

Amy L. Seidl, PhD

Email Address

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Current Professional Activities

Senior Lecturer, Ecologist, Author

Current Academic Appointment

Co-Director, Environmental Program, UVM (2015-present)

Senior Lecturer, Rubenstein School of the Environment and Natural Resources, UVM (2017-present)

Past Appointments

2011-2017 Lecturer, Rubenstein School of the Environment and Natural Resources, UVM

2005-2008 Associate Director, LivingFuture Foundation, Huntington, VT

2002-2005 Instructor, Environmental Studies Program, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT

2001-2002 Visiting Assistant Professor, Environmental Program, UVM

Academic History

2001 Ph.D. Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Vermont

1994 M.S. Entomology, Colorado State University

1988 B.A. Natural Science and Poetry, Hampshire College

Current Undergraduate Courses

Introduction to Environmental Studies; Adaptation to Climate Change; Sustainability Science; Environmental Literature of the Anthropocene; Teaching About the Environment; Capstone Internship Coordinator

Additional Undergraduate Courses Taught

Insect Ecology; Introduction to Biology (lab); Climate Change Science; Intermediate Environmental Studies; Ecology, Ecosystems and the Environment; Climate Action Seminar

CCALL – Climate Change Action and Literacy Lab

My lab group, CCALL, is comprised of undergraduates who develop research, communication, leadership and collaboration skills as they concern climate change action, mitigation and adaptation. On average, 15 students meet weekly; propose projects and research; complete theses, internships, and capstones; and find community working with others in this field.

Teaching Awards

2020 President's Distinguished Senior Lecturer Award, University of Vermont

2017 Lynne Bond Outstanding Faculty Service-Learning Award, Community & University Partnerships, University of Vermont

2016 Marcia Caldwell Award for Dedication to RSENr Students, University of Vermont

2016 Nominated for the University-wide Kroepsch-Maurice Teaching Award 2015-16, University of Vermont (additional nominations 2012, 2013, 2014)

Teaching Fellowships

2020 Contemplative Practices in Higher Education Faculty Fellowship, University of Vermont

2017 Service-Learning Faculty Fellowship, University of Vermont

2010 Sustainability Faculty Fellowship, University of Vermont

2001 Service-learning Faculty Fellowship, University of Vermont

Books

- Till and Keep: A Work of Climate Fiction* (current project; expected completion 2022)
- 2011 *Finding Higher Ground: Adaptation in the Age of Warming* (Beacon Press, Boston, MA)
- 2009 *Early Spring: An Ecologist and Her Children Wake to a Warming World*. (Beacon Press, Boston, MA; Foreword by Bill McKibben)

Book Awards and Critical Recognition

- 2014 Phillipon, D. 2014. Is American nature writing dead? Gerard, G. (ed.) in *The Oxford Handbook of Ecocriticism*. Oxford University Press, London.
- 2012 Lockwood, A. 2012. The affective legacy of *Silent Spring*. *Environmental Humanities* 1(1):123-140.
- 2010 Association for Academic and University Publishers “Best of the Best” Award for *Early Spring: An Ecologist and Her Children Wake to a Warming World*.

Book Chapters

- 2022 **Seidl, A.L.** et al. Come for the climate, stay for the community: Acting, emoting, and staying together through the climate crisis. In *The Existential Toolkit for Climate Justice Educators*, J. Ray and J. Atkinson eds. Forthcoming University of California Press.
- 2016 Seidl, A. Foreword. *New Voices in Wilderness*. Waterman, L. (ed.) University of New England Press, Lebanon, NH.
- 2015 Seidl, A. “Resembling the cosmos: Evolution in the Age of Humans,” Minter, B. (ed.) in *After Preservation: Saving American Nature in the Age of Humans*, University of Chicago Press, Chicago, IL.
- 2012 Seidl, A. “The Pragmatics of Climate Change: Moving Ideas into Action,” de la Macorra, X. (ed.) in *Human Migration and Climate Change*, America Natural, Mexico City, Mexico.

Journal Publications

- 2016 Coleman, K., J. Murdoch, K. Walling, **A. Seidl**, and S. Rayback. Beyond polar bears: Service-learning as a tool to understand climate across disciplines. In press. *Journal of Geoscience Education*.
- 1999 **Seidl, A.L.** Population demographics and the conservation status of the Uncompahgre fritillary butterfly *Boloria acrocneuma* (Lepidoptera: Nymphalidae). *Journal of the Lepidopterists’ Society* 53 (1)32-36.
- 1996 **Seidl, A.L.** Larval biology and oviposition behavior of the endangered Uncompahgre fritillary *Boloria acrocneuma* (Lepidoptera: Nymphalidae). *Journal of the Lepidopterists’ Society* 50 (4) 290-294.
- 1994 **Seidl, A.L.** and P.A. Opler. Uncompahgre fritillary butterfly demographics: Response to Britten et al. *Conservation Biology* 8 (4) 1156-1157.

Grants

- 2022 *Restoration Ecologies and Community Conservation: Building a Green Work Force*. (\$40,000). Henry David Thoreau Foundation, Faculty Grant. Co-PI with Dr. Cheryl Morse.
- 2022 *Restoration Ecologies and Community Conservation: Building a Green Work Force*. (\$40,000). Cotyledon Fund. Co-PI with Dr. Cheryl Morse.
- 2020 *Travel Carbon Offsets at UVM: Phase Two Investigation*. (\$1200). Clean Energy Fund, UVM. (co-Investigator with student Isabel Coppola)
- 2019 *Burack Presidential Lecture Award* (\$5000). Used to bring poet and essayist Ross Gay to UVM.
- 2019 *Travel Carbon Offsets at UVM: Phase One Investigation*. (\$1200). Clean Energy Fund, UVM. (co-Investigator with student Will Corcoran)
- 2019 *Curating the Conversation: Storytelling and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation* (\$3000). Clean Energy Fund, UVM. (co-investigator with student Josie Friedman).

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- 2016 *Continued Funding for Clean Energy Internship Program: Connecting Students with Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Internships.* (\$26,750). Clean Energy Fund, UVM. (Principal Investigator).
- 2015 *Connecting Students with Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Internships.* (\$29,300). Clean Energy Fund, UVM. (Principal Investigator).
- 2014 *Burack Presidential Lecture Award* (\$5000). Used to bring ecologist and conservationist Daniel Janzen to UVM.
- 2013 *Service learning and environmental stewardship at the University of Vermont* (\$5000) to Environmental Protection Agency and New England Campus Compact (Co-principal Investigator with Kimberly Wallin, James Murdoch and Shelly Rayback).
- 2012 *Supplemental funding for Dr. Sandra Steingraber to give the Burack Presidential Lecture* (\$10,000), Ceres Foundation, Milwaukee, WI (Principal Investigator).
- 2012 *Burack Presidential Lecture Award* (\$5000). Used to bring scientist and author Sandra Steingraber to UVM.
- 2012 *Climate action seminar: Responding to the new normal* (\$21,675), Clean Energy Fund Grant (Co-applicants Cecilia Danks and Rachel Beddoe).
- 2008 *Large Scale Solar at Teal Farm: A Feasibility Study* (\$5000), Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Renewable Energy and Agriculture Program (Principal Investigator).
- 2005 *Demonstrating the Feasibility of a Biofuel: Production and Use of Biodiesel from Waste Oil Feedstock and Bio-based Methanol at Middlebury College* (\$7560) Environmental Protection Agency P3 Awards: A National Student Design Competition for Sustainability Focusing on People, Prosperity and the Planet (Principal Investigator).

Academic and Professional Service

2022-25 *Member and Secretary*, Orion, Northampton, MA

2021-22 *Member*, Audubon Vermont, Huntington, VT

2019-21 *Chair*, Environmental Program Executive Committee, UVM

2018-22 *Member*, University Curriculum Affairs Council, UVM

2015-21 *Member and Vice-Chair*, Vermont Natural Resources Council, Montpelier, VT

2016-21 *Faculty representative*, Socially Responsible Advisory Subcommittee (SRIAC), UVM

2016-18 *Member*, Sustainability General Education Assessment Committee, UVM

2016-17 *Member*, Sustainability and Community Committee, RSENR, UVM

2016-17 *Member*, Udall Scholarship Committee, UVM

2014-16 *Liaison*, ENVIS Writing and Information Literacy General Education (WILD), UVM

2014-16 *Member*, First-year Working Group, RSENR, UVM

2014-15 *Member*, Environmental Program Enrichment Fund Committee, UVM

2013-14 *Member*, Slade Hall Building and Architect Selection Committee, UVM

2012-15 *Member*, General Education Committee on Writing and Information Literacy (WILD), UVM

2010-20 *Board member*, Bright Blue Eco-Media, Burlington, VT.

Keynotes

2017 *Evidence and Disbelief: Why the Science of Climate Change Challenges American Reason.* Green Mountain College, Poultney, VT. April 12, 2017

2016 *Conservation and America's Changing Demographic: Thoughts on Parks, Land Trusts and John Muir.* South Hero Land Trust Annual Meeting, July 23, 2016.

2013 *Stewardship in the Age of Warming.* Northeast Alpine Stewardship Conference, November 3, 2013. White Mountains, NH.

2013 *Self-reliance 2.0.* Sorensen Lecture, Lincoln Unitarian Church. Lincoln, NE, October 10, 2013.

2013 *Resilience in a Time of Ecological Uncertainty,* Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, Earth Day Conference, April 23, 2013.

2012 *Finding Higher Ground: Adaptation to an Age of Warming,* Communicating Science Conference Antioch University, Keene, NH, October 11, 2012

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- 2012 *Finding Higher Ground: The Connection to Peace*, National Peace Academy Annual Meeting, Burlington, VT, July 17, 2012.
- 2011 *A Conversation about Adaptation*, Vermont Bioneers 1st Annual Conference, Montpelier, VT, October 14, 2011.
- 2011 *Early Spring: Sensing the Signals*, Interfaith Power and Light Conference, Vermont Law School, South Royalton, VT, November 6, 2011.
- 2009 *Early Spring: Signs of Warming in the New England Landscape*, Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment Biennial Conference, Vancouver, BC, June 5, 2009.
- 2006 Annual Winter Meeting, Northeast Organic Farmer's Association, Randolph, VT, February 10, 2006.

Lectures

- 2021 *Big Ideas from (Relatively) Small Creatures* City Nature Celebration, Burlington and Winooski, VT City Partnership, April 29, 2021.
- 2015 *Climate Adaptation and Youth*. Adirondack Youth Climate Summit, WILD Center, Saranac Lake, NY. November 13, 2015
- 2015 *Climate Change Symposium*. Seventh Generation Headquarters, Burlington, VT. September 15, 2015.
- 2015 *Adaptation to Climate Change*. Marist College, Poughkeepsie, NY. April 9, 2015.
- 2013 *Signs, Signals, and Adaptive Strategies*. Department of Biology, Doane College, Crete, NE. October 14, 2013.
- 2012 *Finding Higher Ground: Adaptation in the Age of Warming*, Environmental Program Antioch University, Keene, NH, October 7, 2012.
- 2012 *The Role of Pragmatism in the Age of Warming*, Environmental Studies Program, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT, May 3, 2012.
- 2012 *Finding Higher Ground in Post-Irene Vermont*, Vermont Humanities Council, First Wednesday Series, Newport, VT March 7, 2012.
- 2012 *Climate Change in the Northeast*, Environmental Studies Program, Paul Smith's College, Paul Smith's, NY, March 2, 2012.
- 2012 *Finding Higher Ground: Adaptation in the Age of Warming*, Environmental Studies Program, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, February 17, 2010.
- 2009 *Climate Change and Land Conservation*, Annual Board Meeting, Vermont Land Trust, Burlington, VT, January 30, 2009.
- 2009 *Early Spring*, Environmental Program, Mount Holyoke College, S. Hadley, MA, April 6, 2009.
- 2009 *Early Spring*, Hampshire College, Amherst, MA, April 7, 2009.
- 2009 *Early Spring*, LEED School of Business, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, April 21, 2009.
- 2009 *Early Spring*, College of Natural Resources, Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, CO, April 20, 2009.
- 2008 *Panelist*, Energy and Environment Forum, Aspen Institute, Aspen, CO, March 26, 2008.
- 2008 *Panelist*, Blue Planet Summit, Blue Planet Foundation, Oahu, HI, February April 4, 2008.

Television and Film

- 2016 Voice and interview. *From Hurricane to Climate Change*. Film. Monadnock Institute Franklin Pierce College, NH.
- 2014 Voice and interview. *The Resilient Ones: A Generation Takes on Climate Change*. Film. Bright Blue Media.
- 2008-10 Host. *Emerging Science*. Vermont Public Television, sponsored by the National Science Foundation and VT EPSCoR. Aired nationally.
- 2009 Panelist. *Fueling our Future*. Fred Friendly Seminar, Public Broadcasting Service. Aired nationally.

Magazine Articles

- 2009 Film Review: *Sea Change*, Orion Magazine, December 2009.
- 2009 *Excerpt from Early Spring*. Organic Gardening Magazine April/May 2009.

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- 2008 Book Review: *Evolution* by Jean de Panfrieu, Orion Magazine July/August 2008.
- 2007 Shouts and Murmurs: *The Boycott*, Orion Magazine January/February 2008.
- 2007 Making Other Arrangements: *LivingFuture and Teal Farm*, Orion Magazine Aug/Sep 2007.
- 2007 Book Review: *Chrysalis* by Kim Todd, Orion Magazine March/April 2007.
- 2006 *True-to-Life*. Vermont Commons Journal, June 2006.
- 2001 *Interview with Thomas Eisner*. Wild Earth Journal 10 (3) 7-11.
- 1999 Species Spotlight: *Solenobia walshella*. Wild Earth Journal 8 (4) 117.
- 1998 *Of weevils, mongoose, and biological control: Is the introduction of non-native predators sustainable?* Wild Earth Journal 8 (3) 54-49.
- 1998 *Fragile hope for the future: the Uncompahgre fritillary survives*. American Butterflies. 6 (2)10-15.
- 1997 *Possible effects of climate change on butterflies*. Wild Earth Journal 7 (3) 25-27.

Writing Fellowships

- 2018 Craigarden, Writing Fellowship in Fiction
- 2018 Vermont Studio Center, Writing Fellowship in Fiction
- 2017 Breadloaf, Writing Fellowship in Fiction
- 2010 Vermont Studio Center, Writing Fellowship in Non-fiction
- 2005 LivingFuture Foundation Writing Fellowship

Graduate Research Fellowships and Grants

- 1996 National Science Foundation Doctoral Training Fellowship (granted for 4 years)
- 1996 American Museum of Natural History Theodore Roosevelt Award
- 1992 Colorado Fellowship
- 1988 Hampshire College, Threshold Fellowship
- 1996 Sigma Xi Research Grant
- 1995 Explorer's Club Research Grant for Alpine Studies

Research Investigation Teams

- 1995-2000 Principal Investigator: Butterfly-plant interactions in alpine environments: The effects of global change. San Juan Mountains, CO.
- 1995 Chief Naturalist: Rainforest canopy natural history. TreeTop Explorations, Osa Peninsula, Costa Rica.
- 1993-1994 Principal Investigator: Demographics of a rare alpine butterfly. San Juan Mountains, CO.
- 1992-1994 Field Biologist: Pacific Coast migrant goose survey. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Baja, Mexico.
- 1992-1993 Field Biologist. Aleutian migrant bird survey. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Survey, Anchorage, AK.
- 1992 Team Leader (with Michael Soule) and Field Biologist. Phenology of a subalpine meadow. Earthwatch Expeditions, Gothic, CO.
- 1991 Field Biologist. Evolution of endothermy in seabirds. Palmer Station, Antarctica.
- 1990 Principal Investigator: Genetics of hybrid columbine flowers. Rocky Mountain Biological Lab, Gothic, CO.
- 1989 Field Biologist. Hummingbird physiology and behavior. Rocky Mountain Biological Lab, Gothic, CO.