

Speaker Biosketches

Marion Adeney

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Marion Adeney has spent one year as an Overseas AAAS Fellow at USAID Peru where she works with both the bilateral and South America Regional Environment teams. She focuses on incorporating use of geospatial and other scientific data, and on engaging the scientific and academic communities, in USAID's Amazon Conservation work. Before arriving in Peru, Marion spent two years at USAID Washington in the Office of Science and Technology (now the Global Development Lab). She has a PhD from the Nicholas School of the Environment at Duke University, where she studied impacts of climate and human interventions (such as roads and protected areas) on geospatial patterns of fire across the Brazilian Amazon, as well as disturbance patterns in Amazonian white sand ecosystems. She also completed a postdoc at Stanford University and a Master's degree in Conservation Biology at Columbia University in the City of New York. Before graduate studies, Marion was a bilingual 4-6th grade teacher in Los Angeles public schools. She received her B.A. in American Studies from the University of California, Santa Cruz and is a native of Berkeley, CA.

Sharon Bergquist

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Dr. Sharon Bergquist is a Program Officer at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. At the foundation, Sharon works for both the Pneumonia and Discovery and Translational Sciences teams. As part of the Pneumonia team, Sharon is helping to develop and manage maternal immunization related initiatives and grants. On the Discovery and Translational Sciences team, Sharon is the topic lead for the 'All Children Thriving' Grand Challenges Brazil call for proposals. This Grand Challenges call for proposals was a joint call between the Foundation and the governments of Brazil, India and South Africa. The aim is to fill research gaps related to our ability to assess and support the healthy birth, growth and cognitive development of children across the globe. In addition to this Grand Challenges call, Sharon is helping shape and expand foundation initiatives related to cognitive development more broadly.

Prior to joining BMGF, Sharon served as an American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Science Policy Fellow at the US Department of Health and Human Services National Vaccine Program

Office (NVPO). While at NVPO, Sharon led office efforts regarding HPV immunization and increasing HPV vaccination coverage. Sharon also led office initiatives to better understand attitudes and beliefs regarding vaccination, especially parent attitudes of vaccinating their children. As part of this work, she coordinated two National Vaccine Advisory Committee working groups; a committee that advises the Assistant Secretary for Health on all issues regarding vaccinations in the United States. Finally Sharon coordinated HHS efforts to enhance health IT to better track vaccination coverage within the US. Sharon has a PhD in Neuroscience from the University of California, San Francisco and a BS in Biology/Immunology from the University of California, San Diego.

Robert Bolia

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Robert Bolia is an Associate Director at the Office of Naval Research Global (ONRG) in Santiago, Chile. He is responsible for building relationships between scientists, engineers, and program managers in the U.S. Naval Research Enterprise and scientists and engineers in Latin America. Before moving to Santiago, he spent six years as an Associate Director in the ONRG Tokyo office. Previously he served as the chief of the Asia-Pacific Branch of the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) International Technology Office, where he was responsible for building and executing AFRL's international engagement strategy for the Asia-Pacific region, and for developing collaborative research programs between AFRL and defense laboratories in Australia, India, Japan, Korea, Singapore, and Taiwan. Prior to that he served as a scientist in the AFRL Human Effectiveness Directorate, where he studied auditory and visual perception, decision making, command & control, and advanced technologies to improve situation awareness and team performance in complex environments.

Mr. Bolia has authored or co-authored more than 100 book chapters, journal articles, and conference papers on a variety of human factors issues, and is on the editorial board of the journal Human Factors. He is also a military historian, has published journal articles on several aspects of modern warfare, and is a frequent book reviewer for Air & Space Power Journal, Australian Defence Force Journal, Military Review, Naval History, Naval War College Review, Parameters, and U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings. His article on "Overreliance on Technology in Warfare: The Yom Kippur War as a Case Study," published in Parameters, was selected for inclusion in the U.S. Army Professional Writing Collection.

Adriana Bravo

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Adriana Bravo is a biologist from the Universidad Agraria La Molina in Lima. She holds a Ph.D. in Biological Sciences from Louisiana State University. Her main interests are tropical ecology, conservation biology and education. She has over 15 years of experience working in ecology and conservation projects in Neotropical forests. For her dissertation, Adriana studied the phenomenon of mineral lick visitation by frugivorous bats in the Peruvian Amazon. In 2006, 2007 and 2009, she participated in biological inventories led by the Field Museum of Chicago in Peru and Ecuador. Later, Adriana worked for the Organization for Tropical Studies in Costa Rica as an instructor and coordinator for Tropical Ecology graduate courses in 2009 and as Coordinator for the Undergraduate Program in 2010. In 2011-2014, she worked at the Center for Biodiversity and Conservation of the American Museum of Natural History as a post-doctoral fellow and coordinator of the Americas for the Network of Conservation Educators and Practitioners. She coordinated activities of capacity development in the Tropical Southern Andes, conducted research in tropical ecology and coordinated the execution of a large-scale education project focused on the development of key process skills in conservation biology. Currently, Adriana is working for the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute in Lima Peru as the Director of a biodiversity program that works in partnership with an oil company to develop and implement a Biodiversity Action Plan to avoid, reduce, minimize and offset impacts of activities of gas exploration on biodiversity and ecosystem services in the Peruvian Amazon.

Kitty F. Cardwell

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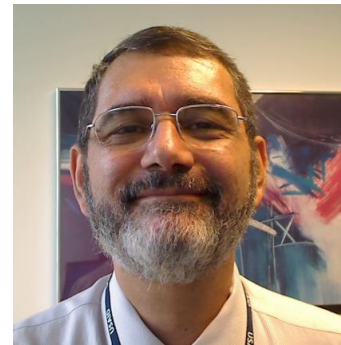


Dr. K.F. Cardwell received a Bachelors degree in Botany from the University of Texas at Austin in 1976. After two years of graduate studies at Texas A&M University, Dr. Cardwell joined Peace Corps and practiced Plant Pathology in Nicaragua and Colombia from 1978-1981. She stayed in Colombia six years where she operated a private rice farming operation in the Llanos Orientales. In 1985, she returned to Texas A&M where she earned her Doctorate in Plant Pathology in 1989. From Texas, Dr. Cardwell went over seas to Africa where she began as an Associate Research Scientist in Plant Pathology at the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, with laboratories and technical staff in Nigeria and Benin.

While in Africa, Dr. Cardwell led the team that published the seminal article on the relationship of child stunting with aflatoxin. Dr. Cardwell returned to the U.S. in 2001 and joined the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, where she manages grants programs and has created the nationally acclaimed National Plant Diagnostic Network and the Pest Information Platform for Extension and Education. She currently serves as an International Partnerships developer for NIFA's Center for International Programs. Dr. Cardwell is an advisor to the World Bank and the World Health Organization.

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Mr. Alexandre Mancuso has been with USAID since 2001. He began working as the Energy Program Coordinator leading renewable energy and energy efficiency projects, and in March 2007 became also responsible for the management of USAID portfolio, including environment and trilateral cooperation projects. Currently, he is the Environment Program Manager and Chief Liaison for bilateral negotiations with the Government of Brazil. Before joining USAID, Mr. Mancuso was a field engineer at Eletronorte, and Senior Regulator at ANEEL. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering from University of Brasilia, an MBA in Business and Public Policy from George Washington University, and a M.Sc. in Environmental Management. He also holds a Professional Project Manager (PMP) and a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED-AP and BD+C) certifications.

Antonio Medina

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Engineer Antonio Medina currently serves as the Latin American Academic Program Manager for National Instruments. He has served at various positions at National Instruments since 1998 including positions in the Austin, Texas corporate office. Mr. Medina earned his degree in electrical engineering from the Federal University of Pernambuco – Brazil and followed this with a Wirtschaftingenieur (Master of Business Engineering) at Fachhochschule Pforzheim in Germany. He is experienced in LabVIEW graphical programming, data acquisition systems, measurement, and automation.

Geraldine Richmond

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Geraldine (Geri) Richmond is the Presidential Chair in Science and Professor of Chemistry at the University of Oregon. Her research using laser spectroscopy and computational methods focusses on understanding the chemistry and physics that occurs at complex interfaces that have relevance to important problems in energy production, environmental remediation and atmospheric chemistry. Over 200 publications have resulted from the research that she has conducted along with her research students and postdoctoral associates. She is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of Arts and is a Fellow of the American Chemical Society (ACS), the American Physical Society (APS), and the Association for Women in Science. Awards for her scientific accomplishments include the ACS Olin-Garvan Medal, the Spiers Medal of the Royal Society of Chemistry, the ACS Joel H. Hildebrand Award in Theoretical and Experimental Studies of Liquids and the APS Davisson-Germer Prize. She is the co-founder and Director of COACH, a grass-roots organization that has helped in the career advancement of thousands of scientists and engineers in the U.S., Asia, Africa and Latin America. Awards for these efforts include the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science and Engineering Mentoring, the ACS Award for Encouraging Women in the Chemical Sciences, the Council on Chemical Research Diversity Award and the ACS Charles L. Parsons Award. Richmond has served on numerous national and international advisory and editorial boards. She is currently serving on the U.S. National Science Board, an independent policy advisory board to the U.S. President and Congress on science and engineering research and education issues. She was recently appointed by Secretary Kerry as the 2015 U.S. Science Envoy for the Lower Mekong River countries and is currently serving as the elected President for the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

Jessica Robin

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Jessica Robin has been with NSF since 2007 first in the Office of International Science and Engineering (OISE) then in the Geosciences Directorate (GEO), Division of Earth Sciences (EAR), as a Program Director, and most recently as a Senior Staff Associate in the Office of International and Integrative Activities (IIA). In OIIA, she Co-Chairs the Foundation-wide Integrated NSF Support Promoting Interdisciplinary Research and Education (INSPIRE) as well as manages the Americas portfolio and the Partnerships for Enhanced Engagement in Research (PEER) program. In the GEO Directorate, she chaired the Foundation-wide Science, Engineering, and Education for Sustainability (SEES) Implementation Group and was also a Program Director in the Geomorphology & Land Use Dynamics and Critical Zone Observatories programs. Prior to joining NSF, she worked at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center where she developed and managed international soil research and education initiatives for NASA's Earth Science programs. Additionally, she has taught Physical Geography and Soil Science at the University of Maryland Baltimore County. She earned her Ph.D. in Physical Geography from the University of Maryland College Park and her M.Sc. (Soil Science), M.P.S. (International Agriculture) and B.Sc. from Cornell University. She has lived in Argentina, Uruguay, Indonesia, and Scotland and served as an Embassy Science Fellow in Peru with the U.S. Department of State in 2013. She has also served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Bolivia and speaks Spanish.

Djuke Veldhuis

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Djuke is a Marie-Curie—COFUND research fellow at Aarhus University in Denmark where she looks at human adaptation to stress. She holds a B.A. in Archaeology & Anthropology and a Ph.D. in biological anthropology from the University of Cambridge as well as a Master's degree in science journalism from City University in London. She has written for *New Scientist* and worked across Southeast Asia as editor of *ResearchSEA* magazine. Djuke is passionate about public engagement and spends much of her time managing outreach projects and providing science communications training across the world.

Most recently she was FameLab Manager at Cheltenham Festivals working alongside the British Council and NASA to discover charismatic, up-and-coming scientists who can inspire people to see the world from a new perspective. Since its birth at Cheltenham Science Festival in 2004, FameLab has grown into arguably the world's leading science communication competition with over 25 countries and thousands of researchers participating each year. Djuke is adept at working across media platforms including print, digital and film, and has experience in publishing, editing, marketing and social media management.

Her Ph.D. research examined the human stress response in remote human populations in Papua New Guinea. She has also worked in Libya to document ancient water engineering systems and early stone tool technologies in the Sahara Desert. In her free time she can be found exploring planet earth both above ground in the mountains and below ground in its caves.

Craig Wayson

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For the past three years, Dr. Craig Wayson has been the Latin American Regional Coordinator stationed in Lima, Peru for SilvaCarbon; a global program co-funded by the U.S. Department of State and USAID. He coordinates activities in the region as well as collaborating with researchers and technicians on issues relating to forest carbon dynamics in the MRV context. He has done research on numerous aspects of carbon cycling for nearly 15 years including biometric and eddy-flux measurements as well as uncertainty quantification. He was a Research Ecologist for the USDA Forest Service working on scaling forest carbon measurements from intensive monitoring sites to regional levels. He was a Visiting

Assistant Professor and Research Fellow at the Center for Research on Energy and the Environment specializing in terrestrial carbon sequestration at Indiana University. His post-doctoral work included scaling eddy-flux tower measurements using models and remote-sensing to the Eastern United States. He received a Ph.D. and a MSES from Indiana University in Environmental Science as well as a Masters in Public Affairs specializing in International Development. He lived in Uruguay for 5 years with the U.S. Peace Corps helping the Uruguayan government develop their National Park System as well as coordinating the Environmental Program for the Peace Corps.

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Ms. Marcella Witting has over ten years of experience in international program management and biosecurity policy. She is currently International Affairs Specialist in the Office of International Research Programs (OIRP), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Research Service (ARS). At ARS, Ms. Witting coordinates the agency's research portfolio with partner institutions in Asia, the Middle East, and North Africa. This includes strategic planning and budgeting, often in coordination with partner agencies in the U.S. government, and facilitating and evaluating bilateral and multilateral research programs. Many of these activities focus on food security, biological safety and security, climate change and global biological threat reduction.

Before coming to USDA, Ms. Witting worked as a consultant to the U.S. Department of Defense's Cooperative Biological Engagement Program, which supported cooperative research between scientists from the U.S. and partner countries in the former Soviet Union, and promoted the use of best practices for biological safety and biological security in research settings. She has also worked for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, as Deputy Director of the Department of State-funded Biotechnology Engagement Program, which also promoted scientific research and exchange in the field of public health.

Ms. Witting received her Bachelor of Arts degree with dual majors in International Relations (Russian and East European Studies) and French from the University of Richmond. She received her Juris Doctor degree from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law.

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Naoko Yasuo is currently Deputy Director of Washington, D.C. office of Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST). She received her Master of Science degree in Earth and Planetary Sciences from Hokkaido University in Japan. She joined JST Tokyo Headquarters in 2006, and from 2011 to 2014 she served as a staff member related to the Disaster Prevention and Mitigation area for the JST's international joint research program called "Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS)," which is a joint program between JST and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).