Senate Climate Briefing Presenter Bios
February 13, 2013



Dr. Donald J. Wuebbles, Ph.D.

Don Wuebbles is the Harry E. Preble Professor of Atmospheric Science at the University of Illinois. He has authored over 400 scientific articles, relating mostly to atmospheric chemistry and climate issues.

He shares in the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize for his work with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and has been honored by being selected a Fellow of two major professional science societies, the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and the American Geophysical Union (AGU).

He earned a B.S. and an M.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Illinois, Urbana and a Ph.D. in Atmospheric Sciences from the University of California, Davis.

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Dr. J. Marshall Shepherd, Ph.D.

Dr. J. Marshall Shepherd is a leading expert in the area of weather, climate, and atmospheric related sciences. He serves as the President of the American Meteorological Society (AMS), the largest and oldest professional/science society in the atmospheric and related sciences.

Dr. Shepherd is the Director of Atmospheric Sciences Program at the University of Georgia. He was a contributing author on 2007 IPCC report and recently a 2011 National Academies of Science (NAS) report assessing the security implications of climate change on U.S. Naval operations.

He received his B.S., M.S. and PhD in physical meteorology from Florida State University.

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Dr. John Balbus, M.D., M.P.H.

Dr. John Balbus leads the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) efforts on climate change and human health.

In this capacity, he represents the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on the U.S. Global Change Research Program, co-chairing the Interagency Crosscutting Group on Climate Change and Human Health. He is a lead author of the recent draft National Climate Assessment chapter on human health.

Dr. Balbus received his A.B. degree in Biochemistry from Harvard University, his M.D. from the University of Pennsylvania, and his M.P.H. from the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health.

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Dr. James J. McCarthy

Dr. McCarthy is Alexander Agassiz Professor of Biological Oceanography at Harvard University, and from 1982 until 2002 he was the Director of Harvard University's Museum of Comparative Zoology.

For the past two decades Dr. McCarthy has worked as an author, reviewer, and as a co-chair with the Nobel Peace Prize winning Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). He was also one of the lead authors on the Arctic Climate Impact Assessment, and a Vice-Chair of the 2007 Northeast Climate Impacts Assessment.

He is past president and chair of the Board of Directors of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the nation's largest scientific association. He received his undergraduate degree from Gonzaga and his Ph.D. from Scripps Institution of Oceanography.

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