



2017 SEED Participants

*In Alphabetical Order

Nadya Bliss (ナディア・ブリス)



Nadya T. Bliss is the Director of the Global Security Initiative (GSI) at Arizona State University. The Global Security Initiative serves as the university-wide hub focusing on emerging global challenges requiring multi-disciplinary research and cross-mission collaboration between defense, development, and diplomacy communities.

Nadya holds a Professor of Practice appointment in the School of Computing, Informatics, and Decision Systems Engineering; a Senior Sustainability Scientist appointment in the Julie Ann Wrigley Global Institute of Sustainability; and affiliated appointments in the School for Future of Innovation in Society, the

Center on the Future of War (collaboration between ASU and New America), and the Simon A. Levin Mathematical, Computational and Modeling Sciences Center.

Before joining ASU in 2012, Nadya spent 10 years at MIT Lincoln Laboratory, most recently as the founding Group Leader of the Computing and Analytics Group. Under Nadya's leadership, the Group's research portfolio included a wide-range of programs funded by DARPA, iARPA, ONR, NGA, USAF, ASD(R&E), and other U.S. Government sponsors. In 2011, Nadya was awarded the inaugural MIT Lincoln Laboratory Early Career Technical Achievement award. Nadya received bachelor and master degrees in Computer Science from Cornell University, a PhD in Applied Mathematics for the Life and Social Sciences from Arizona State University, and is a Senior Member of IEEE.

Sharon Burke (シャロン・バーク)



The Honorable Sharon E. Burke is a senior advisor to New America, where she focuses on international security and a new program, Resource Security, which examines the intersection of security, prosperity, and natural resources. Before joining New America, Ms. Burke served in the Obama Administration as the assistant secretary of Defense for Operational Energy, a new office that worked to improve the energy security of U.S. military operations.

Prior to her service at DoD, Ms. Burke held a number of senior U.S. government positions, including at the Department of State in the George W. Bush Administration, and was a vice president and senior fellow at the Center for a New American Security. She attended Williams College and Columbia University, where she was a Zuckerman and International fellow at the School of International and Public Affairs. She serves as an Advisor to Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Decarbonizing Energy, and the Pew Project on National Security, Energy, and Climate.

Emily Gallagher (エミリー・ギャラガー)



Emily Gallagher is a Program Associate in the Resource Security program at New America, where she researches and writes on various topics such as climate change, water, agriculture, and energy and how they interact with international and national security. Before joining New America, she worked in Amman, Jordan on a Fulbright research grant analyzing government and non-profit water policies during the Syrian refugee crisis. During her time in Jordan she also worked at an international aid agency providing project management assistance for winterization distribution, focus group discussions, women literacy classes, and rent assistance to Syrian refugees and vulnerable Jordanians. Additionally, Ms. Gallagher has established a running camp and race for young girls in Jordan, coauthored the USAID Water and Conflict Toolkit, and interned at the American Chamber of Commerce in Jordan, a US biofuels company, and an environmental consulting organization. She holds bachelor degrees in International Studies and Economics from American University.

Kate Gordon (ケイト・ゴードン)



Kate Gordon is a Senior Advisor at the Paulson Institute, where she provides overall strategy and coordination for the Institute's climate change, air quality, and sustainable urbanization programs both in the US and China. She is also a nonresident Fellow at the Center on Global Energy Policy at Columbia University and a regular contributor to the Wall Street Journal as one of the paper's "Energy Experts."

Gordon is a nationally recognized expert on the intersection of clean energy and economic development. Before joining the Paulson Institute, she was Senior Vice President for Climate and Energy at Next Generation, a non-partisan think tank based in San Francisco, where she worked on California policy development as well as large-scale national communications and research projects. While at Next Generation, she helped launch and lead the "Risky Business Project," co-chaired by Michael Bloomberg, Henry Paulson, and Tom Steyer, and focused on the economic risks the U.S. faces from unmitigated climate change.

Earlier in her career Gordon served as Vice President of Energy and Environment at the Washington D.C.-based Center for American Progress, where helped develop and author policy recommendations related to the Congressional cap-and-trade negotiations, Gulf oil spill, and American Reinvestment and Recovery Act implementation. Prior to CAP, Gordon was the Co-Director of the national Apollo Alliance (now part of the Blue Green Alliance). She still serves on the Apollo Alliance board, as well as on the board of Vote Solar. She earned a law degree and a master's degree in city planning from the University of California-Berkeley, and an undergraduate degree from Wesleyan University.

Jon Powers (ジョン・パワーズ)



Jon leads corporate strategy and development, investor relations, and marketing for CleanCapital. Jon's passion for clean energy derives from his time served with the US Army in Iraq and the realization that a clean energy economy is vital to protect America's national security interests. After helping revolutionize the US Army's energy program as the first Special Advisor on Energy, Jon was appointed by President Obama to serve as the Federal Chief Sustainability Officer. While in this role, Jon recognized the need to address the inefficiencies in clean energy finance. Jon was recently named as Washington DC's Tech 25 - top leaders in the technology space.

Tarak Shah (タラク・シャー)



Tarak Shah was the Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor to the Under Secretary for Science and Energy at the Department of Energy (DOE). In this role, he helped integrate DOE's basic and applied energy portfolios to advance the Nation's energy, environmental, and economic security goals as outlined in the President's Climate Action Plan.

Previously, Tarak served as Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Operational Energy Plans and Programs at the Department of Defense. In that role, he helped articulate the U.S. military's energy and climate change priorities. In 2014, he was awarded the Office of the Secretary of Defense Medal for Exceptional Public Service for his work at DoD. From 2009-2010, Tarak served as Special Assistant to the Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality where he supported the coordination of energy and environmental policy across the Federal government.

Prior to his time in government, Tarak worked for then-Senator Obama in a variety of roles on his 2004 and 2008 campaigns, for his political action committee and with his Transition Team. Tarak holds an MBA from Cornell's Johnson School of Graduate Management and Bachelor's degrees in Political Science and Urban Planning from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Bina Venkataraman (ビーナ・ヴェンカタラマン)



Bina Venkataraman is Director of Global Policy Initiatives at the Broad Institute of Harvard & MIT and teaches in MIT's department of science, technology and society. She previously served as Senior Advisor for Climate Change Innovation in the Executive Office of President Obama, where she forged public-private partnerships to spur new technologies and enterprises to address climate change. She also served as the policy advisor to President Obama's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) from 2009-2012.

She is a former science journalist for The New York Times and The Boston Globe and is currently writing a book about long-term thinking as a fellow at New America. She was named a Global Young Leader by the French American Foundation in 2015, and has previously been awarded a



Fulbright, a Princeton in Asia fellowship, and the James Reston Fellowship. She is an alumna of Harvard's Kennedy School and Brown University, where she serves on the University President's Leadership Council and on the board of the Institute at Brown for the Environment and Society.

Michael Wu (マイケル・ウー)



Michael Wu is a Fellow at New America focusing on energy and national security issues. Previously, he served as a senior adviser in the U.S. Air Force, leading their renewable energy and energy security efforts. He also served as the Energy Program Director at the Truman National Security Project and in various roles on Capitol Hill. He is an officer in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General Corps and a graduate of St. John's College and the Washington University in St. Louis School of Law.