

LIZ KOSLOV

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EDUCATION

- 2017 **New York University**
Ph.D. in Media, Culture, and Communication
Committee: Eric Klinenberg (Chair) (Sociology), Harvey Molotch (Sociology, Social and Cultural Analysis), Marita Sturken (Media, Culture, and Communication)
- 2009 **London School of Economics and Political Science**
M.Sc. in Culture and Society
- 2008 **George Washington University**
B.A. in Communication and Spanish and Latin American Literature
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APPOINTMENTS

- 2018- **University of California, Los Angeles**
Assistant Professor, Urban Planning & the Institute of the Environment and Sustainability
- 2017-2018 **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**
Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences
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PUBLICATIONS

(Single-authored unless otherwise indicated)

Books

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

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- Forthcoming “Avoiding Climate Change: ‘Agnostic Adaptation’ and the Politics of Public Silence.”
Annals of the American Association of Geographers.
- 2016 “The Case for Retreat.” *Public Culture* 28(2): 359-387.
- 2014 “Fighting for Retreat after Sandy: The Ocean Breeze Buyout Tent on Staten Island.”
Metropolitics. Apr 23.
Also published in French, trans. Christina Mitrakos, as “Battre en retraite après Sandy: le quartier d’Ocean Breeze à Staten Island.” Nov 24.

Public Writing

- 2018 “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*. Sep 4.
- 2017 “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 “Beautiful Disaster.” Review of #SANDY: *Seen Through the iPhones of Acclaimed Photographers* (ed. Wyatt Gallery). *Public Books*. Feb 15.
- 2013 Superstorm Research Lab (research collective). “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*. Oct 29.
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GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

- 2017-2018 Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship, School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- 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)
- 2004-2008 Presidential Scholarship for Academic Achievement, George Washington University
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INVITED TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Dec 2018 “Ready to Retreat: Community-Organized Relocation After Hurricane Sandy.” Panel on Adapting to “Coastal Squeeze”: Managed Retreat as a Strategy for Maintaining Coastal Ecosystems. Restore America’s Estuaries and Coastal States Organization National Summit on Coastal and Estuarine Restoration and Management, Long Beach, CA.
- Jun 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.
- May 2018 “The Fight for Retreat: Urban Unbuilding in the Era of Climate Change.” Climate Infrastructures Conference. Institute for Public Knowledge, New York University.

- Apr 2018 “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 2018 “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, PA.
- Feb 2018 “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.
- Nov 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.
- Oct 2017 “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.
- Apr 2017 “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 2017 “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.
- Mar 2017 “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.
- Jun 2016 “Understanding Retreat: The Sociology of Buyouts in Post-Sandy Staten Island.” New York City Department of City Planning, New York.
- May 2016 Invited Panel Participant, “What If? The Politics and Psychology of Managed Retreat.” Waterfront Alliance Annual Conference, New York.
- Dec 2014 “Understanding Adaptive Relocation: The Sociology of Buyouts in Post-Sandy New York City.” Regional Plan Association, New York.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- Dec 2018 Invited Participant, Workshop on Legal and Policy Tools for Managed Retreat. Hosted by Georgetown Climate Center and the Coastal States Organization. Long Beach, CA.
- Nov 2018 “‘They Used to Call Us Swamp Kids’: Meanings and Maintenance of Whiteness on a Changing Coast.” Panel on Resilience, Redevelopment, and Justice in New Coastal Frontiers. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Jose, CA.
- Nov 2018 Invited Participant, UCLA Workshop on Environmental Stopgaps, Los Angeles, CA.

- Sep 2018 Invited Participant, Working Group on Vulnerable Communities. Association of Pacific Rim Universities Sustainable Cities and Landscapes Conference, University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong.
- Aug 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.
- May 2018 Workshop on Migration-Climate-Health: With a Focus on Trapped Populations. Institute of Behavioral Science, University of Colorado, Boulder.
- Apr 2018 “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 2018 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.
- Nov 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.
- Aug 2017 “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 2017 “Climate Change and the Future of Cities” (with Eric Klinenberg). Special Session on New Directions for Climate Action. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal.
- Apr 2017 “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.
- Nov 2016 Invited Participant, “After Lines: Delineation in Unruly Times” Roundtable. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis.
- Oct 2016 Invited Participant, Climate Change Displacement Workshop. Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA.
- Oct 2016 “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, NJ.
- Oct 2016 “The Paradox of ‘Managed Retreat’: Movement and (Un)Development in the Context of Climate Change.” Development Sociology Annual Meeting, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.
- Aug 2016 “Imagining Unbuilding Community: The Role of Local News in Coastal Retreat.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Seattle.

- Mar 2016 “Imagining Unbuilding Community.” Annual NYLON Conference, London School of Economics and Political Science.
- Dec 2015 Invited Participant, Symposium on Climate Change and Public Health. Institute for Public Knowledge, New York.
- Dec 2015 Invited Participant, Community Transformation at the Water’s Edge Workshop. Consensus Building Institute, Boston.
- Oct 2015 Invited Participant, Social Life of Climate Change Workshop. Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences (CASBS), Stanford, CA.
- Aug 2015 “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.
- Mar 2015 “Lines in the Sand: Flood Mapping and the Contested Boundaries of Risk.” Annual NYLON Conference, Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin.
- Apr 2015 Invited Participant, Rebuild by Design University (RBDU) Meeting and Workshop. New York.
- Feb 2015 “Even Hotter: Sociology and Climate Change” (with Eric Klinenberg). Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, New York.
- Feb 2015 Invited Participant, Craft of Ethnography Annual Meeting. University of Texas at Austin.
- Aug 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.
- Apr 2014 Invited Participant, Craft of Ethnography Annual Meeting, New York.
- Mar 2014 Discussant, Annual NYLON Conference, New York.
- Nov 2013 “Should I Stay or Should I Go? The Sociology of Buyouts in Post-Sandy Staten Island” (with Eric Klinenberg, presented by Eric Klinenberg). Keynote Address, Annual Conference on Litigating Takings Challenges to Land Use and Environmental Regulations. New York University School of Law.
- May 2012 “Visual Methods and Urban Redevelopment: ‘Multi-Sighted’ Research in Elephant and Castle, London.” Congress for Qualitative Inquiry, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

CAMPUS TALKS

- Dec 2018 “The Fight for Retreat: Urban Unbuilding in the Era of Climate Change.” IoES Seminar Series in Environment and Sustainability. University of California, Los Angeles.
- Oct 2017 “Mapping Climate Change: Contested Futures in New York City’s Flood Zone.” CMS/W Speaker Series. Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

- May 2016 “The Case for Retreat.” Special Issue Release of 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.
- Apr 2015 “‘Giving it Back to Nature’: Managed Retreat on Staten Island after Hurricane Sandy.” Urban Greening Lab, New York University.
- Mar 2014 “Mapping a Coastal Future: The Media and Materiality of Managed Retreat.” Media, Materiality, Infrastructure Workshop. New York University.
- Apr 2014 “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.
- May 2013 “Waiting to Retreat: The Post-Sandy Buyout Process on Staten Island.” Institute for Public Knowledge, New York University.
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RESEARCH AFFILIATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- 2018- Faculty Affiliate, Luskin Center for Innovation, Climate Adaptation and Community Resiliency Initiative, University of California, Los Angeles.
- 2018- Research Affiliate, Urban Humanities Initiative, University of California, Los Angeles.
- 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, Eric Klinenberg, New York University. (Fieldwork on libraries and resilience for *Palaces for the People: How Social Infrastructure Can Help Fight Inequality, Polarization, and the Decline of Civic Life*, Penguin Random House, 2018).
- 2013-2014 Research Assistant, Arjun Appadurai, New York University. (Developed syllabi for PhD seminar on materiality and MA seminar on cultural dimensions of globalization. Coordinated Institute for Public Knowledge working group on the Cultures of Finance).
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TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of California, Los Angeles

Environmental Science Practicum, undergraduate (2018-2019).

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Media and Climate Change, undergraduate and graduate (Spring 2018).

New York University

Media and the Environment, undergraduate (Fall 2015).
The Culture Industries, undergraduate (reader/grader, Spring 2013).
Introduction to Media Studies, undergraduate (teaching assistant, Fall 2012).
History of Communication, undergraduate (teaching assistant, Spring 2012).

George Washington University

Introduction to Communication, undergraduate (teaching assistant, Fall 2006).

SUPERVISION AND MENTORING

Undergraduate

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

Internal Examiner, 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, Environmental Studies, Sociology, New York University
Raka Sen, Sociology, Urban Design and Architecture Studies, New York University

SERVICE

Institutional and Departmental Service

2018- PhD Admissions Committee, Institute of the Environment and Sustainability, UCLA
2018- PhD Committee, Institute of the Environment and Sustainability, UCLA
2018 Department Representative, Ad Hoc Review Committee, UCLA
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
2012-2013 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 Planning Association
American Sociological Association

Ad Hoc Reviewer: *Economy & Society, Global Environmental Change, Global Policy, Organization & Environment, Urban Studies*

Public/Community Activities and Affiliations

2018- Steering Committee, Climigration Network. (Community of practitioners dedicated to advancing dialogue and fostering innovation on the topic of managed retreat. Supported by the Consensus Building Institute in partnership with the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy and the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation).

MEDIA APPEARANCES

Oct 2018 *CityLab*: “The Dutch Can’t Save Us from Rising Seas.”

Sep 2018 *Vox*: “Hurricane Florence’s Floods Caused Severe Property Damage. Here’s a Solution.”

Aug 2018 NPR: “Wisconsin Reservation Offers a Climate Success Story and a Warning.”

Jul 2018 *Scientific American*: “Surrendering to Rising Seas.”

Jul 2018 Climigration.org: “Summer Reading: 8 Select Climigration Voices.”

Oct 2017 *Popular Science*: “These Staten Islanders Lost Their Neighborhood to Sandy. Here’s Why They’re Not Taking It Back.”

Oct 2017 Bedford + Bowery: “While Urbanists Imagine NYC’s Retreat from the Coast, It’s Already Happening.”

Sep 2017 *Vox*: “Abandon Florida? Not Quite. But It’s Time for a Retreat from Flood Zones.”

Sep 2017 MSNBC Live with Craig Melvin: Segment on the unequal impacts of Hurricane Harvey.

Aug 2017 *The Intercept*: “Now Comes the Uncomfortable Question: Who Gets to Rebuild After Harvey?”

Mar 2017 *Carbon Brief*: “Guest Post: Adapting to Climate Change Through ‘Managed Retreat.’”

Nov 2016 WWNO New Orleans Public Radio: “The Solution to Louisiana’s Coastal Problem that No One Wants to Talk About.”

Sep 2016 *The Village Voice*: “Gentrified Aquarium: De Blasio’s Streetcar and the Tale of Two Waterfronts.”

Sep 2016 *New York Magazine*: “This is New York in the Not-So-Distant Future.”

Aug 2016 *Jacobin*: “Planning for Disaster: Community Climate-Adaptation Initiatives Preserve and Build on Stark Geographic Inequalities.”

Feb 2015 *Urban Omnibus*: “Leaving the Sea: Staten Islanders Experiment with Managed Retreat.”

Oct 2014 *The New Yorker*: “Retreat from the Water’s Edge” (video story).

Jun 2013 *The Brian Lehrer Show*, WNYC: “After Sandy: The Seminar.”