

Safe digital world providing for security, equity and education

Frank Niepold Senior climate education program manager and coordinator, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

Frank Niepold is the senior climate education program manager and coordinator at the U.S. National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Climate Program Office. He develops and implements the NOAA's climate education and engagement efforts that specifically relate to the administration's Building a Climate Ready Nation goal. Niepold is the "Teaching Climate" lead for NOAA's Climate.gov web portal, which offers learning activities and curriculum materials, multimedia resources, and professional development opportunities for formal and informal educators who want to incorporate climate science into their work. He is also engaged with the U.S. Global Change Research Program's Education Interagency Working Group and the U.S. National Communications Report chapter on Education, Engagement, Training, and Workforce Development for the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change. He serves as co-chairperson of the CLEAN Network Leadership Board and was a founding member of the CLEAN Network. He was a member of the federal steering committee for the U.S. Fourth National Climate Assessment and from 2013-2016 was the federal lead for the White House Climate Education and Literacy Initiative.

He received an MEd in Earth Space Science Education (2006) from Johns Hopkins University, with areas of concentration in Earth Observing Systems, Scientist/Teacher/Student Collaboration and Earth Systems Science Education focused on climate.



Greg Asner Director, Center for Global Discovery and Conservation Science

Asner is an ecologist recognized for his exploratory and applied research on ecosystems and climate change at regional to global scales. He is the director of ASU's Center for Global Discovery and Conservation Science, and he serves on the faculty of the School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning and the School of Earth and Space Exploration. His research spans the areas of spatial ecology and biodiversity, terrestrial carbon cycle, animal-habitat interactions and climate change. He develops scientific approaches and technologies for investigation and conservation assessments of large ecoregions. Asner has published hundreds of scientific articles and has served in numerous national and international programs with NASA, the U.S. State Department and the United Nations. He is a recipient of multiple scientific and sustainability awards and is an elected member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences. He earned a PhD in Biology, a Master of Science in Geography, and a Bachelor of Science in Engineering, all from the University of Colorado.



Anthony Leiserowitz Director, Yale Program on Climate Change Communication

Anthony Leiserowitz, PhD, is the founder and director of the Yale Program on Climate Change Communication and a senior research scientist at the Yale School of the Environment. He is an expert on public climate change and environmental beliefs, attitudes, policy preferences and behavior, and the psychological, cultural and political factors that shape them. He conducts research at the global, national and local scales, including many surveys of the American public. He has published more than 200 scientific articles, chapters and reports and served as a contributing author, panel member, advisor or consultant to diverse organizations including the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (AR6 Report), the National Academy of Sciences (America's Climate Choices Report), the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History, the Harvard Kennedy School, the United Nations Development Programme, the Gallup World Poll and the World Economic Forum, among others. He is a recipient of the Friend of the Planet Award from the National Center for Science Education, the Mitofsky Innovator Award from the American Association of Public Opinion Research and the Stephen H. Schneider Award for Outstanding Climate Science Communication from Climate One. He is also the host of Climate Connections, a radio program broadcast each day on more than 680 stations and frequencies nationwide.



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François Taddei Chief Exploration Officer, The Learning Planet

François Taddei is a researcher in evolutionary systems biology. In 2005, he co-founded the Centre de Recherches Interdisciplinaires (CRI), which became the Learning Planet Institute in 2021. As an expert on the future of research and education, he participates in various working groups and reports. He published his first book in September 2018 titled "Learning in the 21st Century," which was followed in 2022 by a second book, "Game Changing."

Taddei is a graduate of the Ecole Polytechnique and Ecole Nationale du Génie Rural et des Eaux et Forêts (ENGREF), an engineering school for higher civil servant of French Agriculture and Forest Administration. He holds a PhD in molecular and cellular genetics. He is director of research at INSERM. He was named Knight of the Order of Academic Palms and of Arts and Letters (2021), as well as Doctor Honoris Causo of the Catholic University of Louvain in February 2020. The same year, he received the Eureka Prize, North Shore, for the promotion of scientific education and popularization. He became an Ashoka Fellow in 2010 and received the Montgolfier Prize for his commitment to educational innovations that enable learning through research at all ages.



George Stephanopoulos Director, The Global KAITEKI Center

George Stephanopoulos is the director of The Global KAITEKI Center. He joined Arizona State University in January 2018 and holds a joint appointment as professor at the School of Molecular Sciences and the School for Engineering of Matter, Transport and Energy. He is a senior global futures scientist in the Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory. He is also the Arthur D. Little Post-Tenure Professor of Chemical Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

His research interests have covered many aspects of process systems engineering, such as: process synthesis; process modeling and analysis; process optimization; process operations modeling, analysis, diagnosis, and control; process operations scheduling and planning. His systems engineering interests led him into a variety of other types of systems, addressing research issues related to the design, analysis, control, optimization of the corresponding systems: networks of chemical or biochemical reactions; integrated manufacturing systems within the scope of a national economy or corporate business; and city traffic and intercity transportation networks, among others.

Stephanopoulos completed his doctorate at the University of Florida. He is a member of the National Academy of Engineering, Foreign Member of Russian Academy of Technological Sciences, and a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He has authored/co-authored seven books and co-edited eight. He is co-author to more than 210 papers.



Diana Ayton-Shenker [moderator] CEO, Leonardo/ISAST

Diana Ayton-Shenker is CEO, Leonardo/ISAST, ASU professor of practice in the School for the Future of Innovation in Society and School of Art, Media, Engineering and executive director of Leonardo-ASU. Her books include "A New Global Agenda: Priorities, Practices, & Pathways of the International Community," and "Tumbalalaika: A Collection of Poems." She produced "New Babel," a 10-story-tall augmented reality (AR) installation (Union Square Park, NYC) with The New School XReality Center and artist William T. Ayton, her creative partner and husband. Their AR "New World City" received the 2112 Foundation's 2020 Visionary Award and was the 1st AR art published by MITPress and Leonardo. Recently, their "Interplanetary VR Sustainable Futures" art installation was previewed at Espronceda Institute for Art and Culture (Barcelona) and will premiere at Ars Electronica 2022 (Linz).

As founder-CEO of Fast Forward Fund, Diana was honored by President Clinton, named #1 of "25 Leading Women Changing the World" (Good Business NY) and featured among "31 Inspiring Women in Nonprofit Management" (UNC). She has received fellowships and residencies (Wharton, The New School, Bard) and worked with the U.N., Human Rights Watch, and P.E.N, Mercy Corps, as well as taught at Bard, American University of Paris and Hunter College, where she directed the first human rights program in the U.S. Diana holds an LLM (University of Essex Law School) and BA (University of Pennsylvania) with honors.

