA and his Masters in Public Administration from California State University, Long Beach.

