

Hannah M. Teicher

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EDUCATION

PhD, Urban and Regional Planning. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2019.
Dissertation: *Climate Allies: how urban/military interdependence enables adaptation*

Master of Architecture. University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC. 2006.

BA, Sociology and Anthropology. Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA. 1998.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Adaptation Governance • Environmental Politics • Climate Migration • Built Environment

CURRENT POSITION

Assistant Professor of Urban Planning. Harvard University Graduate School of Design.
Department of Urban Planning and Design, Cambridge, MA. 2022-present.

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Papers

Vogler, A. & Teicher, H. Short of disarmament: Towards a climate-responsible military despite geopolitical tensions? (Resubmitted) *Contemporary Security Policy*.

Teicher, H. The climate refuge as grounds for adaptation: promises and pitfalls in an early adopter city, Worcester, MA. (Resubmitted) *Cities*.

Teicher, H. M., & Marchman, P. (2024). Integration as adaptation: advancing research and practice for inclusive climate receiving communities. *Journal of the American Planning Association*, 90(1), 30-49.

Teicher, H. (2023). Anchor institutions as adaptation allies: Promises and pitfalls of joint urban/military adaptation planning in U.S. cities. *Geoforum*, 142, 103754.

Teicher, H. (2023). Making embodied carbon mainstream: A framework for cities to leverage waste, equity and preservation policy to reduce embodied emissions in buildings. *Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences*.

Teicher, H. (2022). How organized credibility enables climate action: the U.S. climate security coalition as a credibility machine. *Journal of Environmental Policy and Planning*, 24(2), 261-276.

Teicher, H. M., Phillips, C. A., & Todd, D. (2021). Climate solutions to meet the suburban surge: leveraging COVID-19 recovery to enhance suburban climate governance. *Climate Policy*, 21(10), 1318-1327.

Teicher, H. (2018). Practices and Pitfalls of Competitive Resilience: urban adaptation as real estate firms turn climate risk to competitive advantage. *Urban Climate*, 25, 9-21.

Anguelovski, I., Shi, L., Chu, E., Gallagher, D., Goh, K., Lamb, Z., ... & Teicher, H. (2016). Equity impacts of urban land use planning for climate adaptation: Critical perspectives from the global north and south. *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, 36(3), 333-348.

Maia, S. C., Teicher, H., & Meyboom, A. (2015). Infrastructure as social catalyst: Electric vehicle station planning and deployment. *Technological Forecasting and Social Change*, 100, 53-65.

In Edited Books

Teicher, H. (2008) Freeway Ends. In C. Min et al. (Eds.) *Vancouver Matters* (pp. 31-39) Vancouver, BC: Blue Imprint.

Teicher, H. (2005) Engaging the Everyday. In J.P. Cramer and J.E. Yankopoulos (Eds.) *Almanac of Architecture and Design 2006* (pp. 21-26) Atlanta, GA: Greenway Communication.

Other Publications

Teicher, H. (2021) A Canada-wide deconstruction industry should be part of our 'build back better' recovery. *Vancouver Sun*, January 31.

"Enlisting Adaptation Allies: the defense sector and beyond." *American Society of Adaptation Professionals e-newsletter*, November 26, 2019.

"In Conversation with Hannah Teicher," *Frank News*, Urban Planning, May 31, 2018.
<http://www.franknews.us/interviews/119/in-conversation-with-hannah-teicher>

Teicher, H. & Finkelstein, A. (2018) Conscripting Climate: prospects for defense and urban adaptation. *Projections*, Volume 13.

Teicher, H. (Nov. 5, 2012) Out of Bounds. *Spacing Vancouver*.
<http://spacing.ca/vancouver/2012/11/05/out-of-bounds-city-museums-ponder-their-foray-into-the-city/>

Teicher, H. (March 2012) Character Flaw. *Tangential Vancouverism*: projects for Vancouver's Urbanism. <http://tangentialvancouverism.ca/2012/03/character-flaw/>

Teicher, H. (2010) New Way of Life. *World Architecture* (China), Vol. 242(8), pp.38-41

Teicher, H. (2009) New Way of Life: Vancouver's Olympic Village. *Canadian Architect*, Vol. 54(11), pp.17-23.

Teicher, H. (2008) Accidental Exposure, Deliberate Concealment. *Canadian Architect*, Vol. 53(6), p.50.

Teicher, H. (2007) Package Deal. *Canadian Architect*, Vol. 52(9), pp.47-50.

Professional Reports

Making Embodied Carbon Mainstream: A guide for local and regional governments to reduce embodied carbon in the built environment. A PICS Report, May 2021.

Advancing BC Adaptation: promising practices from international leaders. A PICS Policy Report, January 2020.

Public Fast Charging Station Design Guidelines (with AnnaLisa Meyboom). Transportation Infrastructure and Public Space Lab, August 2013.

EV Public Fast Charging Planning Framework (with AnnaLisa Meyboom). Transportation Infrastructure and Public Space Lab, August 2011.

Sports, Arts, Culture and Harmony Centre Feasibility Study (with Alec Smith). Shape Architecture, November 2011.

Hastings Mixed Use Feasibility Study. Shape Architecture, June 2011.

UBC Integrated Planning and Design Facility Feasibility Study (with Nick Sully). Shape Architecture, May 2011.

West Don Lands Public Art Strategy (with Jill Anholt). Jill Anholt Studio, August 2007.

GRANTS

Climate Migration Project-Based Course. Harvard Mellon Urban Initiative. \$2,500.

Adaptive Climate Migration: A Case Study of Resettlement from the Solomon Islands to Canada. Salata Seed Grant. PI. The Salata Institute for Climate and Sustainability at Harvard University. With Co-PI Michael Hooper (University of British Columbia). \$24,800.
Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Canada Program. Faculty Research Grant. \$7,800.

[TERMINATED by DOGE] Sea-Level Rise in the Indo-Pacific Region: Building a Framework for Interdependent Resilience. DOD Multidisciplinary University Research Initiative. 2023-2028. Lead Investigator for \$650,000 component. Total project award: \$5.6M. PI: Mark Merrifield (Scripps Institution of Oceanography); Co-Is: Christine Kirchhoff (Pennsylvania State University), Peter Ruggiero (Oregon State University).

A Systematic Analysis of US Receiving Communities. Center for Green Buildings and Cities Faculty Grant. PI. Harvard Graduate School of Design. 2023. \$14,700.

Private Sector Impacts on Opportunities and Barriers for Climate Migration. Real Estate Research Grant. PI. Harvard Graduate School of Design. 2023. \$7,500.

Climate Refuge Cities: from concept to practice. Dean's Junior Faculty Grant. PI. Harvard Graduate School of Design. 2023. \$10,000.

Lynne Sagalyn and Gary Hack Dissertation Grant. MIT, Department of Urban Studies and Planning. 2017.

Harold Horowitz Student Research Grant. MIT, School of Architecture and Planning. 2015.

William Emerson Travel Grant. MIT, Department of Urban Studies and Planning. 2015.

Sustainability and Responsible Property Investment Grant. MIT, Department of Urban Studies and Planning. 2015.

LiveSmart BC Super Efficient New Construction Grant. \$100,000 to support green design for Union Street ECOheritage as part of Shape Architecture team. 2009.

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

Researcher-in-Residence, Built Environment. Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions. Victoria, BC. 2019 - 2022.

- Developed an applied research initiative and a guidebook on embodied emissions in buildings in consultation with multiple levels of government, industry and NGOs.
- In collaboration with the executive director, designed and developed a research program to leverage Covid recovery for climate action in communities and businesses.
- Produced a report on international adaptation best practices based on a policy review and expert interviews for the Province of British Columbia's Climate Action Secretariat.
- Gave expert presentations on adaptation and mitigation to local and provincial governments.
- For large research funding programs, contributed to all stages from project development through review, selection, and ongoing engagement.

Acting Associate Director. Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions.

Victoria, BC. March-June 2020.

- Worked with program managers in the PICS multi-university network to redesign and implement the annual PICS Student Forum.
- Revised plans and projections for a multi-million dollar annual budget considering Covid-related constraints.
- Worked with the executive director to manage the transition to working from home including hiring and onboarding multiple new staff during the transition.

Researcher. Transportation Infrastructure and Public Space Lab, University of British Columbia. Vancouver, BC. 2010-2014.

- Collaborated with an interdisciplinary team of experts to develop an Electric Vehicle Planning Framework.
- Worked with municipalities to develop Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Siting Toolkits.

Graduate Architect. Shape Architecture. Vancouver, BC. 2008-2012.

- Developed and coordinated major feasibility studies for sustainable institutional projects.
- Designed and coordinated residential and public projects incorporating passive and active green strategies.
- For Union St EcoHeritage, a sustainable, infill, multi-family project, prepared a winning grant application for provincial funding, contributed to project design, and coordinated the process to achieve LEED Platinum.

Designer. Jill Anholt Studio. Vancouver, BC. 2007-2008.

- Contributed to and coordinated public art strategies and public art projects, emphasizing sustainable principles, for high-profile urban redevelopments.

Graduate Architect. Acton Ostry Architects. Vancouver, BC, 2006-2007.

- Conducted stakeholder meetings, composed major reports, and contributed to design for a substantial university building renovation.

Research Assistant. Federal Public Defender's Office. Portland, OR. 2000-2001.

Editorial Staff. trailworks.com. Portland, OR. 2000.

Editorial Intern. Metropolis Magazine. New York, NY. 1999.

PROFESSIONAL AND PUBLIC SERVICE

Climate x Migration Ecosystem. 2025. Expert Participant.

Climigration Network Leadership. 2018-2025.

- Co-Chair, Welcoming Communities Work Group, 2023-2025.
- Network Leadership Council, 2022-2025.
- Co-Chair, Narrative Building Work Group, 2020-23.

Zero Waste Construction Certification Working Group. Zero Waste Canada/Zero Waste International Alliance, 2021-22.

Climate Solutions and Sustainability Leader Task Force. University of Victoria, 2021.

City of Victoria Climate Adaptation Community Planning Working Group. 2021.

Canadian Policy and Practice Group Chair. American Society of Adaptation Professionals, 2021.

Policy Recommendations to House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis Working Group. American Society of Adaptation Professionals, 2019.

Co-Editor. *Projections*, Volume 13, MIT DUSP scholarly journal. 2016-17.

MIT Lincoln Laboratory Climate Change Study Adviser. 2017-18.

MIT DUSP Symposium Co-organizer. *Conscripting Climate: Environmental Risk and Defensive Urbanism*. 2017.

Urban Land Institute Boston, Climate Resilience Committee. 2014-17.

Life at Sea Level: Dutch Dialogues Participant. Norfolk, VA. 2015.

UBC Farm Professional Working Group. Vancouver, BC. 2008-09.

Dynamic Cities Project Board Member. Vancouver, BC. 2006-09.

LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

Invited Lectures and Presentations

“Receiving Communities: Planning for a future in flux.” Keynote, GW Law + Adaptation Leader Receiving Communities Workshop. Washington DC. February 2025.

“Inclusionary Adaptation? Notes on the future of the climate refuge.” Columbia GSAPP Lectures in Planning Series. New York, NY. October 2024.

“Conserving Embodied Carbon via Circular Economy.” Launch of Dutch Canadian Circular Alliance. October 2022.

“Inclusive Receiving Communities: laying the groundwork.” People on the Move in a Changing Climate (PEMOCC) Southwest Workshop. Virtual. September 2022.

“Making Embodied Carbon Mainstream: embodied emissions strategies for British Columbia.” ASHRAE Vancouver Island Chapter. Virtual. January 2022.

“Making Embodied Carbon Mainstream: building on foundations in waste, equity and preservation.” Presentation to Citizens’ Climate Lobby, Boston Chapter. Virtual. January 2022.

“Lead with Listening: A Guidebook for Community Conversations on Climate Migration.” Presentation to Waterfront Resilience Coordination Partners and Flood Resilience Network (NY State). Virtual. November 2021. With Delaney Morris.

“Planning from above and below: mobilizing discourses for climate action.” University of Victoria, Human Dimensions of Climate Change Guest Lecture. Victoria, BC. October 2021.

“Making Embodied Carbon Mainstream: translating integrated approaches to emissions reductions into practice.” Engineers and Geoscientists British Columbia Continuing Education. Virtual. October 2021.

“Why the Housing Crisis is an Environmental Problem.” Smart Prosperity Podcast, September 2021.

“Making Embodied Carbon Mainstream,” Circular Design for the Built Environment Webinar, Vancouver Carbon Leadership Forum. September 2021.

“Exploring ‘Lead with Listening: A Guidebook for Community Conversations on Climate Migration’” The American Shoreline Podcast, July 2021. With Patrick Marchman.

“Sustainable Resilient Communities: Principles and Practices.” səmiqʷəʔelə/Riverview Let's Talk Sustainability & Mobility Workshop, BC Housing. Virtual. July 2021.

“Making Embodied Carbon Mainstream.” Local Governments and the Embodied Emissions of the Built Environment, Workshop hosted by Province of BC and City of Vancouver. Virtual. June 2021.

“Building Reuse as Waste Prevention.” National Zero Waste Council, The Waste Prevention Opportunity for Canada webinar. May 2021.

“The Circular Economy in the Built Environment: making it real.” Moderator. Coast Waste Management Association. Victoria, BC. Virtual. April 2021.

“Tackling the Adaptation Imperative: International Best Practices.” UVic Retirees Association, Elder Academy, Victoria, BC. Virtual. December 2020.

“Creating Sustainable Cities by Transforming Urban Systems.” Panel at New Cities conference: Implementing the SDGs in Canada, Victoria, BC. March 2020.

“Oak Bay Climate Action: recommendations to the Community Climate Action Working Group.” Oak Bay, BC. January 2020.

“Climate solutions: partnering for climate action in the built environment.” BC Hydro Community Energy Manager Program webinar, November 2019.

“Recognizing Interdependence: how urban collaborations enhance adaptation.” Pacific Climate Seminar Series, University of Victoria, Victoria, BC. October 2019.

“The crossover: architect-planner.” National Organization of Minority Architecture Students (NOMAS), MIT Chapter, Power Lunch, February 2018.

“How Does Room for the River Travel? The Influence of Dutch Expertise on Flood Planning in U.S. Coastal Cities.” Guest Lecture for Big Plans, MIT, Cambridge, MA, March 2016.

“Competing Resilience Models: a framework for evaluating commercial real estate industry responses to climate change.” Presentation to MIT Global Sustainability Working Group, Cambridge, MA, April 2015.

“From Car Dependence to Mobility 2.0.” Guest Lecture for Ecological Determinants of Human Health Course, Langara College, Vancouver, BC, April 2013.

“Vancouver Density: the neglected scale.” Urban Land Institute Young Leaders Group, Cascadia Regional Conference, Portland, OR, July 2011.

“Green Infill Opportunities and Barriers.” Community Energy Association, Build to Zero Workshop, Vancouver, BC, December 2009.

“GHG Targets for Transportation Planning.” Opus Hamilton Continuing Education, March 2007.

Presentations at Academic and Professional Conferences

“Are There Signs of Corporate Climigration in the US?” with Rachel Meltzer. The Climate Crisis: Making Cities Resilient. Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society. Cambridge, UK. July 2025.

“A Systematic Analysis of US Receiving Communities” with Kathryn McConnell, Carole Voulgaris, and Sophia Xiao. MR2025: Mobility, Adaptation, and Wellbeing in a Changing Climate, Columbia Climate School. New York, NY. June 2025.

“A Systematic Analysis of US Receiving Communities” with Kathryn McConnell. Climate Displacement, Managed Retreat, and Relocation Special Session. National Adaptation Forum, St. Paul, MN. May 2024.

“Climate-related migration and the private sector: urban planning for receiving communities.” At What Point Managed Retreat? Habitability and Mobility in an Era of Climate Change, Columbia Climate School. New York, NY. June 2023.

“Making Embodied Carbon Mainstream: expanding policies in waste, equity and preservation to tackle emissions in the built environment.” Innovate4Cities, UN-Habitat and Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy, Virtual, October 2021.

“Empowering Climigration: a new communications guidebook co-created with lived experience experts” with Kristin Marcell and Mychal Estrada. At What Point Managed Retreat? Resilience, Relocation and Climate Justice. Columbia Climate School, Virtual, June 2021.

“The local influence of a global city: a case study of embodied emissions for urban climate action” ACSP Annual Conference, Virtual, November 2020.

“Creative resilience: combining urban and military adaptation capacity in Norfolk, VA.” ACSP Annual Conference, Buffalo, NY, October 2018.

“Reconstructing Urban Natures? Building Engagements between Green Urbanism, the Resilient City, and Urban Political Ecology.” With Damian White. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, April 2017.

“Competitive Resilience: Implications of Commercial Real Estate Leaders as Agents in the Adaptive City.” Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Annual Meeting, Houston, TX, October 2015.

“Strategic Siting of Early Fast Charging Stations to Accelerate Growth.” AnnaLisa Meyboom and Hannah Teicher. EV/VE Conference, Gatineau, Ottawa, October 2013.

“Level 2 Siting Model for Municipalities.” AnnaLisa Meyboom and Hannah Teicher. EV/VE Conference, Gatineau, Ottawa, October 2013.

“EV Ecosystems and Urban Resilience.” Poster for Canada Green Building Council National Conference, Vancouver, BC, May 2013.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Outstanding PhD Dissertation. MIT, Department of Urban Studies and Planning. 2019.

Martin Family Fellowship for Sustainability. MIT Environmental Solutions Initiative. 2017-18.

MIT Presidential Fellowship. 2014-15.

Vancouver Urban Design Award for Outstanding Sustainable Design. City of Vancouver. 2014. With Shape Architecture.

American Institute of Graphic Arts (Re)design Award. 2013. With TIPS Lab.

First Place, First Annual Cleveland Design Competition. 2007. With Nick Sully.

Merrick Architecture Graduating Prize. School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, University of British Columbia. 2006.

First Place, Third Annual ArchVoices International Essay Competition. “Engaging the Everyday.” 2005.

UBC Thompson Berwick Pratt Scholarship. 2004.

Architecture Foundation of BC Award for Excellence in Architectural Writing. 2003.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Department of Urban Planning and Design, Graduate School of Design, Harvard University

- Core Urban Planning Studio (MUP)
- Urban Adaptation v.2 (course)
- Climate Migration (project-based course)
- Urban Adaptation (project-based course)
- Planning Sustainable Built Environments

Department of Urban Studies and Planning, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

- Big Plans (undergraduate)

Faculty of Culture and Community, Emily Carr University of Art and Design

- Design Culture (undergraduate)
- Ecological Perspectives on Design (undergraduate)
- Design Futures (undergraduate)
- Studies in Humanities: Design (undergraduate)

School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, University of British Columbia

- Nonconforming: disrupting the received logic of zoning (M.Arch.)

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

GSD Liaison, Big City Planning Directors' Institute, 2024-25

Member, Salata Institute Summer Research Funding Program Selection Committee, 2025

Member, UPD JEDI Committee 2022-25

Member, UPD Prizes Committee 2022-25

Member, UPD Admissions Committee 2022-25

Member, UPD Curriculum Committee 2022-25

Member, UPD Strategic Plan / Accreditation Prep Committee, 2023-25

Member, Mahindra Humanities Center Postdoctoral Fellows Selection Committee, 2023-24

Member, Harvard University Committee on Climate Education, 2022-23

Member, GSD Plimpton-Poorvu Design Prize Review Committee, 2022-23