

LIZ KOSLOV

Curriculum Vitae
September 2018

UCLA Urban Planning/IoES
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EDUCATION

- 2017 PhD in Media, Culture, and Communication, New York University
Committee: Eric Klinenberg (chair), Harvey Molotch, Marita Sturken
- 2009 MSc in Culture and Society, London School of Economics and Political Science
- 2008 BA in Communication and Spanish and Latin American Literature, George Washington University

APPOINTMENTS

- 2018- Assistant Professor, Department of Urban Planning and Institute of the Environment and Sustainability, University of California, Los Angeles
- 2017-2018 Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in the Humanities, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Koslov, Liz. *Retreat: Moving to Higher Ground in a Climate-Changed City*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press (under advance contract).

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- 2016 Koslov, Liz. "The Case for Retreat." *Public Culture* 28(2): 359-387.
- 2014 Koslov, Liz. "Fighting for Retreat after Sandy: The Ocean Breeze Buyout Tent on Staten Island." *Metropolitica*. (Published in French, trans. Christina Mitrakos, as "Battre en retraite après Sandy: le quartier d'Ocean Breeze à Staten Island").

Other Writing

- 2018 Koslov, Liz. "Let Us Now See Climate Change." Review of Jeff Goodell's *The Water Will Come: Rising Seas, Sinking Cities, and the Remaking of the Civilized World*, Ashley Dawson's *Extreme Cities: The Peril and Promise of Urban Life in the Age of Climate Change*, and Elizabeth Rush's *Rising: Dispatches from the New American Shore*. *Public Books*.

- 2017 Koslov, Liz. “Annex 1: The Case of Buyouts.” In *A Toolbox: Planning Relocations to Protect People from Disasters and Environmental Change* (report by Georgetown University, the International Organization for Migration, and UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency).
- 2014 Koslov, Liz. “Beautiful Disaster.” Review of *#SANDY: Seen Through the iPhones of Acclaimed Photographers* (ed. Wyatt Gallery). *Public Books*.
- 2013 Superstorm Research Lab. “A Tale of Two Sandys” (white paper).
Koslov, Liz, and Alexis Merdjanoff. “Materializing Crisis: Housing and Mental Health from Katrina to Sandy.” *Social Text: Periscope*.

Manuscripts in Submission

- Koslov, Liz. “Avoiding Climate Change: Everyday Denial and the Production of ‘Agnostic Adaptation.’” (Revise and Resubmit).
- Koslov, Liz. “How Maps Make Time: The Temporal Politics of Life in the Flood Zone.” (Under Review).

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

- 2016 Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship
- 2015 LeBoff Dissertation Research Grant, New York University
- 2013 Office of Sustainability Green Grant, for Superstorm Research Lab, New York University
- 2012-2013 Institute for Public Knowledge Funding Grant, for Superstorm Research Lab, New York University
- 2010 Presidential Management Fellowship, US Federal Government (declined)
- 2008 Phi Beta Kappa
- 2004-2008 Presidential Scholarship for Academic Achievement, George Washington University

INVITED TALKS

- 2018 “The Fight for Retreat: Urban Unbuilding in the Era of Climate Change.” Social Life of Climate Change Lecture Series. London School of Economics and Political Science. London, UK: Jun 4.
- “The Fight for Retreat: Urban Unbuilding in the Era of Climate Change.” Climate Infrastructures Conference. Institute for Public Knowledge, New York University. New York: May 4.
- “The Case for Retreat: Urban Unbuilding and the Limits of Resilience.” Bounce Forward: Moving Communities from Crisis to Resilience Workshop. Center for Resilient Communities, Northwestern University. Evanston, IL: Apr 19.

- “Avoiding Climate Change: Adaptation Amidst Denial After Hurricane Sandy.”
Rising Waters: A Workshop on Urban Waterscapes. Penn Program in the
Environmental Humanities, University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia: Apr 17.
- “Ready to Retreat: Community-Organized Relocation After Hurricane Sandy.”
Retreat and Relocation: A Colloquium on Climate Migration. Organized by the
Abess Center for Ecosystem Science and Policy, University of Miami, Harvard
Graduate School of Design, and Georgetown University. Miami, FL: Feb 5.
- 2017 “Ready to Retreat: The Social and Health Dimensions of Community-Organized
Relocation.” Invited Special Session on Migrants, Refugees, and Managed
Retreat: Avoiding Climate Catastrophes. American Public Health Association
Annual Meeting. Atlanta, GA: Nov 8.
- “Get Us Outta Here: Community-Organized Retreat in Post-Sandy New York
City.” Risk and Resilience Lecture Series. Harvard Graduate School of Design.
Cambridge, MA: Oct 27.
- “Community-Organized Retreat in Post-Sandy Staten Island.” Climate Change,
Cities, and the Problem of Resilience Workshop. Center for Advanced Study in
the Behavioral Sciences (CASBS), Stanford, CA: Apr 28.
- “Ready to Retreat: Voluntary Home Buyouts in Post-Sandy New York City.”
Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development (KNOMAD)
Workshop on Planned Relocation in the Context of Climate Change. World Bank,
Washington, DC: Apr 11.
- “Ready to Retreat: Organizing Collective Relocation in a Climate-Changed City.”
Design in the Anthropocene Lecture Series. Department of Landscape
Architecture, Cornell University. Ithaca, NY: Mar 8.
- 2016 “Understanding Retreat: The Sociology of Buyouts in Post-Sandy Staten Island.”
New York City Department of City Planning, New York: Jun 13.
- Invited Panel Participant, “What If? The Politics and Psychology of Managed
Retreat.” Waterfront Alliance Annual Conference, New York: May 12.
- 2014 “Understanding Adaptive Relocation: The Sociology of Buyouts in Post-Sandy
New York City.” Regional Plan Association, New York: Dec 11.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- 2018 “Avoiding Climate Change: Everyday Denial and the Production of Agnostic
Adaptation.” Panel on the Emotional Politics of Environmental Threats. American
Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia: Aug 11.
- Workshop on Migration-Climate-Health: With a Focus on Trapped Populations.
Institute of Behavioral Science, University of Colorado, Boulder: May 17-18.
- “From Managed Decline to Managed Retreat: Climate Change and the Politics of
Urban Unbuilding.” Panel on Decommissioned Places: Theorizing Urban and

Rural Retreat. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, New Orleans: Apr 13.

Chair and Co-organizer (with Brianna Castro), Panel on Temporality, Agency, and Migration in the Context of Climate Change. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, New Orleans: Apr 12.

- 2017 “Climate Change Adaptation Without Climate Change: Producing 'Agnostic Adaptation' on Staten Island after Hurricane Sandy.” Executive Session on How Anthropology Matters in the Anthropocene: Understanding the Cultures and Politics of Climate Change Denial. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC: Nov 30.
- “Rising Tides, Rising Demands: Community-Organized Coastal Retreat in Post-Sandy New York City.” Panel on Water and Inequality. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal: Aug 15.
- “Climate Change and the Future of Cities” (with Eric Klinenberg). Special Session on New Directions for Climate Action. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal: Aug 15.
- “Contesting Coastal Futures: Flood Maps and Managed Retreat in Post-Sandy New York City.” Panel co-organized with Kasia Paprocki on Making the Future Present: Political Ecologies of Prefiguration. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Boston: Apr 6.
- 2016 Invited Participant, “After Lines: Delineation in Unruly Times” Roundtable. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis: Nov 17.
- Invited Participant, Climate Change Displacement Workshop. Harvard Law School, Cambridge: Oct 19-21.
- “Unmaking the Waterfront: Experiences of ‘Managed Retreat’ from the Coast.” Water and the Making of Place in North America, Princeton American Studies Graduate Student Conference, Princeton: Oct 14-15.
- “The Paradox of ‘Managed Retreat’: Movement and (Un)Development in the Context of Climate Change.” Development Sociology Annual Meeting, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY: Oct 6-8.
- “Imagining Unbuilding Community: The Role of Local News in Coastal Retreat.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Seattle: Aug 23.
- “Imagining Unbuilding Community.” Annual NYLON Conference, London School of Economics: Mar 20.
- 2015 Invited Participant, Symposium on Climate Change and Public Health. Institute for Public Knowledge, New York: Dec 14-15.
- Invited Participant, Community Transformation at the Water’s Edge Workshop. Consensus Building Institute, Boston: Dec 11.

Invited Participant, Social Life of Climate Change Workshop. Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences (CASBS), Stanford: Oct 1.

“Socio-Spatial Inequality in Hurricane Sandy and Its Implications for the Urban Sociology of Climate Change” (with Gordon Douglas and Eric Klinenberg, presented by Gordon Douglas). American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago: Aug 23.

“Lines in the Sand: Flood Mapping and the Contested Boundaries of Risk.” Annual NYLON Conference, Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin: Mar 20.

Invited Participant, Rebuild by Design University (RBDU) Meeting and Workshop. New York: Apr 10-11.

“Even Hotter: Sociology and Climate Change” (with Eric Klinenberg). Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, New York: Feb 28.

Invited Participant, Craft of Ethnography Annual Meeting. University of Texas at Austin: Feb 6-7.

2014 “Cities, Class, and Climate Change: An Autopsy of Superstorm Sandy” (with Eric Klinenberg, presented by Eric Klinenberg). Plenary Session, American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco: Aug 16.

Invited Participant, Craft of Ethnography Annual Meeting, New York: Apr 17-18.

Discussant, Annual NYLON Conference, New York: Mar 29.

2013 “Should I Stay or Should I Go? The Sociology of Buyouts in Post-Sandy Staten Island” (with Eric Klinenberg). Keynote Address, Annual Conference on Litigating Takings Challenges to Land Use and Environmental Regulations. New York University School of Law: Nov 22.

2012 “Visual Methods and Urban Redevelopment: ‘Multi-Sighted’ Research in Elephant and Castle, London.” Congress for Qualitative Inquiry, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: May 16.

CAMPUS TALKS

2017 “Mapping Climate Change: Contested Futures in New York City’s Flood Zone.” CMS/W Speaker Series. Massachusetts Institute of Technology: Oct 19.

2016 “The Case for Retreat.” Special Issue Release: Climate Change and the Future of Cities: Migration, Adaptation, and Social Change on an Urban Planet, *Public Culture*. Institute for Public Knowledge, New York University: May 13.

2015 “‘Giving it Back to Nature’: Managed Retreat on Staten Island after Hurricane Sandy.” Urban Greening Lab, New York University: Apr 28.

2014 “Mapping a Coastal Future: The Media and Materiality of Managed Retreat.” Media, Materiality, Infrastructure Workshop. New York University: Mar 7.

“Cultural History, Coastal Change: Digital Methods on Staten Island.” Cultural Geography and Graduate Scholarship in the Digital Humanities: A Roundtable on Digital Methods. Urban Humanities Symposium. New York University Humanities Initiative: Apr 11.

2013 “Waiting to Retreat: The Post-Sandy Buyout Process on Staten Island.” Institute for Public Knowledge, New York University: May 21.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2014- Research Affiliate, Rebuild by Design, Institute for Public Knowledge, New York University. (PI on project to develop and field a survey tracking social, economic, and health outcomes of post-Sandy relocation and rebuilding programs).

2013- Co-PI, Superstorm Research Lab. (Mutual aid research collective focused on understanding how policy actors, NGO leaders, activists, volunteers, and residents think about social, economic, and environmental issues after Hurricane Sandy).

2017 Research Assistant, Professor Eric Klinenberg, New York University. (Conducted fieldwork for project on social infrastructure and resilience).

2013-2014 Research Assistant, Professor Arjun Appadurai, New York University. (Developed syllabi for PhD seminar on materiality and MA seminar on cultural dimensions of globalization. Coordinated Cultures of Finance working group.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

Media and Climate Change, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Spring 2018)
Media and the Environment, New York University (Fall 2015)

Teaching Assistant

Introduction to Media Studies, New York University (Fall 2012)
History of Communication, New York University (Spring 2012)
Introduction to Communication, George Washington University (Fall 2006)

Reader/Grader

The Culture Industries, New York University (Spring 2013)

SUPERVISION AND MENTORING

Undergraduate Theses

2017 Research Mentor for Elana Sulakshana, BA Sustainable Development, Columbia University, Thesis: “Before and After Sandy: The Role of Social Capital in Disaster Recovery.”

Internal Examiner for Jenna Zimmerman, BA Gallatin School of Individualized Study, New York University, Thesis: “Selling Sustainability: How Methods of Empowerment Over Manipulation Can Be Utilized to Rally Consumer Demand for a Greener Future.”

Undergraduate Research Assistants

2014-2015 Priya Mulgaonkar, BA Environmental Studies and Sociology, NYU
Raka Sen, BA Sociology, Urban Design and Architecture Studies, NYU

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Institutional and Departmental Service

2017 Co-organizer, Annual NYLON Conference, NYU
2015-2016 Coordinator, NYLON Research Workshop, Institute for Public Knowledge, NYU
2015 PhD representative, Faculty Search Committee, NYU
2013-2015 Social events chair, Departmental PhD Committee, NYU
2012-2013 PhD representative, Departmental Events Committee, NYU
Co-organizer, Annual Neil Postman Graduate Conference, NYU
2012 Organizer, PhD Student Orientation, NYU

Professional Associations and Service

American Anthropological Association, American Association of Geographers, American Sociological Association

Reviewer for *Global Environmental Change*, *Global Policy*, *Organization & Environment*, *Urban Studies*

MEDIA APPEARANCES

2018 “Wisconsin Reservation Offers a Climate Success Story and a Warning,” NPR, Aug 15.
“Surrendering to Rising Seas,” *Scientific American*, Jul 17.
“Summer Reading: 8 Select Climigration Voices,” Climigration.org, Jul 5.

2017 “These Staten Islanders Lost Their Neighborhood to Sandy. Here’s Why They’re Not Taking It Back,” *Popular Science*, Oct 23.
“While Urbanists Imagine NYC’s Retreat from the Coast, It’s Already Happening,” Bedford + Bowery, Oct 17.
“Abandon Florida? Not Quite. But It’s Time for a Retreat from Flood Zones,” *Vox*, Sep 14.
Segment on the unequal impacts of Hurricane Harvey, MSNBC Live with Craig Melvin, Sep 1.
“Now Comes the Uncomfortable Question: Who Gets to Rebuild After Harvey?” *The Intercept*, Aug 30.

- “Guest Post: Adapting to Climate Change Through ‘Managed Retreat,’” *Carbon Brief*, Mar 27.
- 2016 “The Solution to Louisiana’s Coastal Problem that No One Wants to Talk About,” WWNO New Orleans Public Radio, Nov 17.
- “Planning for Disaster: Community Climate-Adaptation Initiatives Preserve and Build on Stark Geographic Inequalities,” *Jacobin*, Aug 1.
- “Gentrified Aquarium: De Blasio’s Streetcar and the Tale of Two Waterfronts,” *The Village Voice*, Sep 13.
- “This is New York in the Not-So-Distant Future,” *New York Magazine*, Sep 7.
- 2015 “Leaving the Sea: Staten Islanders Experiment with Managed Retreat,” *Urban Omnibus*, Feb 11.
- 2014 “Retreat from the Water’s Edge,” *The New Yorker* (video story), Oct 16.
- 2013 “After Sandy: The Seminar,” *The Brian Lehrer Show*, WNYC, Jun 4.