

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

EMPLOYEE POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM Original Amendment

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from private sources for travel taken in connection with official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the annual *Financial Disclosure Statements* of those employees required to file them. In accordance with House Rule 25, clause 5, **you must complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House by email at gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov, within 15 days after travel is completed.** Please **do not** file this form with the Committee on Ethics.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

1. Name of Traveler: Andrea_V_Valdes_Valderrama
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ **OR** None
b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: Friday, March 15, 2024 Return: Sunday, March 17, 2024
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ **OR** None
4. Departure City: Washington, DC Destination: Cambridge, MD Return City: Washington, DC
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: Overview of the National Academies, Learning modules on Ecosystems, Water, and Climate Change/Agriculture, Living Shorelines Project Site Visit, Impact of Climate Change on Chesapeake Bay (details attached)
7. Attached to this form are **each** of the following, *signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box:*
 - a. a completed *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form*;
 - b. the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* completed by the trip sponsor **prior** to the trip, **including all** attachments **and** the *Additional Sponsor Form(s)*;
 - c. page 2 of the completed *Traveler Form* submitted by the employee; **and**
 - d. the letter from the Committee on Ethics approving my participation on this trip.
8. a. I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the attached sponsor's agenda. *Signify statement is true by checking the box.*
b. If not, explain: _____

I certify that the information contained on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Traveler:  Date: April 1/2024

I authorized this travel in advance. I have determined that all of the expenses listed on the attached *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form* were necessary and that the travel was in connection with the employee's official duties and would not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Name of Supervising Member: Darren Soto Date: 4.1.2024

Signature of Supervising Member: 

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

SPONSOR POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

Original Amendment

This form must be completed by an officer of any organization that served as the primary trip sponsor in providing travel expenses or reimbursement for travel expenses to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. **A completed copy of the form must be provided to each House Member, officer, or employee who participated in the trip within 10 days of their return.** You must answer all questions, and check all boxes, on this form for your submission to comply with House Rules and the Committee's Travel Regulations. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the denial of future requests to sponsor trips and/or subject the current traveler to disciplinary action or a requirement to repay the trip expenses.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

1. Sponsor(s) who paid or provided in-kind support for the trip: National Academy of Sciences (NAS)

2. Travel Destination(s): Cambridge, MD

3. Date of Departure: Friday, March 15, 2024 Date of Return: Sunday, March 17, 2024

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Please see the included addendum.

Note: You may list more than one traveler on a form only if **all** information is **identical** for each person listed.

5. **Actual amount** of expenses paid on behalf of, or reimbursed to, each individual named in Question 4:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Total Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	\$89 (Charter bus to/from Cambridge, and charter bus to/from field site visit)	\$316 (room rate plus taxes/fees for two nights)	\$133	\$226 - Hotel meeting space & A/V equipment rental and support
Accompanying Family Member				

6. All expenses connected to the trip were for actual costs incurred and not a *per diem* or lump sum payment. *Signify statement is true by checking box.*

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: Ebun Johnson Digitally signed by Ebun Johnson
Date: 2024.03.27 12:00:24 -04'00' Date: _____

Name: Ebun Johnson Title: Chief Financial Officer

Organization: National Academy of Sciences (NAS)

I am an officer of the above-named organization. Signify statement is true by checking box.

Address: 500 Fifth St. NW, Washington, DC 20001

Telephone: 202-334-1269 Email: ejohnson@nas.edu

Committee staff may contact the above-named individual if additional information is required.

If you have questions regarding your completion of this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103.

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer, or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee together with a *Traveler Form* **at least 30 days before the start date of the trip**. The trip sponsor should *NOT* submit the form directly to the Committee. The Committee's website (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form. The Committee will notify the House invitees directly of its decision and will not notify the trip sponsors.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip:

National Academy of Sciences (NAS)

2. I represent that the trip will not be financed, in whole or in part, by a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent. *Signify that the statement is true by checking box.*

3. **Check only one.** I represent that:

a. The primary trip sponsor has not accepted from any other source, funds intended directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip; **OR**

b. The trip is arranged without regard to congressional participation and the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds only from entities that will receive a tangible benefit in exchange for those funds; **OR**

c. The primary trip sponsor has accepted funds, services, or in-kind assistance from other source(s) intended directly or indirectly to finance all or part of this trip and has enclosed disclosure forms from each of those entities.

If "c" is checked, list the names of the additional sponsors: _____

4. Provide names and titles of **ALL** House Members *and* employees you are inviting. **For each House invitee, provide an explanation of why the individual was invited** (include additional pages if necessary): _____

Please see the included addendum.

5. Yes No Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?

6. Date of Departure: Friday, March 15, 2024 Date of Return: Sunday, March 17, 2024

7. a. City of departure: Washington, DC

b. Destination(s): Cambridge, MD

c. City of return: Washington, DC

8. **Check only one.** I represent that

a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965; **OR**

b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent; **OR**

c. The sponsor employs or retains a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but the trip is for attendance at a one-day event *and* lobbyist / foreign agent involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.

9. **Check only one of the following.**
- a. I checked 8(a) or (b) above; **OR**
 - b. I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging; **OR**
 - c. I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for one night; **OR**
 - d. I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for two nights. If you checked this box, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted. _____
-

10. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities House invitees will be participating in during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities for trip invitees). *Indicate agenda is attached by checking box.*

11. **Check only one of the following.**
- a. I represent that a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip. *Signify the statement is true by clicking the box; OR*
 - b. *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is a U.S. institution of higher education.
12. For *each* sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip *and* its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:
Please see the included addendum.
-

13. **Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:**
- a. Mode of travel: Air Rail Bus Car Other (specify: _____)
 - b. Class of travel: Coach Business First Charter Other (specify: _____)
 - c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:

-

14. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). *Signify that the statement is true by checking box.*

15. **Check only one.** I represent that either:
- a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees; **OR**
 - b. The trip involves events that are arranged specifically *with regard* to congressional participation. If "b" is checked:
 - 1) Detail the cost *per day* of meals (approximate cost may be provided): Friday Dinner - \$29
Saturday Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner - \$59, Sunday Breakfast & Lunch - \$30
 - 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: Cambridge, MD was selected as the local region has direct economic, cultural, and geographic ties to the areas of climate change to be addressed during the seminar.

16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:

Hotel Name: Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay City: Cambridge, MD Cost Per Night: \$158 (room rate plus taxes/fees)
 Reason(s) for Selecting: Lodging/meeting space/meals available at per diem rates and proximity to potential field site visit locations.

Hotel Name: _____ City: _____ Cost Per Night: _____
 Reason(s) for Selecting: _____

Hotel Name: _____ City: _____ Cost Per Night: _____
 Reason(s) for Selecting: _____

17. I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*

18. **Total Expenses for each Participant:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$83 (Charter to bus to/from Cambridge, and charter bus to/from field site visit)	\$316 (room rate plus taxes/fees)	\$118
For each Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A	N/A

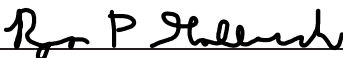
	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$182	Hotel meeting space & A/V equipment rental and support
For each Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A

19. **Check only one:**

- a. I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below; **OR**
- b. *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is an individual or a U.S. institution of higher education.

20. **I certify by my signature that**

- a. **I read and understand the Committee's Travel Regulations;**
- b. **I am not a registered federal lobbyist or registered foreign agent; and**
- c. **The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.**

Signature:  Date: 2/1/2024
 Name: Ryan P Gallasch Title: Congressional Affairs Officer
 Organization: National Academy of Sciences (NAS)
 Address: 500 Fifth St. NW, Washington, DC 20001
 Email: rgallasch@nas.edu Telephone: 202-334-3289

If there are questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

This form should be completed by House Members, officers, or employees seeking Committee approval of privately-sponsored travel or reimbursement for travel under House Rule 25, clause 5. The completed form should be submitted directly to the Committee by each invited House Member, officer, or employee, together with the completed and signed trip sponsor form(s) and any attachments. A copy of this form, minus this initial page, will be made available for public inspection.

This form and any attachments may be submitted at 1015 Longworth House Office Building or travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

Your completed request must be submitted to the Committee no less than 30 days before your proposed departure date. Absent exceptional circumstances, permission will not be granted for requests received less than 30 days before the trip commences. **You must receive explicit approval from the Committee before you depart on this trip.**

Name of Traveler: Andrea Victoria Valdes Valderrama

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

I certify that the information contained on both pages of this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Name of Signatory (if other than traveler): _____

For Staff (name of employing Member or Committee): Darren Soto

Office Address: 2353 Rayburn House Office Building

Telephone Number: 202-225-9889

Email Address of Contact Person: andrea.valdes@mail.house.gov

Check this box if the sponsoring entity is a media outlet, the purpose of the trip is to make a media appearance sponsored by that entity, and these forms are being submitted to the Committee less than 30 days before the trip departure date.

NOTE: You must complete all of the contact information fields above, as Committee staff may need to contact you if additional information is required.

KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM. Page 2 (but not this page) must be submitted to the Clerk as part of the post-travel disclosure required by House Rule 25. Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting paperwork for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

If there are any questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or via email: travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Andrea V Valdes Valderrama
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: National Academy of Sciences (NAS)
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Cambridge, MD
4. a. Date of Departure: Friday, March 15, 2024 Date of Return: Sunday, March 17, 2024
b. Yes No Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?
If yes, list dates at personal expense: _____
5. a. Yes No Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense? **If yes:**
 - (1) Name of Accompanying Family Member: _____
 - (2) Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
 - (3) Yes No Accompanying Family Member is at least 18 years of age?
6. a. Yes No Did the trip sponsor answer "Yes" to Question 8(c) on the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* (i.e., travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or a foreign agent)?
b. If yes, and you are requesting lodging for two nights, explain why the second night is warranted:

7. Yes No *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* is attached, including agenda, invitation, invitee list, and any other attachments and Additional Sponsor Forms.
NOTE: The agenda should show the traveler's individual schedule, including departure and arrival times and identify the specific events in which the traveler will be participating.
8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to the traveler's individual official or representational duties. **Staff should include their job title and how the activities on the itinerary relate to their duties.**
As Senior Legislative Assistant, my portfolio is directly tied to the environment, climate, and natural resources. These educational modules alongside the site visit will prove helpful in my capacity advising the Congressman on covered topics.
9. **Yes No Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip?**
10. For staff travelers, to be completed by your employing Member:

ADVANCED AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Signature of Employing Member:  Date: Feb. 14, 2024

Michael Guest, Mississippi
Chairman
Susan Wild, Pennsylvania
Ranking Member

David P. Joyce, Ohio
John H. Rutherford, Florida
Andrew R. Garbarino, New York
Michelle Fischbach, Minnesota

Veronica Escobar, Texas
Mark DeSaulnier, California
Deborah K. Ross, North Carolina
Glenn F. Ivey, Maryland



ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust
Staff Director and Chief Counsel

Keelie Broom
Counsel to the Chairman

David Arrojo
Counsel to the Ranking Member

1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328
Telephone: (202) 225-7103
Facsimile: (202) 225-7392

March 12, 2024

Ms. Andrea Valdes Valderrama
Office of the Honorable Darren Soto
2353 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Valdes Valderrama:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Cambridge, Maryland, scheduled for March 15 to 17, 2024, sponsored by National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.

You must complete an Employee Post-Travel Disclosure Form (which your employing Member must also sign) and file it, together with a Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form completed by the trip sponsor, with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are also required to attach a copy of this letter and both the Traveler and Primary Trip Sponsor Forms (including attachments) you previously submitted to the Committee in seeking pre-approval for this trip. If you are required to file an annual Financial Disclosure Statement, you must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$480 from a single source on the "Travel" schedule of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement covering this calendar year. Finally, Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting information provided to the Committee for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,

Michael Guest
Chairman

Susan Wild
Ranking Member

MG/SW:rp

Climate Crossroads Congressional Fellowship: Weekend Seminar

With financial support from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine

Background

Location: Cambridge, Maryland

Dates: March 15th – 17th, 2024

Mission Goals: The Climate Crossroads (CCX) Congressional Fellowship has been established to provide current Congressional staff with a solid grounding in the science, engineering, and health dimensions of climate change, as well as opportunities to engage in dialogue with colleagues from diverse policy backgrounds. The weekend seminar is a key component of a series of training modules fellows engage with over the course of their fellowship. Most training modules are two hours once monthly, but the weekend seminar is an extended training period for participants to engage with program materials with the off-site location facilitating the opportunity to connect information gained in the classroom to communities on the ground. The weekend seminar also serves as a sustained opportunity for fellows to engage with their peers and the larger scientific community on a range of climate-related topics.

Relevance to Official Duties: CCX Congressional Fellows participate in the National Academies' Climate Crossroads Congressional Fellowship as part of their official duty to (1) build their capacity for science informed policy making, (2) engage in dialogue with peers, and (3) enhance access to leading science, engineering, and medicine for both themselves and their offices.

Location: Cambridge, MD was selected as the weekend retreat destination due to its direct economic, cultural, and geographic ties to the areas of climate change to be addressed during the seminar.

Itinerary

Day 1 - Friday, March 15th: Travel

3:30 PM – 5:45 PM

**Transportation from Washington, DC to Cambridge, MD
(Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay) – 3:30 PM Departure Time**

CCX Congressional Fellows and National Academies Program Staff departed from the National Academies Keck Center by bus at 3:30 PM

Locations:

- Keck Center, 500 5th St NW, Washington, DC, 20001
- Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay, 100 Heron Blvd, US-50, Cambridge, MD 21613

5:45 PM – 6:30 PM

Hotel Check-in – 5:45 PM Arrival

6:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Introduction and Overview of the National Academies

CCX Congressional Fellows received information on the evening's activities in addition to a safety and facilities overview of the Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay.

National Academies staff then provided an informational overview of the structure of the National Academies, different scientific outputs, the processes for developing a consensus report, and the role of the National Academies in the larger policy landscape.

Attendees:

- **Presenters:** Ryan Gallasch (Congressional Affairs Officer, NASEM), Amanda Staudt (Senior Director, NASEM), Christopher King (Executive Director, NASEM)
- **Participants:** CCX Congressional Fellows, Fellowship Program Staff (NASEM), April Melvin (Senior Program Officer, NASEM), Keri Stoeber (Associate Director, NAS)

Location: Clipper Room - Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay

7:00 PM – 8:45 PM

Working Dinner and Weekend Overview

National Academies staff provided background information on the weekend including overviews of the scientific content and logistics. Climate Crossroads program leadership delivered welcoming remarks. CCX Congressional Fellows had the opportunity to meet instructors, invited experts, and NASEM staff while being served dinner. Shared prompts and questions facilitated discussion during the meal.

Attendees:

- **Presenters:** Ryan Gallasch (Congressional Affairs Officer, NASEM)
- **Participants:** CCX Congressional Fellows, Fellowship Program Staff (NASEM), April Melvin (Senior Program Officer, NASEM), Keri Stoeber (Associate Director, NAS)

Location: Clipper Room - Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay

Day 2 - Saturday, March 16th

7:30 AM – 8:00 AM

Working Breakfast and Daily Overview

CCX Congressional Fellows were served breakfast while National Academies staff presented an itinerary of the day and overview basic background information relevant to the two learning modules (Ecosystems and Climate Change & Agriculture) and site visit (Horn Point Laboratory, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science).

Attendees:

- **Presenter:** Ryan Gallasch (Congressional Affairs Officer, NASEM)
- **Participants:** CCX Congressional Fellows, Fellowship Program Staff (NASEM), April Melvin (Senior Program Officer, NASEM)

Location: Clipper Room - Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay

8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Learning Module: Ecosystems

8:00 AM – 8:10 AM

Welcome and Introduction (April Melvin)

8:10 AM – 8:20 AM

Lecture: Role of Ecosystems in Adapting to Climate Change in Cities (Nancy Grimm)

This lecture explored the interconnectedness of ecosystems and society, what it means to support the adaptation of urban ecosystems to climate change, and the societal benefits of conserving or managing ecosystems.

8:20 AM – 8:30 AM

Lecture: The Role of Ecosystems in Climate Mitigation – Myths and Science (Bronson Griscom)

This lecture covered the role of ecosystems in mitigating climate change, strategies to maximize these benefits, and the co-benefits of healthy ecosystems.

8:45 AM – 8:50 AM

Q&A (Nancy Grimm and Bronson Griscom)

8:50 AM – 9:00 AM	<u>Lecture: It's All Related – Feedbacks of Climate, Fire, Biodiversity, and Stewardship</u> (Don Hankins) <i>This lecture covered the interconnections and compounding nature of climate change and wildfires, how it impacts biodiversity, and the role of Indigenous land stewardship.</i>
9:00 AM – 9:10 AM	<u>Lecture: Climate Change and Ocean Ecosystems</u> (Mike Roman) <i>This lecture covered the fundamentals of ocean ecosystems and the impact of changing water temperatures and oxygen concentrations on environmental conditions.</i>
9:10 AM – 9:15 AM	Q&A (Don Hankins and Mike Roman)
9:15 AM – 9:20 AM	Break
9:20 AM – 9:55 AM	Breakout Discussions on Changing Ecosystems
9:55 AM – 10:00 AM	Learning Module Wrap-up (April Melvin)

Attendees:

- **Instructor:** April Melvin (Senior Program Officer, NASEM)
- **Invited Speakers:** Nancy Grimm (Professor of Ecology, School of Life Sciences, Arizona State University), Bronson Griscom (Vice President, Natural Climate Solutions, Conservation International), Don Hankins (Professor, Geography & Planning Department, California State University Chico), Mike Roman (Professor Emeritus, Horn Point Laboratory, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science)
- **Participants:** CCX Congressional Fellows, Fellowship Program Staff (NASEM)

Location: Clipper Room - Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay

10:00 AM – 10:20 AM	Transportation to Horn Point Laboratory and “Living Shoreline” Project Site Visit
10:20 AM – 2:10 PM	Horn Point Laboratory and “Living Shorelines” Project Site Visit and Lunch

CCX Congressional Fellows visited the University of Maryland’s Horn Point Laboratory oyster hatchery and their “Living Shoreline”

project at the Cambridge Waterfront to learn about the impacts of changing climate on coastal ecology, sea-level rise, and aquaculture. The visit began with a presentation on Chesapeake Bay facts and issues, Horn Point research that seeks solutions for restoration, and the public's role as stewards of the Bay. The two stops on the tour (Cambridge waterfront and Horn Point Laboratory) provided examples of the role of science in developing nature-based solutions, flood mitigation, and climate resilience. The group stopped for a boxed lunch in the Horn Point Laboratory courtyard halfway through the site visit.

Attendees:

- **Presenters:** Court Stevenson (Professor Emeritus, Horn Point Laboratory, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science), Kenny Rose (Professor, Horn Point Laboratory, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science), Mike Sieracki (Director, Horn Point Laboratory, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science)
- **Participants:** CCX Congressional Fellows, Fellowship Program Staff (NASEM), April Melvin (Senior Program Officer, NASEM), Robin Schoen (Board Director, NASEM), Nancy Grimm (Professor of Ecology, School of Life Sciences, Arizona State University), Mike Roman (Professor Emeritus, Horn Point Laboratory, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science), Wendell Meekins (Owner and Operator, R&W Farms)

Locations:

- Horn Point Laboratory, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, 5475 Lovers Lane, Cambridge MD 21613
- "Living Shoreline" Project, Long Wharf Park, 2 Yacht Club Drive, Cambridge, MD 21613

2:00 PM – 2:30 PM **Transportation back to Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay and Preparation for Climate Change & Agriculture Module**

2:30 PM – 4:45 PM **Learning Module: Climate Change & Agriculture**

2:30 PM – 2:50 PM	Welcome and Introduction (Robin Schoen)
2:50 PM – 3:10 PM	<u>Lecture: Reducing Emissions from Animal Agriculture</u> (Ermias Kebreab) <i>This lecture explained sources of greenhouse gas emissions from animal agriculture and different approaches the sector can take to decarbonize.</i>
3:10 PM – 3:40 PM	<u>Lecture: The Climate and Crop Conundrum – Approaches to Crop Adaptation</u> (Julia Bailey-Serres) <i>This lecture covered the basics of plant science and how it is used to develop climate-resilient crops.</i>
3:40 PM – 4:00 PM	<u>Lecture: Regenerative Agriculture and Soil Carbon Sequestration</u> (Charles Rice) <i>This lecture covered soil carbon sequestration, a process that removes carbon from the atmosphere and stores it in the soil carbon pool, and the benefits and limits of this process.</i>
4:00 PM – 4:10 PM	Break
4:10 PM – 4:30 PM	<u>Lecture: Climate Change in Delmarva Field Crop Production</u> (Jarrod Miller) <i>This lecture gave an overview of current crop production issues, such as saltwater intrusion, flooding, and soil sustainability, in the Delmarva peninsula.</i>
4:30 PM – 4:50 PM	<u>Lecture: Climate Change & Agriculture in Dorchester County – A Farmer’s Perspective</u> (Wendell Meekins) <i>This lecture presented agricultural issues in Dorchester County from a farmer’s perspective, highlighting challenges in sustainability, profitability, and agriculture programs.</i>
4:50 PM	Learning Module Wrap-up

Attendees:

- **Instructor:** Robin Schoen (Board Director, NASEM)
- **Invited Speakers:** Ermias Kebreab (Chair, Department of Animal Science, UC Davis), Julie Bailey-Serres (Professor, Department of Botany and Plant Sciences, UC Riverside), Charles Rice (Professor of Soil Microbiology, Kansas State University), Jarrod Miller (Assistant Professor and Agronomy Specialist, University of Delaware), Wendell Meekins (Owner and Operator, R&W Farms)
- **Participants:** CCX Congressional Fellows, Fellowship Program Staff (NASEM)

Location: Clipper Room - Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay

4:50 PM – 5:30 PM

Scheduled Break

5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

LabX Extreme Event: Natural Disaster Simulation

CCX Congressional Fellows participated in a natural disaster simulation. They role-played a variety of stakeholders to make decisions and solve problems in response to a natural disaster scenario (flood).

*Developed by the National Academy of Sciences' Marian Koshland Science Museum (now LabX) in collaboration with the Resilient America Roundtable, Extreme Event's content draws on recommendations from the seminal 2012 National Academies consensus study report *Disaster Resilience: A National Imperative* and has been reviewed by experts and staff of the National Academies.*

Attendees:

- **Facilitators:** Laura Lyon (Program Officer, NASEM), Keri Stoeber (Associate Director, NAS)
- **Participants:** CCX Congressional Fellows, Fellowship Program Staff (NASEM)

Location: Clipper Room - Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay

6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Working Dinner with Invited Experts and Module Instructors

CCX Congressional Fellows attended dinner with invited experts and National Academies staff to continue discussions on climate change impacts on ecosystems, agriculture, and food. Prompts and questions were provided to the group to facilitate discussion during the meal.

Attendees:

- **Participants:** CCX Congressional Fellows, Fellowship Program Staff (NASEM), Robin Schoen (Board Director, NASEM), April Melvin (Senior Program Officer, NASEM), Stephanie Johnson (Senior Program Officer, NASEM), Nancy Grimm (Professor of Ecology, School of Life Sciences, Arizona State University), Jordan Fishbach (Director of Planning and Policy Research, Water Institute of the Gulf), Mike Sieracki (Director, Horn Point Laboratory, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science)

Location: Water's Edge Grill - Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay

Day 3 - Sunday, March 17th: Travel

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM

Check-out, Working Breakfast, and Daily Overview

CCX Congressional Fellows were served breakfast while National Academies staff presented background information relevant to the water learning module and travel logistics for returning to Washington DC.

Attendees:

- **Presenter:** Ryan Gallasch (Congressional Affairs Officer, NASEM)

- **Participants:** CCX Congressional Fellows, Fellowship Program Staff (NASEM), Stephanie Johnson (Senior Program Officer, NASEM), Jordan Fishbach (Director of Planning and Policy Research, Water Institute of the Gulf)

Location: Clipper Room - Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay

9:00 AM – 11:15 AM Learning Module: Water – Building Resiliency to Future Extremes

9:00 AM – 9:05 AM	Welcome and Introduction (Stephanie Johnson)
9:05 AM – 9:30 AM	<u>Lecture: Stationarity is Dead</u> (Chris Milly) <i>This lecture covered the concept of nonstationarity versus stationarity, the idea that natural systems fluctuate within an unchanging envelope of variability, in the context of managing water resources in a changing climate. This lecture prepared Fellows for the subsequent interactive game.</i>
9:30 AM – 10:15 AM	Interactive Game: Decisions for the Decade (Jordan Fishbach)
10:15 AM – 10:20 AM	Break
10:20 AM – 10:35 AM	<u>Lecture: Planning for Future Sea Level Rise and Flooding in Louisiana</u> (Jordan Fishbach) <i>This lecture presented examples from New Orleans and rural Louisiana, focusing on how these areas respond to periods of too much water.</i>
10:35 AM – 10:50 AM	<u>Lecture: Water Management for Resilience Under Drought</u> (Stephanie Johnson) <i>This lecture contained an overview of multiple NASEM studies covering the Everglades and droughts in California and Texas.</i>
10:50 AM – 11:05 AM	<u>Lecture: Climate change, Water inequality & Water policy</u> (Camille Pannu) <i>This lecture explored issues around water equity and access with a focus on underserved areas during drought.</i>
11:05 AM – 11:20 AM	Q&A with Invited Experts
11:20 AM	Learning module wrap-up

Attendees:

- **Instructors:** Stephanie Johnson (Senior Program Officer, NASEM), Laura Ehlers (Senior Program Officer, NASEM)
- **Invited Speakers:** Chris Milly (Scientist Emeritus, USGS), Jordan Fishbach (Director of Planning and Policy Research, Water Institute of the Gulf), Camille Pannu (Associate Clinical Professor of Law, Columbia Law School, Columbia University)
- **Participants:** CCX Congressional Fellows, Fellowship Program Staff (NASEM)

Location: Clipper Room - Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay

11:20 AM – 12:00 PM

Scheduled Break

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Lunch and Weekend Debrief

CCX Congressional Fellows discussed cross-cutting themes from all three weekend modules. Prompts and questions were provided to the group to facilitate discussion during the meal. National Academies staff provided closing remarks.

Attendees:

- **Presenter:** Ryan Gallasch (Congressional Affairs Officer, NASEM)
- **Participants:** CCX Congressional Fellows, Fellowship Program Staff (NASEM), Stephanie Johnson (Senior Program Officer, NASEM), Keri Stoeber (Associate Director, NAS), Jordan Fishbach (Director of Planning and Policy Research, Water Institute of the Gulf)

Location: Windjammer Room - Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay

1:00 PM – 3:30 PM

**Transportation back to Washington, DC – 1:00 PM Departure
Time**

*CCX Congressional Fellows and CCX Program Staff were
dropped off at the National Academies Keck Center at 3:30 PM*

National Academies Climate Crossroads Congressional Fellowship:

2024 Weekend Seminar – House Post-Travel Disclosure Form Addendum

Question 4 – Names of Travelers*:

- Josephine Amusa – Policy Advisor (House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries)
- Jocilyn Gilbert – Legislative Assistant (Representative Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.)
- Kelsey Hartman – Professional Staff Member (House Natural Resources Committee)
- Shanta Katipamula – Legislative Assistant (Representative Suzan K. DelBene)
- Jeremy Marcus – Chief of Staff (Representative Doris Matsui)
- Adam McBride – Policy Advisor (Representative Doris Matsui)
- John Pappas – Energy Policy Counsel (Representative Kathy Castor)
- Kristi Parrott – Professional Staff Member (House Science, Space, and Technology Committee)
- Tim Petty – Senior Professional Staff Member (House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee)
- Ivan Robles - Professional Staff Member (House Committee on Natural Resources)
- Kylea Rogers – Policy Analyst (House Committee on Energy & Commerce)
- Andrea Valdes - Legislative Assistant (Representative Darren Soto)
- Lauren Vernon – Legislative Director (Representative Melanie A. Stansbury)

*All information on the Post-Travel Disclosure Form is identical for each person listed above.

Climate Crossroads Congressional Fellowship – 2024 Weekend Seminar Attendee List

The following individuals participated in the 2024 Climate Crossroads Congressional Fellowship weekend seminar in various capacities.

Climate Crossroads Congressional Fellows

Each individual listed below participated in the weekend seminar due to their status as a fellow to support their participation in fellowship activities.

<i>Fellow Name</i>	<i>Current Position</i>	<i>Office Affiliation</i>
Josephine Amusa	Policy Advisor	House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY)
Prerna Bhat	Climate and Environment Legislative Assistant	Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ)
John Brady	Legislative Aide for Energy, Climate, and Transportation & Correspondence Director	Senator Angus King (I-ME)
Ryan Ebrahimi	Legislative Correspondent	Senator Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM)
Sara Eisemann	Legislative Assistant	Senator Jon Ossoff (D-GA)
Jocilyn Gilbert	Legislative Assistant	Representative Hank Johnson (D-GA)
Kelsey Hartman	Professional Staff Member	House Committee on Natural Resources, Minority (Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-NY)
Emma Kaboli	Presidential Management Fellow and Policy Analyst	Congressional Research Service, Division of Resources, Science and Industry
Shanta Katipamula	Legislative Assistant	Representative Suzan K. DelBene (D-WA)
Mary-Eileen Manning	Policy Advisor	Senator Dan Sullivan (R-AK)
Jeremy Marcus	Chief of Staff	Representative Doris Matsui (D-CA)
Adam McBride	Policy Advisor	Representative Doris Matsui (D-CA)
Alex Noffsinger	Policy Analyst	US Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee, Majority (Senator Debbie Stabenow, D-MI)
Heather Pacheco	Legislative Aide	Senator Martin Heinrich (D-NM)
John Pappas	Energy Policy Counsel	Representative Kathy Castor (D-FL)
Kristi Parrott	Professional Staff Member	House Science, Space, and Technology Committee, Minority (Representative Deborah Ross, D-NC)
Tim Petty	Senior Professional Staff	House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee, Majority (Representative David Rouzer, R-NC)

Ivan Robles	Professional Staff Member	House Committee on Natural Resources, Minority (Representative Raul Grijalva, D-AZ)
Kylea Rogers	Policy Analyst	House Committee on Energy and Commerce, Minority (Representative Frank Pallone, D-NJ)
Savannah Shaw	Legislative Correspondent	Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer(D-NY)
Mike Stoeber	Legislative Assistant	Senator Gary C. Peters (D-MI)
John (Jay) Tilton	Press Secretary	Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee, Majority (Senator Debbie Stabenow, D-MI)
Manu Tupper	Advisor (Formally Policy Advisor & Press Secretary)	Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Department of the Interior (Formally US Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, Majority - Senator Brian Schatz, D-HI)
Andrea Valdes	Legislative Assistant	Representative Darren Soto (D-FL)
Lauren Vernon	Legislative Director	Representative Melanie A. Stansbury (D-NM)
Lauren Wustenberg	Counsel	Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry Majority, Majority (Senator Debbie Stabenow, D-MI)

Climate Crossroads Congressional Fellowship National Academies Staff

The individuals listed below are National Academies staff who directly work on the Climate Crossroads Congressional Fellowship program as part of their job responsibilities.

Name	Title	Role
Ryan Gallasch	Congressional Affairs Officer	Fellowship Director
Laura Lyon	Program Officer	Module Development Lead
Nikita Uberoi	Senior Program Assistant	Module Logistics Lead
Chris King	Executive Director, NAS Office of Congressional and Government Affairs	Fellowship Leadership & Oversight
Amanda Staudt	Senior Director, Climate Crossroads	Fellowship Leadership & Oversight
Amanda Purcell	Associate Director, Climate Crossroads	Weekend Seminar Logistics Secondary Lead
Tucker Nelson	Congressional Affairs Officer	Fellow Point of Contact
Alex Reich	Program Officer	Module Development Secondary Lead

National Academies Program Units Staff

The individuals listed below are National Academies staff who work in other units within the National Academies, and collaborated with the Climate Crossroads Congressional Fellowship to develop and deliver the modules for the Weekend Seminar due to their subject matter expertise.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Role</i>
April Melvin	Senior Program Officer, NAS Board on Atmospheric Sciences and Climate	Ecosystems Module Lead
Robin Schoen	Director, NAS Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources	Agriculture & Food Module Lead
Laura Ehlers	Senior Program Officer, NAS Water Science and Technology Board	Water Module Lead
Stephanie Johnson	Senior Program Officer, NAS Water Science and Technology Board	Water Module Secondary Lead
Keri Stoeber	Associate Director, NAS LabX	Facilitator for the LabX Extreme Event Natural Disaster Simulation

External Subject Matter Experts Volunteers

The individuals listed below participated in the Weekend Seminar as external volunteers to deliver module content based on their subject matter expertise. Their knowledge and experience supplemented that of National Academies staff members.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Affiliation</i>	<i>Role</i>
Nancy Grimm	Professor of Ecology	School of Life Sciences, Arizona State University	Ecosystems Module Speaker
Don Hankins	Professor	Geography & Planning Department, California State University Chico	Ecosystems Module Speaker
Bronson Griscom	Vice President	Natural Climate Solutions, Conservation International	Ecosystems Module Speaker
Mike Roman	Professor Emeritus	Horn Point Laboratory, University of	Ecosystems Module Speaker

		Maryland Center for Environmental Science	
Court Stevenson	Professor Emeritus	Horn Point Laboratory, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science	Site Visit Speaker
Kenny Rose	Professor	Horn Point Laboratory, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science	Site Visit Speaker
Mike Sieracki	Director	Horn Point Laboratory, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science	Site Visit Speaker
Charles Rice	Professor of Soil Microbiology	Kansas State University	Agriculture & Food Module Speaker
Ermias Kebreab	Chair	Department of Animal Science, UC Davis	Agriculture & Food Module Speaker
Jarrold Miller	Assistant Professor and Agronomy Specialist	University of Delaware	Agriculture & Food Module Speaker
Julie Bailey-Serres	Professor	Department of Botany and Plant Sciences, UC Riverside	Agriculture & Food Module Speaker
Wendell Meekins	Owner & Operator	R&W Farms, Dorchester County, MD	Agriculture & Food Module Speaker
Jordan Fishbach	Director of Planning and Policy Research	Water Institute	Water Module Speaker
Chris Milly	Scientist Emeritus	USGS	Water Module Speaker
Camille Pannu	Associate Clinical Professor of Law	Columbia Law School, Columbia University	Water Module Speaker