

**Invitation for Public Comment on the List of Candidates  
for the Environmental Protection Agency's Science Advisory Board Environmental  
Economics Advisory Committee**

**May 18, 2012**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Science Advisory Board (SAB) Staff Office announced in a *Federal Register* Notice on March 4, 2012 (77 FR 20396-20398) that it was inviting nominations of experts to be considered for the Administrator's appointment to the Environmental Economics Advisory Committee (EEAC). The EEAC provides independent advice through the chartered SAB to the EPA Administrator on economic methods and analyses related to costs and benefits of EPA environmental programs. The SAB Staff Office sought nominations of experts in environmental economics to serve on the EEAC.

The SAB Staff Office identified 15 candidates based on their expertise and willingness to serve. We hereby invite public comments on the attached List of Candidates for appointment or reappointment for consideration by the SAB Staff Office. Comments should be submitted to Dr. Holly Stallworth, Designated Federal Officer, no later than June 8, 2012 at [stallworth.holly@epa.gov](mailto:stallworth.holly@epa.gov). E-mail is the preferred mode of receipt. Please be advised that public comments are subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.

## Environmental Economics Advisory Committee Candidates

### Boyle, Kevin

Virginia Tech

Dr. Kevin Boyle is Professor of Agricultural and Applied Economics at Virginia Tech, and served as Department Head for the past seven years. Prior to Joining Virginia Tech, Dr. Boyle was Distinguished Professor and Libra Professor of Environmental Economics at the University of Maine. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin, M.S. from Oregon State University and B.A. from the University of Maine. Dr. Boyle currently serves as a member of the National Academies' Committee on the Future Options for Management in the Nation's Subsurface Remediation Effort. He recently served on U.S. EPA's Panel on the Potential Effects of Stormwater Management Measures on Property Values and the EPA Expert Panel for Valuation of Groundwater Increase from Stormwater Infiltration Policies. Dr. Boyle is the Chair of the Council on Food and Agricultural Resource Economics Blue Ribbon Panel – Natural Resources and Environmental Issues. Dr. Boyle's research focuses on estimating the benefits and costs of environmental and health policies, and investigating how economic stimuli can motivate desirable behaviors. His research has been central to advancing the development of nonmarket valuation methods including the framing of stated-preference questions, inclusion of environmental quality in hedonic property value models, estimation of second-stage hedonic models to compute values for nonmarginal changes, and establishing benefit transfer as an accepted economic tool. Applications of his current research to environmental topics include arsenic in groundwater, vapor intrusion to residences near Superfund sites, improved visibility at Class I visibility areas, timber harvesting practices to reduce undesirable environmental consequences, farmland conservation, wind farm location, stormwater infrastructure, invasive aquatic species, surface water eutrophication, forest pest infestation from global warming, benefits of climate change policies, fish consumption advisories, and others. Dr. Boyle's research is funded by the National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Park Service, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Geological Service, and U.S. Forest Service.

### Braden, John B.

University of Illinois

Dr. John Braden is Professor Emeritus of Agricultural and Consumer Economics at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His ongoing research in environmental economics emphasizes dispersed-source water pollution, both urban and agricultural, valuation of environmental change, and data needs for sustainability science. His current projects are supported by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Best Management Practices and Benefits of Sustainable Redevelopment of Brownfield Sites, 2008-2013) and the National Science Foundation (Coupled Observation of the Water Environment: A National Survey Program, 2010-2012). Professor Braden is the author, co-author, or editor of more than 150 scholarly papers including seven books, 40 chapters, and 70 journal articles published in economics, engineering, legal, and interdisciplinary outlets. He has served as a Member of the Great Lakes Science Advisory Board; President of the Universities' Council on Water Resources; Senior Associate Editor of the American Journal of Agricultural Economics; Member of the Boards of Directors of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists and the Universities' Council on Water Resources; and a review or expert panelist for numerous federal agencies and universities. He has been a Fulbright Research Scholar to New Zealand, a Fellow of the American Council on Education, a visiting scholar at the Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium), Canterbury and Lincoln Universities (New Zealand), Wageningen University (the Netherlands), and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency-Region 5, and a lecturer for the World Bank in India. Professor Braden has received numerous awards from the University of Illinois and the President's Award from the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association. In 2012, he will receive the Warren A. Hall Medal from the Universities' Council on Water Resources. Professor Braden completed his B.A. degree Summa Cum Laude in Economics at Miami University (Ohio) and his M.S., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees in Agricultural Economics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Prior to graduate studies, he served as an Economic Analyst at the Congressional Research Service, U.S. Library of Congress.

### Brandt, Sylvia

University of Massachusetts

Dr. Sylvia Brandt is an Associate Professor of Econometrics and Environmental Economics at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, where she holds a joint appointment in the Department of Resource Economics and the Center for Public Policy and Administration. Her primary research interests include valuation of chronic illnesses, measurement of disparities in health outcomes and methodologies for evaluating health interventions. Her work expands on traditional economic models to include factors such as exposure to environmental triggers, disparities in asthma treatment, and diversity of preferences among affected populations. Dr. Brandt specializes in developing surveys on risk perceptions and health behaviors to improve models of household behaviors. She has also previously done extensive research on fisheries regulation, focusing on the design, implementation, and effect of tradable property rights. Her current projects include estimating the costs of asthma linked to traffic-related pollution (funded by the South Coast Air Quality Management District) and modeling responses to climate change. In 2005-2006 Dr. Brandt was a Visiting Scholar in the School of Public Policy at the University of California, Berkeley. She has served as a reviewer for a dozen public health and environmental economics journals. She holds degrees in economics (B.A., Oberlin College; M.S., University of California, Berkeley) and agricultural and resource economics (Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley).

### Evans, Mary

Claremont McKenna College

Dr. Mary F. Evans is the Jerrine and Thomas Mitchell '66 Associate Professor of Environmental Economics and a George R. Roberts Fellow in the Robert Day School of Economics and Finance at Claremont McKenna College. She holds a B.A. from James Madison University (1997) and earned her Master's and Ph.D. degrees in Economics from the University of Colorado, Boulder, in 1999 and 2001, respectively. Previously, she was a faculty member in the Department of Economics at the University of Tennessee and a post-doctoral researcher at North Carolina State University. Dr. Evans's research explores decision-making with respect to mortality and morbidity risks, firm compliance with environmental regulations and incentives to participate in voluntary environmental initiatives, and methodological issues in environmental valuation. She is a member of the editorial council for the Journal of Environmental Economics and Management and an associate editor for the Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization. Her research has been published in such journals as the Review of Economics and Statistics, the Journal of Public Economics, the Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, and Environmental and Resource Economics. She is the recipient of two Science to Achieve Results grants from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for her work on firm compliance with environmental information disclosure programs and the economic dimensions of environmental vulnerability.

## **Flores, Nicholas**

University of Colorado, Boulder

Dr. Nicholas Flores is an Associate Professor of Economics and Faculty Research Associate of the Institute of Behavioral Science at the University of Colorado, Boulder. Professor Flores received a B.A. in Economics from the University of Texas (1989), an M.S. in Mathematical Statistics from the University of California, San Diego (1994), and a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of California, San Diego (1995). Prior to joining the University of Colorado faculty, Professor Flores was a Research Associate at Natural Resource Damage Assessment, Inc. in La Jolla, California. Professor Flores' primary research focuses on the development and refinement of economic methods that are used to understand preferences for environmental goods and policies. Dr. Professor Flores' research spans many topics including altruism in benefit-cost analysis, welfare economic theory, theory and measurement of non-use value, household management of wildfire risk, household decisions to purchase flood insurance, Rocky Mountain community decisions to clean up acid mine drainage, and the application of location equilibrium models to investigate environmental justice issues. Professor Flores is also a faculty participant in the Carbon, Climate, and Society Initiative at the University of Colorado. The Carbon, Climate, and Society Initiative is funded under the National Science Foundation's Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship Program.

## **Hamilton, Stephen F.**

Dr. Stephen F. Hamilton is Professor and Chair of Economics at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. He holds a PhD in Agricultural and Resource Economics from UC Berkeley (1996) and a BS degree in economics and environmental studies from UC Santa Barbara (1991). Professor Hamilton's research is in the nexus between environmental regulation, imperfect competition, and international trade policy, with a focus on the efficient design of environmental policies in vertical markets. His research has examined the role of U.S. cap-and-trade policy for SO<sub>2</sub> in stimulating input substitution among utilities from high-sulfur to low-sulfur coal and the effectiveness of ambient environmental quality standards in achieving environmental outcomes. Professor Hamilton is currently engaged in research funded by USDA examining how supply shocks in upstream markets (e.g., for a polluting input) pass through to consumer prices in downstream markets when products in upstream markets are transformed into multiple downstream goods. Dr. Hamilton currently serves on the Editorial Council of the Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics and the Journal of Environmental Economics and Management and he has recently served as an associate editor of the American Journal of Agricultural Economics, Journal of Agricultural & Food Industrial Organization and the Journal of Industrial Organization Education.

## **Kotchen, Matthew**

Yale University

Dr. Matthew Kotchen is an Associate Professor of environmental economics and policy at Yale University. His primary appointment is in the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, with affiliated appointments in the Yale School of Management and the Department of Economics. He is also a faculty research fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). Professor Kotchen's research interests lie at the intersection of environmental and public economics, and ongoing projects employ both theoretical and empirical methods covering a range of topics, including energy, climate change, "green" markets, corporate social responsibility, and applied game theory. Several projects involve collaborations with ecologists and political scientists. Kotchen joined the Yale faculty in 2009 and has held previous and visiting positions at Williams College, University of California (Santa Barbara and Berkeley), Stanford University, and Resources for the Future (RFF).

## **Norman, Catherine**

Johns Hopkins University

Dr. Catherine Shelley Norman is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography and Environmental Engineering and the Department of Economics at the Johns Hopkins University. Her research areas include international environmental agreements, energy markets and policy, citizen engagement in environmental monitoring and enforcement, the economics of water quality policy, and interactions between environment and development. She teaches graduate and undergraduate courses on microeconomics for engineers, sustainability, and environmental policy analysis. Her research has appeared in the Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, Land Economics, Environmental and Resource Economics, and other journals; she serves on the editorial board of the Journal of Environmental Economics and Management. She completed her PhD in economics at the University of California at Santa Barbara in 2005, with fields in environmental and labor

economics, and has a BA from Drew University. She served as a American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Science and Technology Policy Fellow hosted at the EPA during the 2011-12 academic year.

## Palmer, Karen

### Resources for the Future

Dr. Karen L. Palmer is the Darius Gaskins Senior Fellow at Resources for the Future in Washington, DC and the Director of RFF's Electricity and Environment Program. She was a fellow at RFF from 1989 to 1998, when she became a Senior Fellow. She was awarded the Darius Gaskins chair in 2005 when she also became the Director of the Electricity and Environment Program. Dr. Palmer received her Ph.D. in economics from Boston College in 1990. Prior to her graduate studies she worked as a research economist at DRI McGraw Hill in Lexington, MA. Dr. Palmer specializes in the economics of environmental regulation and of public utility regulation and her research interests include electricity restructuring, environmental regulation of the electricity sector and the cost effectiveness of energy efficiency programs. She is a co-author of the book, *Alternating Currents: Electricity Markets and Public Policy*, published by RFF Press in 2002. In 1996-97, Dr. Palmer spent six months as a visiting economist in the Office of Economic Policy at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. She has served on two National Research Council study panels, one studying the changes in New Source Review Programs for stationary sources and a second studying the future of electricity from renewables. She also serves on the Environmental Advisory Council to the New York Independent System Operation and on the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Advisory Group to the New York State Research and Development Authority.

## Plantinga, Andrew

### Oregon State University

Dr. Andrew Plantinga is Professor of Agricultural and Resource Economics at Oregon State University. Dr. Plantinga received a PhD in Agricultural and Resource Economics from the University of California-Berkeley in 1995, an MS in Forestry from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1988, and a BA from Grinnell College in 1986. Dr. Plantinga's research focuses on the economics of land use, climate change, and forests. Particular emphasis is given to the development of methods for econometrically modeling land-use decisions, the application of land-use models to environmental and resource policy problems, land price analysis, and the modeling of land development pressures. A current project, funded by the National Science Foundation, involves the use of a national-level (U.S.) econometric model of land use to evaluate incentives for biodiversity conservation and carbon sequestration in forests. Additional work examines how urban growth policies affect property values and urbanization rates. Dr. Plantinga has authored or co-authored articles appearing in the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, the *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management* (JEEM), *Land Economics*, the *Journal of Urban Economics*, and the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. He currently serves on the editorial councils of the JEEM and the Board of Directors for the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists. Dr. Plantinga's research has been supported by the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Forest Service, and the U.S. Department of Energy.

## Ready, Richard

### The Pennsylvania State University

Dr. Richard Ready is Assistant Professor of Agricultural and Environmental Economics at The Pennsylvania State University. He has previously worked as a Visiting Professor and Guest Researcher at the Agricultural University of Norway and as an Assistant Professor at the University of Kentucky. He received Masters and Ph.D. degrees in Natural Resource Economics from University of Wisconsin-Madison, and a Bachelors degree in Natural Resources and Fishery Science from Cornell University. He serves as an Associate Editor of the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, workshop chair for the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, and chair of the selected paper committee of the Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association. Dr. Ready's research focuses on valuation of environmental goods and services, using stated preference techniques including contingent valuation and stated choice and revealed preference techniques including the travel cost method and hedonic pricing. Dr. Ready also teaches advanced undergraduate and graduate courses in nonmarket valuation techniques. Dr. Ready's recent research has estimated values of environmental health impacts, impacts of global climate change, surface water quality in rivers, surface water quality in remote mountain lakes, outdoor recreation, land use, and concentrated livestock production. Current and recent research funding comes from EPA, U.S. Forest Service, European Commission Directorate General XII, Northeastern Regional Center for Rural Development, and Citizens for Pennsylvania's Future.

## Sunding, David

### University of California

Dr. David Sunding is the Thomas J. Graff Professor in the College of Natural Resources at University of California at Berkeley, where he is also the Co-Director of the Berkeley Water Center. His research concerns environmental and resource economics, regulation, technological change, applied econometrics, risk and public finance. Professor Sunding teaches courses in natural resource economics, water resources, and law and economics. For the 2010-2011 academic year, he was a Visiting Professor in the Woods Institute of the Environment at Stanford University. Professor Sunding has won several important awards for his research, including grants from the National Science Foundation, US Environmental Protection Agency, the US Departments of the Interior and Agriculture, the State of California, and private foundations. He has advised federal and state government agencies on the development of policies and regulations in the area of natural resources and the environment. Prior to his current position, he was a senior economist at the President's Council of Economic Advisers. Dr. Sunding is funded by the National Science Foundation for research

on the nation's urban water infrastructure.

## Trasande, Leonardo

New York University School of Medicine

Dr. Leonardo Trasande is a faculty member in pediatrics and environmental medicine at the NYU School of Medicine, and in health policy at the NYU Wagner School of Public Service. His research focuses on identifying the role of environmental and other factors in chronic childhood disease, and documenting the economic costs for policy makers of failing to prevent them proactively. Dr. Trasande is perhaps best known for a 2011 study in Health Affairs which found that children's exposures to chemicals in the environment cost \$76.6 billion in 2008. His analysis of the economic costs of mercury pollution played a critical role in preventing the Clear Skies Act (which would have relaxed regulations on emissions from coal-fired power plants) from becoming law. His studies have documented increases in hospitalizations associated with childhood obesity and increases in medical expenditures associated with being obese or overweight in childhood, and have been cited in the Presidential Task Force Report in Childhood Obesity. He serves on a United Nations Environment Programme Steering Committee which is developing a Global Outlook on Chemicals Policy, on the World Trade Center Health Program Science and Technical Advisory Committee, and on the Executive Committee of the Council for Environmental Health of the American Academy of Pediatrics. He recently served on the Board of Scientific Counselors for the National Center for Environmental Health at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and on the Steering Committee for the National Children's Study.

Dr. Trasande has completed and is pursuing studies across the world examining the consequences of chemical exposures. NIEHS and Fogarty support a thriving pilot birth cohort of prenatal methylmercury exposure in communities near Lake Chapala, the largest lake in Mexico (R21ES018723). The Passport Foundation supports recontact of a birth cohort in New Zealand to examine later life cognitive and cardiovascular consequences of prenatal methylmercury exposure. A recent study led by Dr. Trasande identified proximity to a hazardous waste site in Uganda as a major predictor of childhood lead poisoning. Dr. Trasande earned a Master's degree in Public Policy from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, and an M.D. from Harvard Medical School. He completed a pediatrics residency at Boston Children's Hospital, a Dyson Foundation Legislative Fellowship in the office of Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton, and a fellowship in environmental pediatrics at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine.

## Wu, JunJie

Oregon State University

Dr. JunJie Wu is the E. N. Castle Professor of Resource and Rural Economics at Oregon State University. He is currently a member of the editorial council of the Journal of Environmental Economics and Management and an associate editor of American Journal of Agricultural Economics. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut in 1992. Dr. Wu's research areas include optimal design of environmental and conservation policy, interactions between agricultural production and water quality, land use economics and policy, and rural-urban interface. He has studied a variety of policy issues related to agricultural production, resource conservation, and environmental management at the national, state and local levels. His recent projects include optimal allocation of conservation funds in the presence of threshold effects and ecosystem linkages; optimal design of conservation payments under asymmetric information; the slippage effect of conservation programs; environmental and distributional impacts of alternative conservation targeting strategies; mandatory versus voluntary environmental regulations; the impacts of farm policies on agricultural production and water quality; relative efficiency of alternative policy instruments to reduce nonpoint-source water pollution; dynamic interactions between urban development, land use regulations, and municipal structure; and natural resource endowments and economic development in rural America. Dr. Wu has received several awards for quality research, including the 2002 American Agricultural Economics Association Quality of Research Discovery Award and the 2004 Western Agricultural Economics Association Outstanding Published Research Award.

## Zhao, Jinhua

Michigan State University

Dr. Jinhua Zhao is an Associate Professor in the Department of Economics and the Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics at Michigan State University. He obtained his PhD from the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at UC Berkeley. His research expertise includes environmental and resource economics, energy economics, dynamic decision making under uncertainty, and applied microeconomics in general. He has conducted research on emissions trading, soil carbon sequestration, evaluation of water projects, and the long-run relationship between international trade and the environment. His ongoing research on the economics of climate change focuses on designing the architecture for the next climate treaty that encourages voluntary participation, increases cost effectiveness and promotes monitoring and enforcement. He conducts research on the economics of biofuels, with an emphasis on the long-term carbon footprints of current and next generation biofuels taking into consideration the interactions with fossil fuel supply. He also investigates the impacts of renewable fuel standards on land uses, accounting for uncertainties in food and fuel prices as well as sunk land conversion costs. Currently he leads the research activities on bioeconomy and climate change in the College of Social Sciences at Michigan State. He was a co-editor of the Journal of Environmental Economics and Management (2005-07) and is on the editorial council of JEEM and the Review of Development Economics.