

What Works? New Strategies for a Melting Planet

January 25th – January 27th, 2005
Middlebury College, Middlebury VT

Conference information and program

Welcome to 'What Works?: New Strategies for a Melting Planet.' We here at Middlebury College have been positively overwhelmed by the response to this conference. We are thrilled that so many inspiring leaders are here for three days, to share, test and build strategies for the new climate movement.

The conference proceedings will take place in McCullough Student Center, Old Chapel Road off South Main Street (Route 30). The location of all other conference activities, including the keynote talk and the dinners, are indicated (*) in this conference program

Two participatory techniques will be used during portions of the conference:

- [The World Café](#) technique allows conference participants seated around small tables to build a body of knowledge through conversations.
- [Open Space Technology](#) permits conference participants to design and lead their own breakout sessions based on a body of knowledge they have developed together.

The conference proceedings will be graphically recorded by Joni Parker-Roche, with assistance from Christina MacDougall, and moderated by Rob Hartz. Portions of the conference will be filmed by Daniel Gold, Judith Helfand, Gabriel Miller and Adam Wolfensohn of Toxic Comedy Productions. The conference will be covered by the print and online media.

The 'What Works?' conference has been generously funded by The BPB Foundation, The Christian A. Johnson Foundation, [The Mellon Foundation](#), The Schumann Foundation, [Seventh Generation](#), the Vermont Campus Compact, and the following contributors from Middlebury College: [The Ada Howe Kent Fund](#); [The Alliance for Civic Engagement](#); [The Charles P. Scott Spritual and Religous Life Center](#); [The Office of Environmental Affairs](#); [The Program in Environmental Studies](#); The Pooled Enrichment Fund; and [The Rohatyn Center for International Affairs](#).

Conference Program

Tuesday, Jan. 25

5-7 p.m.

Welcome reception and informal dinner. Pizza generously provided by American Flatbread, and ice cream generously provided by Ben & Jerry's

**Redfield Proctor, off Hillcrest Rd.*

7:30 – 9 p.m.

Conference welcome. Nan Jenks-Jay, director of Environmental Affairs, Middlebury College

Conference introduction. Ronald Liebowitz, president, Middlebury College

Speaker introduction. Jonathan Isham, assistant professor, Department of Economics, Middlebury College, and co-principal investigator of the 'What Works' project

Conference Keynote Lecture. "Global Warming and the Meaning of Life." Eban Goodstein, founder and director of the Green House Network, and chair of the Environmental Studies Program, Lewis and Clark College

**Room 216, McCardell Bicentennial Hall, Bicentennial Way off College Street (Route 125)*

9–11 p.m.

Music and socializing

**The Grille, the campus café and bar. McCullough Student Center. Old Chapel Road off South Main Street (Route 30)*

Wednesday, Jan. 26

8–8:15 a.m.

Coffee and light breakfast

8:15–8:30 a.m.

Conference welcome. Middlebury College students enrolled in the Winter Term course, “Building the New Climate Movement”

- Lindsey Corbin '05
- Thomas Hand '05
- Jamie Henn '07

8:30–9:30 a.m.

Conference introduction and World Café. Moderated by Rob Hartz

9:30–10:15 a.m.

Speaker introduction. Sissel Waage, independent consultant and co-principal investigator of the ‘What Works’ project

A working panel on the process of social change. Mary Lou Finley, professor, Department of Sociology, Antioch College; and Bill Chaloupka, chair, Department of Political Science, Colorado State University

10:15–10:30 a.m.

Coffee break

10:30–11:30 a.m.

Speaker introduction. Jacob Park, assistant professor of business and public policy, Green Mountain College, and board member of Greener Management International

Presentation and moderated discussion of The Strategic Values Project. Ted Nordhaus, co-founder and director of the Strategic Values Project

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Presentation and moderated discussion of “The Death of Environmentalism.” Michael Shellenberger, executive director of the Breakthrough Institute

12:30-1:15 p.m.

Lunch

1:15-1:45 p.m.

Photojournalistic display of the 'World View of Global Warming.' Gary Braasch, environmental photographer

1:45–3:15 p.m.

Sharing, testing and building strategies for the new climate movement. Presentation and moderated discussion of the “‘What Works’ Project” by Jonathan Isham and Sissel Waage, co-principal investigators of the ‘What Works’ project; Middlebury students enrolled in “Building the New Climate Movement;” and their service-learning partners:

- Nick Benjamin '05, Thomas Hand '05, and Amber Trotter '06, with Connie Bisson of Middlebury College and the Middlebury Area Global Warming Action Coalition
- Skye Borden '06, Christopher Gregg 05, and Patrick Leibach '06, with Andrea Asch of [Ben and Jerry's](#)
- Kelly Blynn '07, Lindsey Corbin '05, Michael DiRaimondo '05, Aaron Tucker '06, and Julia West, with Roger Stephenson of [Clean Air–Cool Planet](#)
- Jonathan Nichols '05, Amit Tantri '07, and Kira Ventura '05, with Sam Boykin of [Environmental Defense](#)
- Minna Brown '07, John Hanley '05, and Makely Lyon '07, with Eban Goodstein of [The Green House Network](#)
- Jamie Henn '07, Jeremy Osborn '06, Jonathan Warnow '06, and Julia West '06, with Billy Parish of [Energy Action](#)

3:15–3:30 p.m.

Coffee break

3:30–4:30 p.m.

Speaker introduction. David Merrill, founder and executive director of the National Global Warming Coalition

Plenary discussion of the building of a national civil disobedience campaign. Co-led by Jihan Gearon, program associate for Redefining Progress' Environmental Justice and Climate Change Initiative; and Billy Parish, founder and executive director of The Climate Campaign and Energy Action

4:30–4:45 p.m.

Brief summary and preview of next day. Rob Hartz

5:00–5:30 p.m.

Formal announcement of a new prize, to be presented annually by the members of the Green House Network to an outspoken climate-crisis naysayer

**The Middlebury College Library, behind Old Chapel Road off South Main Street (Route 30)*

7–8:30 p.m.

Dinner

**The Kirk Alumni Center, beyond the Middlebury College athletic facilities, off South Main Street (Route 30)*

8:30–10 p.m.

Presentation and screening of segments of “Melting Planet,” a forthcoming film co-directed and co-produced by documentary filmmakers Judith Helfand and Daniel Gold, Toxic Comedy Pictures

**The Kirk Alumni Center, beyond the Middlebury College athletic facilities, off South Main Street (Route 30).*

Thursday, Jan. 27

8–8:15 a.m.

Coffee and light breakfast

8:15–8:30 a.m.

Brief re-welcome. Rob Hartz

8:30–9:30 a.m.

Speaker introduction. Bill McKibben, Middlebury College Scholar-in-Residence in Environmental Studies

Presentation and moderated discussion of “Reflections on the Climate Crisis.” John Passacantando, executive director of Greenpeace USA

9:30–10:30 a.m.

Open Space Technology Session 1, in which conference participants will design their own break-out sessions. Moderated by Rob Hartz

10:30–10:45 a.m.

Coffee break

10:45–11:45 a.m.

Open Space Technology Session 2, in which conference participants will design their own break-out sessions. Moderated by Rob Hartz

11:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Next Steps for the Climate Movement. Plenary discussion, moderated by Jonathan Isham and Sissel Waage, co-principal investigators of the ‘What Works’ project

12:30–1:15 p.m.

Lunch

1:15–2 p.m.

Interfaith prayer and speaker introduction. Rev. Paul Bortz, founder of Spirit in Nature, and Rev. Sister Laurian Seeber, Episcopal church, Diocese of Vermont

Closing Remarks. Bill McKibben, Middlebury College Scholar-in-Residence in Environmental Studies