

Alaina Kinol, PhD

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EDUCATION

- Northeastern University**, Boston, MA 2026
PhD in Public Policy, Sustainability and Resilience concentration
Dissertation: Obstruction and Resistance along the Mountain Valley Pipeline
Committee: Laura Kuhl (chair, co-advisor, Northeastern University), Jennie C. Stephens (co-advisor, Maynooth University), Phil Brown (Northeastern University), Jamie Shinn (SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry)
- London School of Economics**, London, UK 2018
MSc with Distinction in Environmental Policy and Regulation
Dissertation: All for one and one for all: Does multistate climate policy collaboration in Northeastern US states foster state climate policy diffusion?
Advisor: Michael Mason
- McGill University**, Montreal, QC, Canada 2016
BA, Honours in Agricultural and Environmental International Development Studies, Minor in Economics

ACADEMIC RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Emory University Climate Transformations Lab**, Atlanta, Georgia 2026—present
Postdoctoral Fellow in Data Center and Energy Infrastructure Buildout
- International Panel on Earth Systems Governance (IPESG)** 2026—present
Contributing Author
- Disinformation Summer Institute**, Bainbridge Island, WA 2026
- Northeastern University School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs (SPPUA)**, Boston, Massachusetts
Research Lead: Policy Impacts of Fossil Fuel Energy, Plastics, and Agriculture 2021—2025
Research Assistant: Energy Justice Transformations after Crisis Project 2023
Research Project Manager: Green New Deal Frameworks Project 2021—2023
Research Assistant: Narratives of Resilience in Puerto Rico Project 2021
Research Assistant: Nature-based Solutions in UNDP LAC Portfolio Project 2020—2021
Researcher: Implementing Environmental Justice Project 2021
- Carnegie Mellon University**, Pittsburgh, PA 2023
Visiting Scholar, Engineering and Public Policy
- Wageningen University**, Wageningen, NL 2023
PhD Summer School on The Natures of Life and Death: Political Ecologies of Collapse, Transformation, and Revival
- Grantham Research Institute for Climate Change and the Environment**, London, UK
Research Assistant: Climate Change Laws of the World Project 2018
Research Assistant: Energy Choices and Behaviour Project 2018

PUBLICATIONS, POLICY BRIEFS, AND OTHER WRITING

- Peer-Reviewed Publications** (*denotes students mentored) (name changed from Boyle in 2023)
Kinol AD. 2026. Fighting the (gas) power: Activists' experiences of injustice shape tactics to resist fossil hegemony along the United States Mountain Valley Pipeline. *Environmental Research and Social Science*. 139:104899. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2214629626003701>

Kinol AD. 2026. "The actual harm was worse than what was being recorded": Accounts of state violence and elite capture in fossil energy infrastructure construction in a sacrifice zone. *Antipode* 58(2):e70147. <https://doi.org/10.1111/anti.70147>

Kinol AD, Si Y, Kinol J, and Stephens JC. 2025. Networks of climate obstruction: Discourses of denial and delay in US fossil energy, plastic, and agrichemical industries. *PLOS Climate* 4(1):e0000370. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pclm.0000370>

Si Y, Kinol AD, Yi H, and Hernandez D. 2024. Space for Justice in Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG7) Discourse: Examining Hashtag Co-Occurrence Networks and Energy Justice Messaging on Social Media. *Sustainable Development* 0:1—17. <https://doi.org/10.1002/sd.3334>

Arango-Quiroga J, Kinol AD, and Kuhl L. 2023. Examining knowledge and epistemic justice in the design of nature-based solutions for water management. *PLOS Climate* 2(9): e0000194. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pclm.0000194>

Kinol AD and Kuhl L. 2023. The role of disasters in shaping narratives of resilience and transformation in Puerto Rico. *Current Research in Environmental Sustainability* 6:100227. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.crsust.2023.100227>

Kinol AD, Arango-Quiroga J, and Kuhl L. 2023. Opportunities for nature-based solutions to contribute to climate-resilient development pathways. *Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability* 62:101297. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cosust.2023.101297>

Kinol AD, Miller E, Axtell H*, Hirschfeld I*, Leggett S*, Si Y, and Stephens JC. 2023. Climate justice in higher education: a proposed paradigm shift towards a transformative role for colleges and universities. *Climatic Change* 176:15. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10584-023-03486-4>

Boyle AD, Leggat G*, Morikawa L*, Pappas Y*, and Stephens JC. 2021. Green New Deal proposals: Comparing emerging transformational climate policies at multiple scales. *Energy Research & Social Science* 81:102259. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2021.102259>

Book Reviews

Kinol A. 2024. A Strategic Nature: Public Relations and the Politics of American Environmentalism by Melissa Aronczyk and Maria I. Espinoza. *Environmental Policy*. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/09644016.2024.2343623>

Boyle AD. 2022. Shanti Gamper-Rabindran: America's Energy Gamble: People, Economy, and Planet. *Human Ecology*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10745-022-00323-7>

Policy Briefs

Boyle AD, Robbins T and Montgomery M. 2021. Evaluation of the Fare-Free Bus for Boston Pilot Proposal. White Paper. Dukakis Center for Urban and Regional Policy and Office of City Councilor Michelle Wu. <https://cssh.northeastern.edu/dukakiscenter/evaluation-of-the-fare-free-bus-for-boston-pilot-proposal/>

Boyle AD and Kuhl L. 2021. Nature-based Solutions are Job and Livelihood Solutions. Policy Brief. School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs, Northeastern University and United Nations Development Programme. <https://www.adaptation-undp.org/node/6650>

Kimmell K, Boyle AD, Si Y, and Sotolongo M. 2021. A User's Guide to Environmental Justice: Theory, Policy, & Practice. Policy Brief. Dukakis Center for Urban and Regional Policy. <https://cssh.northeastern.edu/dukakiscenter/a-users-guide-to-environmental-justice-theory-policy-and-practice/>

Kuhl L and Boyle AD. 2021. Nature-based Solutions, Market Resilience, and Food Sovereignty. Policy Brief. School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs, Northeastern University and United Nations Development Programme. <https://www.adaptation-undp.org/node/6651>

Technical Papers

Kuhl L and **Boyle AD**. 2021. Nature-based Solutions Valuation Report. Technical Report. School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs, Northeastern University and United Nations Development Programme. <https://cssh.northeastern.edu/policyschool/undp-releases-nature-based-solutions-valuation-report/>

NESP. 2020. National Standard Practice Manual for Benefit-Cost Assessment of Distributed Energy Resources. E4TheFuture. Coordinated and edited by J Michals and **AD Boyle**. https://modelclimatelaws.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/NSPM-DERs_08-04-2020_Final.pdf

Murungi I, Bukare A, Atim S, **Boyle AD**, Dauvergne M. 2015. Final Report for the GEKS Uganda National Assessment. Gender Equality in Knowledge Society Research 2015. WOUGNET

Technical Resources

Database of Screening Practices, v.2, E4TheFuture 2020
Inventory of Applicable Policies and Relevant Impacts Spreadsheet, E4TheFuture 2020

Public Scholarship and Writing

Kinol AD. 27 September 2023. Academic Institutions Owe Us Climate Justice. *Boston University Public Health Post*. <https://www.publichealthpost.org/viewpoints/academic-institutions-owe-us-climate-justice/>

Boyle AD and Stephens JC. 1 September 2022. Higher education needs a new mission. How about climate justice? *The Boston Globe*. <https://www.bostonglobe.com/2022/09/01/opinion/higher-education-needs-new-mission-how-about-climate-justice/>

Boyle AD and Stephens JC. 12 November 2021. Michelle Wu's victory heralds a new age of climate politics. *The Hill*. <https://thehill.com/opinion/energy-environment/581343-michelle-wus-victory-heralds-a-new-age-of-climate-politics>

Boyle AD. 13 December 2019. TRCs and Sugar Cookies: A holiday review of cost-effectiveness testing practices. *NESP*. <https://e4thefuture.org/blog/trcs-and-sugar-cookies-a-holiday-review-of-cost-effectiveness-testing-practices/>

PAPERS IN REVIEW AND PROGRESS

"Fossil fuel obstruction in US energy regulatory filings" (third dissertation chapter, in submission)

"#BustingMyths': Discourses of climate obstruction in the carbon complex's social media messaging to educational institutions" (in preparation)

GRANTS

Climate and Social Science Network Research Grant, "Intersections and Impacts of the Fossil Fuel-Plastic-Agriculture Complex: Mutual Reinforcement and Embedded Injustice", submitted with Jennie C. Stephens, PI, awarded \$25,000 2021—2023

CSSH Multi-Generational Research Teams Program, "Comparing Green New Deal Frameworks", Graduate Student Mentor, submitted with Jennie C. Stephens, PI \$11,500 2021

Barr Foundation Grant, Civic Action Project Fellowship, awarded \$6,000 2021

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Outstanding Graduate Student Research Award, **Northeastern University** 2026

Campus Sustainability Research Award, **Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)** 2023

Pre-doctoral T32 Traineeship, **National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences** 2022—2025

Outstanding Graduate Student Experiential Award, Northeastern University	2022
2021 Fellow, Boston Civic Action Project	2021
Best Environmental Policy and Regulation Dissertation Award, LSE	2018
Lev Bukhman Internship Travel Award, McGill University	2015
Major Entrance Scholarship, McGill University	2013

MEDIA APPEARANCES, INVITED TALKS, AND PRESENTATIONS

Media Appearances

<u>Trump's offshore wind opposition was never really about the whales.</u> Maria Gallucci (interview), Canary Media	2026
<u>The man behind the fall of offshore wind.</u> Clare Fieseler (interview), Canary Media	2025
<u>Fossil fuel, plastic, and agrichemical companies coordinate social media on climate change, study finds.</u> Bobby Bascomb (interview), Mongabay	2025
<u>If you think Big Oil is trying to manipulate you on social media – you're right</u> Joseph Winters (interview), Fast Company	2025
<u>The 8 talking points fossil fuel companies use to obstruct climate action</u> Joseph Winters (interview), Grist	2025
<u>New Study Shows How Fossil Fuel Sectors Create a Climate Denial Echo Chamber on Social Media</u> Sharon Kelly (interview), DeSmog	2025
<u>A tangled web: Fossil fuel energy, plastics, and agrichemicals discourse on X/Twitter.</u> EurekAlert!	2025
<u>Hurricane Maria offered an opportunity to transform Puerto Rico's electric grid into a more resilient system. It hasn't happened.</u> Cynthia McCormick Hibbert (interview), Northeastern Global News	2023
<u>How do we contribute to sustainable development and address climate change at the same time?</u> Cyrus Moulton (interview), Northeastern Global News	2023
<u>When it Comes to Climate Action in Politics, Michelle Wu Offers a Way Forward</u> by Molly Callahan (interview), Northeastern News	2021
<u>"Could Mayor Wu's Green New Deal Serve As a Blueprint for Other Leaders Nationwide?"</u> (TV interview), WGBH News November 19, 2021	2021

Invited Talks

"The Social Science of Climate Change", Boston Scientists Rebellion	2023
"Plastic and Fossil Fuels", Boston Scientists Rebellion	2022
"Identifying Green and Climate-Resilient Livelihoods, Jobs, and Development Options: Nature-based Solutions in Latin America and Caribbean" (co-presenter), UNDP	2021

Conference Presentations

"Fossil fuel obstruction in US energy regulatory filings" (presenter - Corporate power and public policy: Shaping and controlling knowledge, practices, policies, and regulations panel) International Workshop on Public Policy 5 (International Public Policy Association)	2026
"Fossil fuel obstruction in US energy regulatory filings" (presenter - Corporate interference and false solutions - the Fossil Fuel Industry's obstruction in the energy transition panel) Political Ecology Network (POLLEN) 2026 Conference	2026

“Plastic industry narratives of medical necessity and sterility” (presenter) Disinformation Summer Institute (DSI) 2026	2026
“Resisting infrastructure despite fossil hegemony along the US Mountain Valley Pipeline” (presenter – Life on the Line: Resistance and Repression along the Mountain Valley Pipeline panel) Appalachian Studies Association 2026 Annual Conference	2026
“Resisting infrastructure despite fossil hegemony: Experiences and tactics in activists’ struggle for justice along the Mountain Valley Pipeline” (presenter, panel discussant) AAG Annual Meeting	2026
“‘The actual harm was worse than what was being recorded’: Accounts of industry and state violence in fossil energy infrastructure construction” (presenter) New England-St. Lawrence Valley Geographical Society (NESTVAL-AAG)	2025
“Networks of climate obstruction: Discourses of denial and delay in US fossil energy, plastic, and agricultural industries” (presented by Jennie Stephens and Yutong Si due to emergency medical leave) Critical Policy Studies Network Conference	2024
“Implications of Narratives of Resilience and Transformation in Puerto Rico for Sustainable Transitions” (presenter) International Sustainability Transitions Conference	2022
“Nature-based Solutions and Climate-Resilient Development” (presenter) International Sustainability Transitions Conference	2022
“Nature-based Solutions and Just Climate-Resilient Development: Opportunities & Challenges” (presenter) Earth Systems Governance Conference	2022
“Addressing the Carbon Complex for a More Just Transition” (presenter – Towards just transitions: Ambitious climate policies and social fairness panel), STS Graz	2022
“Climate Justice Planning in Higher Education: How can Colleges and Universities Promote Societal Transformation?” (presenter – Liberalism’s Limits for Climate Justice panel), 2022 American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting	2022
“Narratives of Resilience and Transformation in the Puerto Rico Energy Transition” (co-presenter), ISA-NE Conference	2021
“Green New Deal Proposals: Comparing Frameworks” (presenter), 2021 APPAM Student Research Online Seminar Series	2021
“Reforming Cost-Effectiveness Testing to Value Energy Efficiency (and other DERs) Using a Common Framework” (co-presenter), National Home Performance Conference	2020

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Office of City Councilor Wu , Boston, MA Civic Action Partnership Barr Foundation Climate Policy Fellow	2021
E4TheFuture , Framingham, MA Project Manager, Clean Energy Valuation	2020
Research Associate, Evaluation, Monitoring, & Valuation (EM&V) Team	2019
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation , Albany NY Office of Climate Change Intern	2017
Citizens Climate Lobby , Albany NY Northeast Regional Intern; Albany Group Leader	2016—2017
Women of Uganda Network (WOUGNET) , Kampala, Uganda Gender Policy Advocacy Intern	2015

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Guest Lectures

"Climate Obstruction and the Mountain Valley Pipeline" in Equity, Policy, and Sustainability at Columbia University Earth Institute	2026
"Social Innovations in Climate Policy: Green New Deals" in Energy Democracy and Climate Justice at Northeastern University	2024
"Just Transition in Appalachia" in Climate Policy and Justice at Northeastern University	2023
"Presenting peer-reviewed research to lay audiences" SPPUA PhD Seminar at The Policy School Northeastern University	2023
"Climate Justice Panel" (co-panelist), Sustainability at Northeastern at Northeastern University	2021

Teaching Assistantships

INTL 1101: Globalization and International Affairs, Northeastern University	2022
PPUA/INTL 5268: International Environmental Policy, Northeastern University	2020

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Manuscript Review

<i>PLOS Climate, npj Climate Action</i>	2026
<i>Humanities & Social Science Communications, Discover Sustainability</i>	2025
<i>Clean Technologies and Environmental Policy</i>	2024
<i>WIREs Climate Change</i>	2023

Mentorship

Climate Justice in Higher Education Project	2021—2023
Hannah Axtell (Northeastern Undergraduate)	
Ilana Hirschfeld (Northeastern Master's student)	
Sophie Leggett (Northeastern Undergraduate)	
Comparing Green New Deals Project	2020—2021
Graham Leggat (Northeastern Master's student),	
Larissa Morikawa (Northeastern Master's student),	
Yanni Pappas (Northeastern Undergraduate)	

Community and Sustainability Efforts

Member, Climate Social Science Network Agriculture Working Group	2022—present
Member, Climate Social Science Network State Policy Working Group	2022—present
Member, Northeast Regional Climate Justice Research Group	2022—present
Advisory Council Member, Second Nature Academics for Climate Advocacy	2022—2024
At-large member, Northeastern Student Sustainability Committee	2022—2023
Member, Northeastern Graduate Women in Science and Engineering	2021—2026
Organizer, Northeastern Graduate Climate Researcher Consortium	2021—2023
Programme Representative, LSE MSc Environmental Policy & Regulation	2017—2018

Conference Organizing & Session Chairing

Environmental Justice Panel (session chair), AAG Annual Meeting	2026
Northeast Regional Conference (conference co-organizer), Citizens Climate Lobby	2017

CERTIFICATIONS

Graduate Certificate in Policy Analysis – Northeastern CSSH	Dec. 2022
Auditing and Evaluating Environmental Behaviour Change – Green Impact	Mar. 2018
Web Design: HTML, CSS, and Bootstrap certification – LSE IT	Dec. 2017

OTHER PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

Member, International Public Policy Association	2026—present
Member, American Political Science Association	2024—present
Research Fellow, Earth Systems Governance	2023—present
Member, American Association of Geographers	2022—present
Member, Sustainable Transitions Research Network	2022—present
Member, Climate and Social Science Research Network	2021—present
Member, Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management	2020—present
Member, NEWIEE	2019—present
Invited Participant, APSA Dissertation Workshop	2025
Member, NEU Graduate Women in Science and Engineering	2021—2026
Member, NEU SPPUA Computational Science Discussion Group (CSDg)	2021
Albany, NY Chapter Leader, Citizens' Climate Lobby	2016—2017

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Mothers Out Front Brookline	
Chapter Data Lead & Fossil Fuel Free Team Facilitator	2025—present
Boston Area Rape Crisis Center	
Crisis Hotline Supervisor	2021—2024
Crisis Hotline Volunteer	2019—2021
Albany Crime Victim and Sexual Violence Center	
Hotline Volunteer	2016—2017
Sexual Assault Centre of McGill Students' Society	
Volunteer, Hotline Manager, Librarian	2014—2016

CONSULTING EXPERIENCE

Center for Economic Democracy	Green New Deal Consultant with NU Experiential Network	2020
City of Sacramento	Diversity and Talent Leadership Consultant with NU Experiential Network	2020