

IAUC BOARD NOMINATION STATEMENTS 2017

Sahar SODOUDI

Institute of Meteorology,
Freie Universität Berlin

Statement:

Sahar Sodoudi is a German-Iranian professor in urban climatology and heading the department of urban climate at the meteorological Institute of the Freie Universität Berlin. She has many years of experience in meso- and micro-scale urban climate modelling and is working on the interaction between climate change and urban heat island and its impact on outdoor micro climate, Building's energy demand and human thermal comfort. She has conducted many national and international measuring campaigns in Germany and Middle East. Since 2013, she is cooperating with 18 Egyptian universities in the field of adapting sustainable urban development to the local climate change via establishment of „Urban Climate Labs“.

Furthermore, her research includes health effects of climate change in urban areas with focus on cardiovascular diseases.



Julie PULLEN

Ocean Engineering,
Stevens Institute of Technology



Statement:

I have been a member of IAUC since 2002. I have published and actively engaged in the fields of urban meteorology and urban transport and dispersion for over ten years. I also have complementary expertise in coastal air/sea interaction.

I have held leadership positions at AMS (chair of the Coastal Environment committee) where I convened joint events with the AMS Board on Urban Environments. I am also a regular convener of, and contributor to, urban-focused sessions at the annual George Mason University Conference on Atmospheric Transport and Dispersion. I was a principal investigator and member of the management team for the NYC Urban Dispersion Program, and currently hold a joint appointment with Brookhaven National Laboratory where I continue to advance the study of urban environments. I am currently teaching a new course on Urban Meteorology and I am a member of the scientific committee of the International Conference on Urban Climatology (ICUC) to be held in NYC.

In my work on the Board of the Waterfront Alliance, a civic organization representing over 1000 groups with a stake in the NJ/NY waterfront, I co-lead the policy committee where I have focused the organization on coastal urban resilience in the face of a changing climate. I would like to help IAUC strengthen its engagement in this area, as well as in urban transport and dispersion studies.

Benjamin BECHTEL

Institute of Geography,
University of Hamburg



Statement:

I am a long-standing member of the IAUC both as a PhD student and now as a postdoctoral researcher and I have attended and participated at ICUC8, ICUC9 and (upcoming) ICUC10. I am currently at the Cluster of Excellence CliSAP in Hamburg. I specifically work on the remote sensing applications and on bridging the fields of urban climate science and urban remote sensing, e.g. with special sessions or as guest editor of a special issue on *“The Application of Thermal Urban Remote Sensing to Understand and Monitor Urban Climates”* (together with Iphigenia Keramitsoglou, Simone Kotthaus, James Voogt, and Klemen Zakšek).

In my dissertation *“Remote sensing of urban canopy parameters for enhanced modelling and climate related classification of urban structures”*, I developed methods for Local Climate Zone (LCZ) mapping, which now form the basis for the protocol of the World Urban Database and Access Portal Tools (WUDAPT) data acquisition. Jointly with the IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society I organised a contest for LCZ mapping in the image analysis community, which reached great attention with about 800 submissions. I am in the steering committees of the GEO Human Planet initiative and of the Belgian remote sensing, urban climate, and epidemiology project REACT.

My agenda for the IAUC board includes: developing career opportunities for young scientists; building stronger ties with the urban remote sensing community and; supporting urban climate science through the development of freely available tools and data that can publicised and disseminated through the IAUC website.

Chao REN

School of Architecture
Chinese University of Hong Kong

Statement:

The science of urban climatology and meteorology has been fast developed for the last few decades. But the reality is that very limited urban climatic applications have been conducted. I have to confess that I have been very lucky to work closely with environmental scientists, geographers, wind engineers, climatologists, meteorologists, sanitarians, governmental officials, architects, and town planners on several international research collaborations and governmental consultancy projects in Asian and European cities since 2006, so I could have a practical chance to make complex science applied to produce public benefits through better urban planning and political decision making.



To me, urban climatology are not just about the pursuit of scientific understanding about climate. More importantly it should involve multi-dimensional and cross-disciplinary activities that transfer scientific information into new knowledge for addressing social needs, enhancing urban living condition and creating better lives for every citizen. The future of our cities is in our hands if we made the right decision today.

If you agree with me, please vote for me, a young architecture scholar with passion and energy.

Publications:www.researchgate.net/profile/Chao_Ren6

Joe MCFADDEN

Department of Geography and Earth Research Institute,
University of California, Santa Barbara, USA



Statement:

I've been working in urban climate since 2004, beginning with a large micromet study in Minneapolis-Saint Paul. Currently, I have projects in Los Angeles and other coastal cities. My lab's focus is to better understand the role of greenspace in the urban climate system. In recent years we've begun to couple flux measurements with remote sensing of urban materials, vegetation, and surface temperature. I serve as Urban Ecosystems Associate Editor for *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution*, and cochair of the Urban Areas and Global Change sessions at AGU.

I've been an active member of IAUC for 10 years, with my group presenting at ICUC, I and my students writing reports for the Newsletter, and I currently serve as the Newsletter's conferences editor. IAUC is an amazingly effective and efficient scientific community, focusing on the most important things to enable research progress, and making them happen with a minimum of resources. IAUC has improved my research and fostered lasting collaborations and friendships, and I would like to contribute in return. I'd be keen to help promote awareness of our work and connections with related disciplines such as urban hydrology, forestry, ecology, remote sensing, and transportation science. IAUC is ideally situated as a focal point for the scientific basis to shape our cities to provide beauty, comfort, health, safety, and resilience for their inhabitants, and for communicating with practitioners in urban planning, design, and government. I look forward to seeing everyone at ICUC-10 in New York!

Magdy ABDELWAHAB

Professor of Meteorology, Faculty of Science,
Cairo University



Statement:

It is an honor to serve as a member of IAUC board. I am very pleased that I have been nominated for this position and am looking forward to serve IAUC community. I have over 35 years of experience in the field of meteorology and atmospheric science. I am specialized in weather modeling, climate change and air pollution where I currently teach and consult in these fields. I took the lead on some international projects with co-partners from Italy, Switzerland, USA (NCAR) and Purdue University. I have been engaged with ionospheric physics simulations and space weather problems. I have been a Principle Investigator and co-Director of many scientific projects including the establishing of an Earth Observation satellite data receiving station at Cairo University (funded by NATO Science for Peace program).

I have worked on regional climate models and provided in country and out country of training in climate data, modeling and projections. I have established Climate Research Laboratory at faculty of Science, Cairo University to model climate changes over the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. I have conducted a project on Nile basin precipitation and early warning system of flash floods with National Forecasting Center, Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation.

I have been a member of World environmental agency and American Meteorological Society since 1982. I have worked as a consultant with the International Center for Theoretical Physics, Trieste, Italy from 1986 until 1996. I have been a senior Associate at International center for theoretical physics since 1996.

Melissa HART

Graduate Director- ARC Centre of Excellence for Climate System Science

UNSW, Australia

Statement:

Melissa Hart has worked or studied in the fields of urban climate and air pollution meteorology on four continents. She has also spent time in industry, working in an air pollution consultancy.



Melissa completed her PhD in Atmospheric Science in 2007, at Macquarie University, Australia. She then spent two years at Portland State University as a postdoc and five years at the University of Hong Kong as a faculty member. Melissa is currently the Graduate Director in the ARC Centre of Excellence for Climate System Science at UNSW, Australia.

Melissa's research interests include: the impacts of land-use, surface characteristics and anthropogenic activities on urban climate; air pollution meteorology, including air quality impacts from fires; and more recently a citizen science project which will collect urban meteorological and air quality observations in Sydney schools.

In her current role Melissa has developed a national, cross-institutional graduate program, which has reimagined the traditional Australian PhD, and has trained over 130 climate science PhD students. Melissa is also passionate about gender equity in science and is the Chair of the Australian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society's (AMOS) Equity and Diversity committee. She also established the first urban climate sessions at AMOS annual meetings.

Melissa hopes to bring her international experience in urban climate research and her expertise in the development of early career researchers, and advocacy for diversity, to the Board of the IAUC.