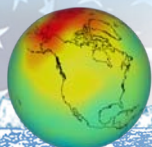


CLIMATE CHANGE NATIONAL FORUM

ClimateChangeNationalForum.org



Climate Change National Forum

A national platform founded by leading climate scientists to educate the American public on the science of climate change and its policy implications.



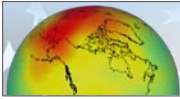


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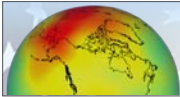
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Introduction

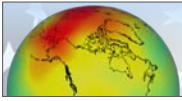
Climate Change National Forum (CCNF) is a national platform, founded and led by scientists, to educate the American public on the science of climate change and its policy implications. Our website, ClimateChangeNationalForum.org, will feature an ongoing and open dialogue on climate change among scientists, experts, and policy makers. Our aim is to serve as an objective source for journalists, policy experts, scientists, and interested citizens. The site will first be used by scientists to discuss the latest research on climate change and share and debate ideas on aspects of climate change relevant to policy making. These scientists will also fact check a continuous stream of outside articles and news clips procured by a professional journalist. In the second phase of the CCNF project, subject matter experts and policy makers will be able to join the online discussion to compare and debate the benefits and costs of possible responses with the science columnists and other policy columnists commenting under their posts in columnist-only comment threads.

CCNF is going live on 1/2/2014. We have already gathered a diverse community of earth, climate, and physical scientists willing to participate and will further grow this community as our columnists begin publishing. CCNF is soliciting scientist-members of the American Geophysical Union, American Meteorological Society, and American Institute of Physics in the effort to amass a community of science columnists that is representative of the greater climate and physical sciences publishing community.

CCNF is seeking corporate sponsors and grants in order to:

- 1.) Hire a executive director and communications director to manage the site, assist and integrate the columnists, run a robust marketing/SEO/AdWords campaign, and build CCNF's national profile. It will be incumbent on these two staff members to quickly grow a national audience and ensure that the scientists' and journalist's content is accessible to – *and reaches* – all facets of the American public.
- 2.) Hire a journalist to run the fact checker section, moderate as needed, publish interviews and original pieces, tweet and post regularly in social media, and provide ongoing reports that break down the Forum's complex content so that it is accessible to the general public.
- 3.) Have the ability to compensate those science columnists that are taking a leadership role in the initiative and contributing posts regularly. Compensating a core group will ensure a regular stream of contributions from climate scientists at the forefront of the published literature on climate change.

CCNF is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. Any scientist that can meet CCNF's columnist criteria is welcome to join CCNF and contribute to this national dialogue by publishing posts in any science category and participating in online discussions with other scientists in comment threads that are only open to the science columnists. Columnists that contribute at least one post a month



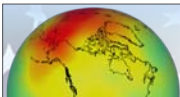
on average will elect the board in annual elections. The board, in turn, acts as the gatekeeper.

In sum, CCNF is asking climate and physical scientists to share their scientific judgments with each other and the public, to speak on the areas where they are experts and to inquire where they are not. Once we achieve a critical mass in the number of scientists participating, CCNF will dominate the online space with credible content on climate change, especially in social media and in Google search results, and ClimateChangeNationalForum.org will become a trusted source on all things climate change for citizens, young scientists, and journalists alike, no matter their political ideology. Most importantly, this community of science columnists will set the foundation for an ongoing debate on the policy implications of climate change in Phase II, with policy makers on both sides of the aisle debating what can or should be done as a nation.

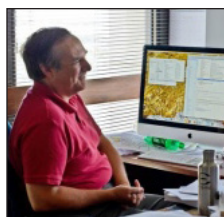
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Quirke".

Michael Quirke
Executive Director
Climate Change National Forum



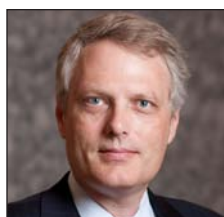
Board of Directors



John Nielsen-Gammon, PhD
Texas A&M Atmospheric Sciences
Texas State Climatologist
n-g@tamu.edu



Barry Lefer, PhD
University of Houston Earth and Atmospheric Sciences
blefer@uh.edu

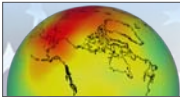


Tracy Hester, Esq
Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Center
University of Houston Law Center
tdheste2@central.uh.edu

Staff



Michael Quirke
Executive Director
281-832-3170
ClimateChangeNationalForum@gmail.com
Quirke1776@gmail.com



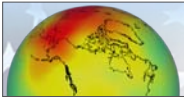
Executive Summary

- The mission of CCNF is to educate the American public on the science of climate change and its policy implications.
- CCNF will accomplish this through ClimateChangeNationalForum.org, which will feature an ongoing and live dialogue among scientists, experts, and policy makers.
- CCNF will be split into two phases. The first will focus on the science of climate change and likely comprise the first year of publishing. The second will focus on not only the science of climate change but also its policy implications and will continue indefinitely.

Phase I: Site will serve as a platform for scientists to discuss the latest research on climate change, share and debate ideas on aspects of climate change relevant to policy making, and collectively fact check claims made in the media. Only scientists and journalists will have publishing privileges in the platform during this phase.

Phase II: Site will serve as a platform for subject matter experts and policy makers on either side of the aisle to compare and debate the benefits and costs of possible responses. The science columnists will continue blogging on the science in the science categories of the site.

- The site is an objective blogging platform. It is available to any scientist – and later, any subject matter or policy expert – that can meet CCNF’s columnist criteria. CCNF is not an advocacy. It has no position on climate change and is purposefully starting with zero assumptions on climate change.
- CCNF is currently soliciting scientist-members of the American Geophysical Union, American Meteorological Society, and American Institute of Physics in order to amass a community of science columnists that is representative of the greater climate and physical sciences publishing community.
- The science columnists will have free reign to post in their own personal pages and in any science category of the website, as well as comment under any science post. During Phase II, the policy columnists will have free reign to post in their own personal pages and in any policy category of the website. Science and policy columnists will be able to comment under any policy post.
- ClimateChangeNationalForum.org is a premiere blog, forum, and fact checker website. It’s key features include:
 - an individual blog page for each scientist and policy expert that participates in the Forum (this page will feature all the posts of a columnist and can act as the columnist’s own personal blog);
 - separate comment threads for the science columnists, policy columnists, and general public;
 - a user-friendly content management system;
 - a growing library of Creative Commons Flickr photos to run with content;



Climate Change National Forum

ClimateChangeNationalForum.org



- a HuffingtonPost-style social media “sharebar” that scrolls as one reads a post;
- the technical ability to host well over 100 columnists (the site is built for a crowd);
- a “Climate Change in the Media” section, featuring a stream of outside claims and articles procured by a journalist and posted for the science columnists to comment under in scientist-only comment threads; and
- a general bifurcation between science and policy, with the blogging on the science acting as a foundation for the policy discussion and debate by experts and policy makers in Phase II.

CCNF Homepage

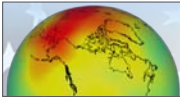
Individual Blog Page

Separate Comment Threads for the Scientists and the Public

Google Authorship for Columnists with Google+ Pages

WordPress's User-friendly Back-end

Flickr Creative Commons Photos to Run with Content



Science Columnists (as of 12/26/2013)



Dr. John Nielsen-Gammon

Regents Professor of Atmospheric Sciences and Texas State Climatologist
Texas A&M University



Dr. Kerry Emanuel

Professor of Atmospheric Science and Director of the Program in
Atmospheres, Oceans, and Climate
MIT



Dr. Barry Lefer

Professor of Atmospheric Science and Associate Chair of Earth and
Atmospheric Sciences
University of Houston



Dr. John Anderson

W. Ewing Professor of Oceanography and Director of the Shell Center
for Sustainability
Rice University



Dr. Jim Bouldin

Research ecologist, founder of the blog "Ecologically Oriented," and
contributor to RealClimate.org



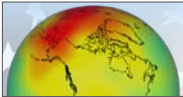
Prof. Maurice Pelto

Glaciologist, Director of the North Cascade Glacier Climate Project, and
Professor of Environmental Science
Nichols College



Ms. Lulu Liu

2nd year PhD student in Applied Physics and former AAAS Mass Media Fellow
Harvard University



Prof. Bart Verheggen

Atmospheric scientist and founder of the blog “Our Changing Climate”
Amsterdam University College



Dr. Michael Sears*

Ecological physiologist, Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences and Director of the Thermal Ecology Lab
Clemson University

**Application pending board review.*

Subject Matter and Policy Columnists (as of 12/26/2013)



Prof. Tracy Hester

Environmental law professor and former Director of the Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Center
University of Houston Law Center



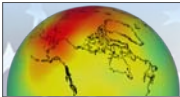
Dr. Shi-Ling Hsu

Environmental law professor, economist, and author of “*The Case for the Carbon Tax*”
Florida State University



Prof. Jed Anderson

Clean Air Act practitioner and reform advocate, Adjunct Professor of Environmental Law
University of Houston Law Center



A Letter To Fellow Physical Scientists

June 21, 2013

Dr. John Nielsen-Gammon

I'm part of a new journalistic endeavor called the Climate Change National Forum. The purpose of this web site will be to provide a public forum wherein scientists can discuss the latest research on climate change and share and debate ideas on aspects of climate change especially relevant to policy making. When the second phase kicks in, policy experts will join the discussion and compare the benefits and costs of possible responses.

I know what you're thinking: "This sounds an awful lot like the IPCC." Well, it's not. Nor is it intended to replace the IPCC in any way. It has a different purview and a different set of goals.

- The IPCC is an international body. *The CCNF is focused on issues facing the United States.*
- The IPCC scientists are selected from nominees from various countries. *The CCNF scientists consist of anyone who contributes regularly and constructively to the discussion.*
- The IPCC produces reports every few years, whose summaries are edited and ratified by political representatives. *The CCNF web site is a living document, continuously updated to account for the latest science, and not subject to political interference.*
- The IPCC's purview is anthropogenic climate change. The CCNF's purview is climate change in all its causes and manifestations. *Would it make sense to only adapt to anthropogenic climate change?*
- The IPCC reports are written by experts within their subject fields. *The CCNF will draw upon the expertise and experience of scientists from a wide range of fields, not just insiders.*
- The public gets to see the IPCC final report. *The public gets to see scientists grappling with, understanding, and debating the issues.*

For me, this last point is an important one. The public can benefit tremendously from being able to see how scientists think and reason scientifically. We ask them to trust our collective scientific wisdom without allowing them to see how we evaluate conflicting or flawed evidence and develop judgments. Presently, the only extensive example of this available to the public is the set of emails from Climategate.

Why should you participate? First, you'll gain a deeper understanding of climate science. Perhaps you have just taken the IPCC reports on faith, trusting the experts to do a good job. Whether they did or not, you will be better able to articulate the issues and explain them to others after exchanging ideas, digging into some of the

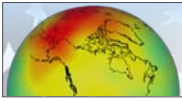
CCNF Profile



Dr. Nielsen-Gammon's breadth of research includes extreme rainfall events, drought monitoring and forecasting, ozone events, air pollution climatology, numerical simulation, and improvements in the climate data record. He teaches courses in weather analysis, weather forecasting, climatology, and atmospheric dynamics at the Texas A&M Department of Atmospheric Sciences and has served as the Texas State Climatologist since his appointment by then-Governor George W. Bush in 2000. Dr. Nielsen-Gammon is a well recognized and trusted figure in Texas and a prolific communicator on all things climate. Dr. Nielsen-Gammon has his own blog, "Climate Abyss" on Chron.com.

Awards:

Dr. Nielsen-Gammon received a Presidential Faculty Fellow award (now known as PECASE) from the National Science Foundation and the White House in 1996, a Distinguished Achievement Award in Teaching at Texas A&M University from the Association of Former Students in 1996, and was named a Fellow of the American Meteorological Society (AMS) in 2011. He is Past President of the International Commission for Dynamical Meteorology and is past chair of the AMS Board on Higher Education.



primary literature, and fleshing out any questions that might be nagging you in the back of your mind.

It should be obvious by now that you don't need to be a climate scientist to participate, as long as you have a suitable technical background. Indeed, we need at least some people who know relatively little about the state of the art of climate science, for their intellectual journey while participating in the CCNF is similar to the journeys we hope dedicated lay readers will take. Outsiders to climate science can better spot the unspoken assumptions and unjustified conventions.

Your learning will come through the course of online debate and discussion with other scientists. As you probably know from personal experience, discussion with other scientists is often the absolute best way to come to grips with a contentious or controversial scientific issue. Along the way, you will develop skills as a writer for an outside audience.

Finally, you will be doing a public service, simultaneously helping to educate the public about climate change and about science in general.

On the negative side, it requires time, though not a whole lot. We're only asking for participants to contribute new essays once a month, plus participate in some of the online discussions with other scientists. Compared to starting your own blog, this is a relatively easy way to bring your ideas and judgment into public view.

Scientists who think they know everything about climate change are not welcome to participate. If you're an expert in a particular branch and want to broaden your knowledge, or even if this is something outside your expertise entirely so that you have a lot you want to learn, then come join us.

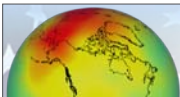
Recent Press:

"New Website Wants to Encourage Public Discussion of Climate Change by Scientists," *The Bridge: Connecting Science and Policy* (science and policy blog of the AGU), 11/12/2013. The story also headlined on the AGU Blogosphere homepage.



"Share Ideas on Climate, Influence Policy Options," *THE FRONT PAGE* (blog of the American Meteorological Society), 10/15/2013.





Columnist Criteria and Application Instructions

Science Columnist Criteria:

To participate as a science columnist in ClimateChangeNationalForum.org, one must:

- have an adequate level of expertise in some area of climate science;
- agree to evaluate the science of climate change with an open mind;
- have a demonstrated commitment to accuracy; and
- agree to express one's personal opinion only and refrain from speaking for or on behalf of any organization.

Application Instructions for Scientists:

If you meet the above criteria and are interested in contributing as a science columnist, you can apply for admission into CCNF and publishing access in ClimateChangeNationalForum.org by sending an email to ClimateChangeNationalForum@gmail.com with the subject line "Science Columnist Application."

Please include the following information:

- name;
- email address;
- affirmation that the you meet the columnist criteria;
- short biography to display upon admission (200 words max);
- your cv;
- your photo; and
- any links to your recent and/or most applicable publications.

Subject Matter or Policy Columnist Criteria (Phase II):

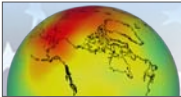
To participate as a subject matter or policy columnist in phase II of the project, one must:

- have an adequate level of expertise in energy, economic, environmental or national policy or in any area or field directly or indirectly related to these policy areas;
- agree to base one's subject matter and policy position on climate science that has been discussed or reviewed by the science columnists;* and
- have a demonstrated commitment to accuracy.

**If a policy columnist proposes a policy position based on a study or an area of science that has not been discussed or reviewed by the scientists, the moderator will note it in the Forum and submit or post the referenced study to the science columnist community to discuss and/or comment under.*

Application Instructions for Subject Matter or Policy Experts:

If you meet the above criteria and are interested in participating as a subject matter of policy columnist,



you can apply for admission into CCNF and publishing access in the policy categories of ClimateChangeNationalForum.org by sending an email to ClimateChangeNationalForum@gmail.com with the subject line “Subject Matter or Policy Columnist Application.” Please include the following information:

- name;
- email address;
- affirmation that you meet the columnist criteria;
- preferred identification as a subject matter columnist (please name the subject matter area) or a policy columnist;*
- short biography to display upon admission (200 words max);
- your cv;
- your photo; and
- any links to your recent and/or most applicable publications.

**There is no real difference between a “subject matter columnist” and a “policy columnist.” It is just a matter of identification and preference. Either will have full publishing privileges in any policy category.*

Admission and Publishing Privileges in ClimateChangeNationalForum.org

Applications will go to the board. If the board determines that an applicant meets the columnist criteria, then the applicant *shall* be admitted into the Forum as a columnist (this is inscribed in the CCNF bylaws). Once an applicant is admitted as a columnist, the CCNF staff will then provide the columnist with publishing privileges and provide any necessary technical support to get the columnist up and running. After that, the columnist will be able to publish posts on his or her own page and in any science or policy category as little or as much as he or she would like. The CCNF board is asking that columnists contribute a post at least once a month on average and participate in some of the discussions in the columnist-only comment threads below posts.

Bifurcation of Science and Policy

There is a general division between science and policy in the Forum. Subject matter or policy columnists will be able to publish posts and comment in policy categories only. Similarly, the science columnists will only be able to publish posts in the science categories. However, the science columnists will be able to comment under any policy post. Hopefully, this will keep the policy discussion and debate grounded in the science.

Guest Columnist Criteria

Any columnist-member may invite any person to contribute as a guest columnist to any area of the site that the columnist-member has access to. The only criterion one must meet to contribute as a guest columnist is that he or she must base his or her policy position on science discussed and reviewed by the science columnists. This criterion does not apply to any published scientist or anyone who is an author of a book on climate change. Guest columnists do not become members of the organization by contributing as guest columnists.

The CCNF board of directors or a committee with board-delegated powers cannot prevent a guest columnist from posting on ClimateChangeNationalForum.org. Inviting guest columnists is a columnist’s own individual privilege. Guest columnists will be able to contribute five times to the Forum. A guest columnist will be able to contribute more than 5 times if his or her guest columnist status is extended by a board member, committee with board-delegated powers, or journalist.

Causes of Removal

Causes of removal of member-columnists from the columnist community by the CCNF board include the following:

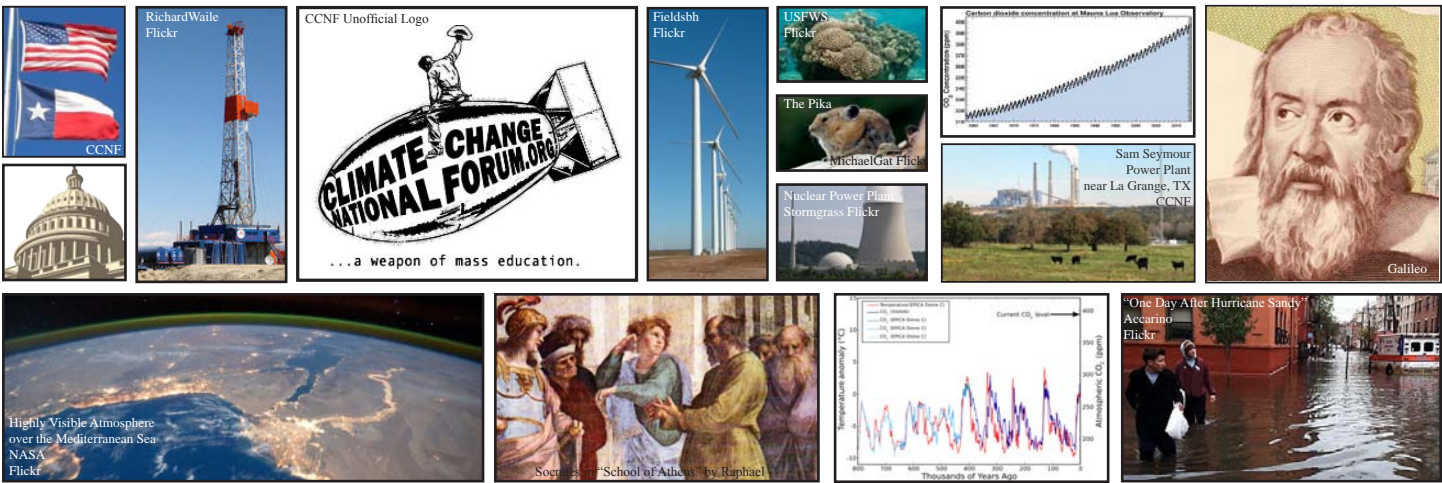
- a) failure to meet the columnist criteria;
- b) continual failure to demonstrate courtesy and respect to other columnists; or
- c) continual failure to refrain from personally attacking other columnists.

When a columnist is removed from CCNF, the reason for his or her removal shall be stated in the corporate records and communicated to the person being removed.

Voting and Organization Structure

CCNF is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. Columnists that post content at least once a month on average become voting members in the nonprofit and elect the board in annual elections. The board, in turn, acts as the gatekeeper, admitting only those columnists that can meet CCNF’s columnist criteria. The board also hires the administrative and journalism staff.

Disclaimer: The rules and regulations of this organization are set out in the bylaws of Climate Change National Forum and Review (the official corporate name of CCNF). The above criteria and causes for removal are meant to explain and summarize, but not supplant or override any of the bylaws. If there is a conflict between the bylaws and anything above, the bylaws will override what is above.



Climate Change National Forum
1016 East 6 1/2 Street
Houston, TX 77009

EIN# 45-4570998

ClimateChangeNationalForum.org
ClimateChangeNationalForum@gmail.com
281-832-3170