Revitalizing and restoration of rivers, creeks and streams is a major focus of activity throughout North America and Europe. Much of this activity stemmed from restoration of rural creeks and streams throughout the US for water quality and fishing reasons. The complexity of cleaning up our urban rivers and streams is truly daunting after decades of neglect and misuse. For urban river cleanup – we often have multiple stakeholders and complex technical issues to address. It is also the situation with urban creeks that the most affected have the least voice in what happens. During the last decade there has been much work done on physical science of river and stream restoration but little work addressing the social processes of such work.

The presentation would present basic models for organizing multiple stakeholders for purposes of waterway revitalization or naturalization – if not restoration. This presentation will use the current Onondaga Creek Revitalization Planning process as the central organizing tool but will also include other case studies throughout North America. Key case studies to be covered include the South Bronx River in NYC, Milwaukee River, Tennessee River in Chattanooga, San Pablo/Wildcat Creek in Richmond California, and South Platte in Denver. Common lessons learned from successful or unsuccessful implementation processes for river, creek and stream revitalization within urban areas will be presented as well as some recent urban runoff/green infrastructure(GI) implementation programs in Syracuse NY.

She examined how the meanings of “civil society” and “environment” have changed as environmentalists encounter the political and ecological realities of life after state socialism. As a Family Research Scholar, Harper combined a community-based participatory research (CBPR) approach and digital media to investigate how environmental inequalities are produced and how residents experience environmental and social exclusion in a city in northeastern Hungary and in two other communities. In recent projects she investigated the farm-to-school food systems in the United States using the PhotoVoice research method.
Darrel Ramsey-Musolf joined the faculty of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning as an Assistant Professor in Fall 2013. He holds a PhD from UW-Madison and Master’s degrees from Cal Poly Pomona and Suffolk University. Professionally, he has worked as a municipal planner for the California cities of Glendora and Hawaiian Gardens, and as a planning intern for the cities of Pasadena and Pomona. Last fall, he taught Planning Studio, which completed a revitalization plan for Develop Springfield, a technical assistance plan for Pioneer Valley Rowing Club, and “gut” assessment of Master Plans for various western Massachusetts towns and villages.

Thursday, February 6, 2014
4:00 pm
Procopio Room, Hills 105

Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning
John Lipman is President of Lipman Development Strategies, LLC in Orleans, MA, a consulting firm specializing in planning, project permitting and sustainable development. John also serves as Project Manager for Jay Cashman, Inc., a major civil planning, construction, and project management firm based in Quincy, MA. His current work involves decommissioning, cleaning, and reusing aging power plant sites for wind and solar energy, clean industrial redevelopment, smart growth, and open space preservation.

John served as the Chief Planner and Deputy Director of the Cape Cod Commission, a department of Barnstable County government created by special state legislation to protect the ecology, economy, and community character of Cape Cod through comprehensive regional planning and the promotion of smart growth principles. Prior to the Commission, John served for three years as the Director of Growth Planning for the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs coordinating smart growth policies among state agencies. John also served for three years as the Maryland Director of the Chesapeake Bay Commission, a multi-state legislative advisory group dedicated to protecting and restoring the Chesapeake Bay.

John spent four years working on health and sustainable development issues in developing countries throughout Africa, Asia, and Latin America. He has a B.A. from Bates College, an M.B.A from Boston University, and a Masters in Public Policy from University of Maryland.

Thursday, February 20, 2014
4:00 pm
Procopio Room, Hills 105
Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning

Joni M. Palmer Ph.D.
Independent Scholar/Faculty and Cultural Planner
Boston and Albuquerque

Degrees: PhD (University of Colorado at Boulder, Geography, 2012); MLA (Harvard University Graduate School of Design, Landscape Architecture, 1991); B.S. (Cornell University, College of Architecture, Art, and Planning, City and Regional Planning/College of Human Ecology, Human-Environment Relations)


Over the past 25 years Joni’s professional life has been a blend of practice and academia. She has worked with design firms in Boston, Seattle, Denver, and San Francisco, and has taught in a variety of disciplinary programs across the country. Her professional practice includes: landscape architecture, urban planning, cultural planning, public art, and cultural policy. Research interests: cultural planning, landscape studies, public art, vernacular creativities, and visual representation.

Thursday, February 27, 2014
4:00 pm
Procopio Room, Hills 105
Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning
Carey Clouse, Assistant Professor

Architecture and Landscape Architecture
SMArchS, Architecture and Urbanism, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
BArch, University of Oregon

Carey Clouse is an Assistant Professor of Architecture and Landscape Architecture. She holds a post-professional degree (SMArchS) in Architecture and Urbanism from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a BArch from the University of Oregon. Clouse is the recipient of the Rose Architectural Fellowship, and prior to UMass has taught architecture at Tulane University and the Yestermorrow Design/Build School.

Professor Clouse teaches architecture and landscape architecture coursework at UMass Amherst with a focus on sustainable urbanism. She also practices architecture for disaster and climate resilience with her firm, Crookedworks Architecture. Her professional work and research addresses the intersection between design and sustainability, with a specific focus on food security, climate change adaptation and self-sufficiency.

Thursday, March 13, 2014
4:00 pm
Procopio Room, Hills 105
Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning
Please join us this Thursday March 27, 2014 at 4p.m. for a roundtable with MRP alumni and other area planning professionals to discuss the various kinds of knowledge, skill, and experience that have helped them achieve success as practitioners in small town, city, regional, nonprofit, private, university, and other professional positions. Our guests will be ready, willing and able to share advice and lessons learned from the planning field. There will be refreshments at the panel as well as an informal Planners After Hours gathering afterward.
Agata Cieszewska, PhD
Assistant Professor, Department of Landscape Architecture
Warsaw University of Life Sciences
Fulbright Scholar, School of Architecture, University of Texas Austin
Secretary, Polish Association for Landscape Ecology

Agata Cieszewska is a geographer, landscape ecologist and environmental planner, educated at the University of Warsaw, Faculty of Geography and Regional Studies. Dr. Agata Cieszewska is currently Assistant Professor in the Department of Landscape Architecture at the Warsaw University of Life Sciences. She was a Kosciuszko Foundation Scholar at Arizona State University and at University of Michigan, as well as a Visiting Professor at University of Texas Austin.

Currently she is a Fulbright Scholar in the School of Architecture at University of Texas Austin. She is also Secretary of the Polish Association for Landscape Ecology. She has worked on various environmental and planning documents related to Warsaw and other cities in Poland. She has also prepared Conservation Plans for Regional Parks. Currently she is working on the structure and function of greenbelts within metropolitan areas of Poland.

Monday, March 31, 2014
4:30 pm
Procopio Room, Hills 105
Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning
Chris Moyles is currently the Principal at Reed Hilderbrand; a landscape design firm that received the ASLA Firm of the Year Award in 2013. Previously, he was a long-time Senior Associate at Child Associates Inc. Moyles had also been an instructor of higher education for several years; working at both Boston Architectural College and The Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University. He received his BS at Virginia Commonwealth University (Biology/Ecology 1985) and his MLA in Landscape Architecture at the University of Virginia (1990).

Chris has over twenty years’ experience as a leader in design and technology, and has developed a particular interest in the implementation of high-performance landscape systems. He has helped catalyze a national multidisciplinary forum for discussion and debate on soils design and manufacture and the scientific basis for sustainable construction practices. Since he joined Reed Hilderbrand in 2000, Chris has led projects at all scales, including the intimate entry court at the Poetry Foundation in Chicago, the Phoenix Art Museum, the Ohio State University, projects at the South Boston Waterfront, and the Development of Rosslyn Plaza in Alexandria, Virginia. In New York, he has guided the eight-year-long transformation of a significant brownfield site on the Hudson River into a new 21st-century Park; Long Dock Park is a pilot project of the Sustainable SITES Initiative.
An Invitation to Pause: Art in National Parks

Charles Tracy
Landscape Architect, National Park Service

Charles Tracy is a Landscape Architect with the National Park Service who guides long-distance trail development and landscape conservation for the newly-designated New England National Scenic Trail. On the national level, he specializes in partnerships with artists and art organizations to expand the role of artist-in-residency programs in national parks and the use of art as a catalyst for inspiring environmental stewardship.

Thursday, April 10, 2014
4:00 pm
Procopio Room, Hills 105

Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning
Prepating for Professional Life after UMass
LA Alumni Panel & Career Fair

Alumni Panelists

Kate Tooke Sasaki Associates
Emily Wright Berkshire Design Group
Will Gardner Gregory Lombardi Design
Ariel Dungca Reed Hilderbrand
Jen Stephens Matthew Cunningham Landscape Design
Julia Sim Matthew Cunningham Landscape Design
Greg Tuzzolo Stephen Stimson Associates

Career Fair Participants

Jen Stephens Matthew Cunningham Landscape Design
Pam Shadley Shadley Associates
Dan Gordon Dan K. Gordon Associates
Jim Egan Land Design Associates
Ariel Dungca Reed Hilderbrand
Will Gardner Gregory Lombardi Design
Kristin Sleeper Milone and MacBroom
Julie Meyer Gardens of Delight
Helena Farrell Regenerative Design Group
Rachel Loeffler Berkshire Design Group

Thursday, April 17, 2014
4:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Procopio Room, Hills 105
Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning