



Humanities Institute at Stony Brook

p r e s e n t s

Thursday, November 14th, 2013

4:30 p.m.

Humanities 1006

Reception to follow

Susanne Moser

Getting Real: Meeting the Challenge of Public Engagement When Climate Change Comes Home

Some say Superstorm Sandy was a turning point in terms of the public and decision-makers taking climate change seriously, but dealing with disrupted communities remains difficult. Navigating the political and emotional terrain of change and loss is an all too real challenge. Moser explores ways to effectively communicate climate change risks and adaptive responses and help experts, planners and resource managers more effectively engage their stakeholders. She presents general principles and grounds them in empirical results from focus groups in a coastal community in California. Proposed ideas go beyond commonplace guidelines of science communication, aiming to make room for the truly humanistic challenge of meeting people in a profound change process.

Susanne Moser is an independent consultant and a Social Science Research Fellow at Stanford's Woods Institute for the Environment. She is an internationally recognized expert on climate change, working in the US, Europe and Australia with researchers, non-profits, and local, state and federal agencies on adaptation, communication, and science-policy interactions. She has been recognized as a fellow of the Aldo Leopold Leadership, Kavli Frontiers of Science, UCAR Leadership, Donella Meadows Leadership, Google Science Communication, and Walton Sustainability Solutions Programs.

