GCSC Seminar Series

Tuesday, Sept. 25, 2018
4:00-5:00 PM

210 ASB
(Aline Skaggs Building)

ALL ARE WELCOME

Refreshments & meet the speaker at 3:45

Diane Pataki
Professor, School of Biological Sciences, University of Utah

"Projecting nature: Reflections on the science of 'ecology for cities'"

There is increasing interest in applying ecology to understanding, planning, and designing sustainable cities. But how do we shift from a framework of conserving or protecting nature to a framework of projecting, shaping, and designing nature?

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GLOBAL CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY CENTER
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Bio

Dr. Diane E. Pataki is a Professor in the School of Biological Sciences at the University of Utah with an adjunct appointment in the Department of City & Metropolitan Planning. She also serves as Associate Dean for Research in the College of Science and Associate Director of the Center for Ecological Planning & Design at the University of Utah. Prior to arriving in Utah in 2012, she was on the faculty of the University of California, Irvine for 8 years where she was the founding Director of the Center for Environmental Biology and the Steele Burnand Anza Borrego Desert Research Center. She received a B.A. in environmental science at Barnard College and an M.S. and Ph.D. at the Duke Nicholas School of the Environment. Pataki[1]s work has spanned the impacts of climate change on ecosystems, the use of stable isotopes to study coupled human-natural processes related to urban CO2 emissions, and the impacts of urban vegetation on local climate, pollution, and hydrology. Her work is focused on improving our mechanistic understanding of the interactions between vegetation, the physical environment, and urban planning, forestry, and design. Her lab utilizes methods from plant physiological ecology, ecosystem science, and bioclimatology to measure the impacts of urban landscapes on urban climate, pollution, atmospheric chemistry, and human thermal comfort and well-being. Dr. Pataki is a Fellow of the American Geophysical Union, Chief Specialty Editor for Urban Ecology at the journal Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution, and a member of the National Science Foundation Directorate for Biological Sciences Advisory Committee (NSF BIO AC) and Advisory Committee for Environmental Research and Education (NSF AC ERE). She has previously served as a Program Director in the NSF Division of Environmental Biology and a member of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Board of Scientific Counselors.