

# **Sustainable Landscapes presents: Landscape Cycles: Connecting People to Place through Agriculture**

## **Vision Statement:**

“Of all the ways we consume, food is a sensible one to attend to. Eating is a genuine need, continuous from our first day to our last, amounting over time to our most significant statement of what we are made of and what we have chosen to make of our connection to home ground. We can hardly choose not to eat, but we have to choose how, and our choices can have astounding consequences.”(Small Wonder, Kingsolver 123) As the foundation to all life cycles, food is both celebration and struggle. Food production is the most basic connection to life and, until this past century, to place.

Now in its sixth year, Sustainable Landscapes strives to explore the connection between the foods we eat and the community we live in, locally, regionally, nationally and worldwide. Where does our food come from? Who benefits and who suffers in our global food system? Who is bucking that system and how? Internationally, large movements are afoot to understand and reverse the effects that corporate industrial agriculture is having on the environment, the world’s poor, bio-diversity, and the growing chasm between rich and poor. In the United States, a rural revival is unfolding, modeled on the principles of sustainable agriculture, reduced fossil-fuel dependency, local economic self-sufficiency and local government empowerment. Yet race, gender and class inequalities remain on the other side of this often, gentrified movement. In the Intermountain West, suburban landscapes and technology and industrial sectors have supplanted generations of ecological knowledge and rural livelihoods. Locally, Cache Valley, the center of agriculture in Utah, is experiencing an awakening of sustainable sensibility, while simultaneously struggling to preserve farmland, enhance local economies and stifle rampant urban and suburban growth. This year Sustainable Landscapes addresses these issues through “Landscape Cycles: Connecting People to Place through Agriculture”, exploring food and human life cycles to better understand how people are connected to the places in which they live.

Sustainable Landscapes continues to provide a forum for discussion and education of sustainable issues, especially those particular to the Intermountain West. As always we hope to better understand the collaborative role students, professionals, activists and individuals can play in shaping a sustainable future.

## **SPEAKER BIOS**



## Jim Hightower

National radio commentator, columnist, public speaker, political sparkplug and author of *Let's Stop Beating Around the Bush*, Jim Hightower has spent three decades battling the Powers That Be on behalf of the *Powers That Ought To Be* – consumers, working families, environmentalists, small business, and just-plain-folks.

Twice elected Texas Agriculture Commissioner, Hightower believes that the true political spectrum is not right to left, but top to bottom, and he has become a leading national voice for the 80 percent of the public who no longer find themselves within shouting distance of the Washington and Wall Street powers at the top.

Hightower also devotes much of his energy to revitalizing grassroots progressive politics with his nationwide “Rolling Thunder Down-Home Democracy Tour.” Sort-of like a county fair of progressive activism, these festivals include top-notch speakers, great music, how-to workshops, food, drink, games, clowns & fun for the whole family. In 2002, the Rolling Thunder Tour traveled to Austin, Chicago, Tucson, Seattle, Minneapolis and Duluth. The 2003 Tour visited California, Missouri, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and New Hampshire, and it will continue to roll through 2004

Hightower was raised in Denison, Texas, in a family of small business people, tenant farmers, and working folks. A graduate of the University of North Texas, he worked in Washington as legislative aide to Sen. Ralph Yarborough of Texas before returning to his home state, where he was editor of the feisty biweekly, *The Texas Observer*.

He then made what he calls “the only downward career move you can make from journalism” by entering politics. He was twice elected to statewide office, serving two productive and boisterous terms as Texas Agriculture Commissioner (1983-1991).

Since then, Hightower has become his own media conglomerate, using his writings and voice to reach millions of people a year, raising issues, raising hope and raising hell. Describing himself as a Luddite with a Web site, Hightower provides updated information about his newsletter, radio commentaries, books, speaking schedule, and other work at [www.jimhightower.com](http://www.jimhightower.com).



### **Laura Jackson**

Laura Jackson grew up near Salina, Kansas on a small acreage where her family raised most of their own food. Her parents Dana and Wes Jackson founded the Land Institute, a school devoted to sustainable agriculture research. She earned a BA in Biology from Grinnell College and a PhD from Cornell University in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. She is currently an Associate Professor at the University of Northern Iowa where she teaches courses in ecology, conservation biology and environmental studies. Her current research is focused on the dynamics of forb establishment and survival in grasslands using mowing and grazing. Laura is married to Kamyar Enshayan and they have two daughters.



### **Kami Pothukuchi**

Kami Pothukuchi teaches at Wayne State University's Department of Geography and Urban Planning. Her research examines the links between food and community and economic development, and the roles public and nonprofit agencies can play in building local food systems and fostering community food security. Specific topics of her research and activism include enhancing grocery retail in underserved communities; urban agriculture as a tool for food security, youth development, and neighborhood improvement; participatory community food assessment; and the roles of planners in community-food linkages. She has published in *Agriculture and Human Values*, *Journal of the American Planning Association*, and *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, among others. A co-authored guide: *What's Cooking in Your Community's Food System?* was published by the Community Food Security Coalition in 2002.

Professor Pothukuchi serves on the board of the Community Food Security Coalition ([www.foodsecurity.org](http://www.foodsecurity.org)), a nationwide coalition with a mission that includes advocacy, organizing, and training and technical assistance on community food security issues. She has previously served on the board of the Hunger Action Coalition of Michigan, and participated in other local and national efforts linking food and community development. She has offered numerous community food assessment workshops around the country and in Canada.



### **Bob Budd**

Bob Budd is the project manager for Red Canyon Ranch, and Director of Land Management for The Nature Conservancy in Wyoming. He has held the position of ranch manager since 1993. Prior to that time, he spent fifteen years with the Wyoming Stock Growers Association, ten as the Executive Director.

Bob has a Master of Science degree in Range Management, a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Business, and a Bachelor of Science in Animal Science, all from the University of Wyoming. He served as president of the international Society for Range Management in 2003, and has worked on numerous boards and task forces to improve natural resources throughout the United States and other countries.

Mr. Budd has been recognized for his stewardship by many organizations, and is often asked to speak about land management by landowners, environmental and conservation organizations, academic institutions, and others. His most recent publications are three chapters in *Ranching West of the 100 th Meridian*, an Island Press publication.

Bob and his wife Lynn live in Wyoming with their three children, Joe, Jake, and Maggie.



### **Peggy Petrzelka**

Peggy (Peg) Petrzelka joined Utah State University in 2001. She received her M.S. in Rural Sociology and PhD in Sociology from Iowa State University. Her BA is in Political Science from College of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN.

Peg's research and teaching interests include environmental sociology, community and rural sociology, and social change and development.

She spent several years in the Atlas Mountains of Southern Morocco, first as a Peace Corps Volunteer and later as a Fulbright Scholar. In her Fulbright research she examined the social relations of two diverse rural Imazighen communities, and how the social dynamics within each community affect the respective communities' common property management. The results are found in a co-authored article, "Rationality and Solidarities: The Social Organization of Common Property Resources in the Imdrhas Valley of Morocco" (Human Organization. 2000. Vol. 59, No. 3, pgs. 343-352). While in Morocco she also researched and documented the indigenous environmental knowledge of the Imazighen people, as well as the interplay between gender and development.

Her work with Iowa State University focused on issues related to sustainable agriculture and integrated crop and pest management, a holistic approach to agricultural management that emphasizes reduction of chemicals.

In her dissertation, “The Loess Hills: Power and Democracy in a ‘New’ Landform” she examined in-depth the social dimensions of scientific proclamations upon place, specifically the Loess Hills, a landform located in seven counties of Western Iowa, part of which is documented in a recently published article, “The new landform’s here! The new landform’s here! We’re Somebody Now!! The Role of Scientific Discourse on Place Identity.” *Rural Sociology*. Vol. 69, No.3, pgs. 386-404.

The theme of voice and whose voices are heard in environmental decision-making processes has been prevalent in her current research. This research includes looking at decision-making processes on various land-use uses in Utah, and surveying residents’ perceptions of how they were (or were they) included in the decision making process, trust in public officials, and participation rates in decision making processes. The research examines these issues across varying levels of governance, including city, county and state. A road widening issue in Logan, a rezoning issue in Cache County, and the proposal to make the San Rafael Swell (located in Emery County) a national monument are all examined.



**Dr. Lyle G. McNeal**

Dr. Lyle G. McNeal received his B.S. in Animal Husbandry from California Polytechnic State College, Pomona, in 1964; M.S. in Animal Breeding and Range Management from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1966; and Ph.D. in Reproductive Physiology and Range Science from Utah State University, Logan, in 1978. He accepted a position in 1966 as a County Agent, and State Extension Sheep and Horse Specialist for the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Service. In 1969 he accepted an Assistant Professor position in the Animal Science Department at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. After receiving his Ph.D. in 1978, he returned to Cal Poly and was promoted to Professor. In 1979, he joined the Utah State University faculty with tenure to teach in the Animal, Dairy & Veterinary Science Department. He serves as the Animal Science Program Coordinator, Honors Adviser, Internship and Cooperative Education Supervisor, adviser to the USU Sheep Club and Show Team, and academic adviser to more than 50 animal science majors and minors, and a member of the Curriculum Committee.

His more than 25 years of pioneering work in genetic conservation of domestic animals with the Navajo-Churro sheep, and outreach education in the Intermountain West and on the Navajo Nation has brought national

and international recognition to that program. He is also the 1996 recipient of the American Livestock Breeds Conservancy, "*Conservation Breeder of the Year Award*." He has remained active in the sheep industry and served in many leadership roles with the former National Wool Growers Association and the American Sheep Industry Association. In January of 1996 he received the American Sheep Industry Association's, "*Camptender Award*." for his lifetime of service to the U.S. sheep and wool industry. In June 2003, he was awarded the "*Goldtooth Begay Lifetime Achievement Award*" from the Navajo Nation sheep producers and weavers cooperative and Dine' College (Navajo Nation land-grant college). His outreach service with the Utah Wool Growers Association continues and he received the *Outstanding Service Award* from this producers organization in 2004. He recently wrote a textbook titled "*Small Ruminant Production Management and Medicine*" for Animal Health Publications, which includes a CD and video footage educational utilization. He writes a regular *Livestock Q&A* column for the *Hobby Farms* magazine.



### **Doug Jackson-Smith**

Dr. Douglas Jackson-Smith is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology at Utah State University. Trained as a rural sociologist at the University of Wisconsin, his academic research has focused on the social and economic dynamics of change in agriculture, rural landscapes, and the larger food system. His recent projects involve a national study of the impact of changes in dairy farming on rural communities, a study of the effectiveness of community policies on protecting agriculture in the rural-urban fringe, and analyses of the ecological implications of rural and agricultural land use changes.



### **John Haskell**

John Haskell lives and works in Woodruff, UT on the Deseret Land & Livestock Ranch. John cowboys and designs resource development and restoration projects for the ranch. He and his wife, Jocelyn also run their own company, Diamond J Resource Management, that works with state agencies, conservation groups and private land owners to complete collaborative restoration projects similar to those completed at Deseret. Diamond J and Deseret have been working with the Rich County Coordinated Resource Management (CRM) team to develop rangeland restoration projects and management plans on public and private lands throughout Rich County. Their largest project to date is a \$500,000 restoration project on 20,000 acres of mixed ownership land east of Bear Lake. Most recently, Diamond J has focused on integrating market demand and conservation objectives to reduce restoration costs or, when possible, create positive returns. John and Jocelyn are both pursuing graduate degrees at Utah State University with Dr. Fred Proveza in the

College of Natural Resources and have published scientific papers in Holocene Paleontology, Ecology, and Animal Science. John graduated from the University of New Mexico with a B.S. in Biology.



**Don Anderson**

Don S. Anderson brings a career in both not-for-profit management and nursery and greenhouse operations to Wasatch Community Gardens. His third time back in Salt Lake City, Don first came to Utah as Associate Manager for Repertory Dance Theater in 1969. After a three-year stint as Director of Dance Programs for the National Endowment for the Arts, he returned to Salt Lake to found and direct the Institute of Arts Administration at the University of Utah. His career also includes work with the American Dance Festival, Sundance Institute, the (Durham) Carolina Theater, Red Dog Farm and Scottorn's True Nature Nursery and Greenhouse.



**Brian Smart**

Brian Smart attended a Permaculture Design Course during the summer of 1998. He attended the University of Utah for two years where he studied Urban Planning and Environmental Studies. He has worked on organic farms and studied alternative agriculture in New Mexico, Hawaii, and here in Utah. He is currently a junior at Utah State University where he is completing his degree in Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning. His focus is on the design of small scale agricultural systems for urban settings.



**Christopher Sands, ASLA, AICP**

Christopher Sands received his Masters Degree in Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning from Utah State University in 1994 and his Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degree from the University of Georgia in 1991. He is a Licensed Landscape Architect in the State of Utah and a nationally Certified Planner who serves as Principal and Planning Division Manager at BIO-WEST, Inc., in Logan, Utah. BIO-WEST is a 25-person, multi-disciplinary environmental consulting firm serving Federal, State, and local government agencies, as well as private companies, throughout the United States and Canada. BIO-WEST has been providing context sensitive environmental services since 1976. BIO-WEST's corporate offices are located in Logan, with a satellite office in Austin, Texas.

Mr. Sands' studies and work experience emphasize natural resource analyses, resource management planning, recreation planning, and land-use planning throughout the North American west. He possesses 20 years

work experience,

including 13 years with BIO-WEST. Prior to moving to Utah in pursuit of his Master's degree, Mr. Sands spent 12 months over three summer seasons with the U.S. Forest Service in Alaska executing visual resource management and recreation planning projects on the Tongass National Forest. While living in Georgia, he owned and operated a successful landscape design and property maintenance business for over 9 years while obtaining his high school and B.L.A. degrees. Now living in Young Ward, Utah, Mr. Sands is a founding member of the Cache County Agricultural Advisory Board (2002), the first board of its kind in the State of Utah, and is a member of the Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning (LAEP) Advisory Board (2003) at Utah State University, the first board of its kind at USU. Mr. Sands also serves as a Board of Trustees member for the Stokes Nature Center in Logan Canyon (2004). He can often be found working at home on the ranch or planning his next trip to explore distant lands and cultures.



### **Theresa Selfa**

Theresa Selfa is a Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Environment and Society. She received a Ph.D. in Development (Rural) Sociology from Cornell University, and a Master's Degree in City and Regional Planning from UC Berkeley. She is involved in research and policy work in sustainable agriculture and food systems, natural resources and rural development. She has conducted research in the Western U.S., Brazil, Philippines and Croatia.



### **Steven Rosenberg**

Steven Rosenberg is the "Chief Eating Officer" at Liberty Heights Fresh, a specialty food retail shop in Salt Lake City, Utah. Now in their twelfth season, and with a staff of 20 "Foodies", Rosenberg has undertaken the mission of educating the community about pleasurable traditional and organic food, and tempting guests with hand-selected items from producers around the world.

Prior to opening Liberty Heights Fresh, Rosenberg worked on a family orchard in Southwestern Michigan as a fruit and vegetable grower, picker, packer, and peddler, as a wholesale produce merchant, flower importer and filmmaker. He has a BS in Food Marketing and Agricultural Economics from Michigan State University, 1983.

Rosenberg is active in the community, co-founding the Salt Lake Vest Pocket Business Coalition, a small business advocacy group, and also serves on the board of Utahns against Hunger, The Central

Regional Council for Utah Workforce Services, Slow Food Utah, and The Buyers Circle Board of the National Association for the Specialty Food Trade (N.A.S.F.T.).

Steven is the spouse of artist Erin Mattes, and is the father of Noah (11) and Tobias (7).



### **Craig W. Johnson**

Professor Craig Johnson joined the USU Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning faculty in 1966. He received a BLA degree from Michigan State University and an MLA degree from the University of Illinois. In 1983 he earned an MS degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Biology from South Dakota State University.

Professor Johnson's areas of expertise include: applied land ecology, land reclamation, urban forestry and urban wildlife planning. While a graduate student at South Dakota State University, he was a research assistant for the South Dakota Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit. Professor Johnson has authored numerous articles which have been published in national and international journals, authored or coauthored six books and his book Conservation Corridor Planning at the Landscape Level: Managing for Wildlife Habitat, coauthored with two graduate students, was recognized by The Wildlife Society as book of the year in 2001. He was also awarded a Certificate of Appreciation by the Natural Resources Conservation Service for his "commitment to healthy watersheds and sustainable landscapes." Professor Johnson has received numerous college and university awards for teaching excellence. He was selected to give the 2001 University Honors Lecture.

Professor Johnson is a licensed landscape architect in the States of Minnesota and Utah where he is actively involved as a design and planning consultant. Twelve projects on which Professor Johnson has collaborated or been project director for have received state and national ASLA, APA and AILA awards. In 1982 he was awarded the Utah Chapter of ASLA Distinguished Service Award. Professor Johnson is a member of the American Society of Landscape Architects, Society of Ecological Restoration, The Wildlife Society and the Society for Conservation Biology.

### **Sumner Swaner**



Bent on Changing the way people think about open space, Swaner the founder of Center for Green Space Design, Melded years of research and practical experience into a process that enables a community to develop and implement a comprehensive green space

system, a system that encompasses cultural, ecological, developmental, agricultural, and recreational resources. Hear his inspiring story, and see how green planning alternatives are yielding myriad long-term benefits.

Swaner is a talented landscape architect and planner, with roots in wildlife biology and ecology and a background in ranching and real estate development. Thanks to this blending of disciplines, Swaner brings a broad perspective to open space challenges, distinguishing himself not only for his sensitivity to the environmental constraints and potentials of the land, but also for his ability to use that sensitivity to enhance social and economic options for communities.



Christie Oostema

Christie Oostema is the Executive Director of Center for Green Space

Design, a nonprofit organization committed to helping communities plan for long-term open space conservation. Christie's primary focus is on coordinating grass-roots education and planning efforts that empower local citizens to develop and implement conservation-oriented plans, mostly in rural Utah. Christie's articles have appeared in local newspapers and such publications as Urban Land. She has spoken at a range of conferences and symposiums for groups including Western Planners, Bioneers, and the Urban Land Institute.

Thanks to all the volunteers who are making this year's conference possible!

Planning Committee

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