

MICHAEL THOMAS WILSON  
CURRICULUM VITAE

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Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
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EDUCATION

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**Massachusetts Institute of Technology | Cambridge, MA**

Present      PhD in Urban Planning  
Specialization in City Design and Development  
Concentration in Climate Change Resiliency and Planning  
Dissertation: “Mapping under Uncertainty: Spatial Politics, Urban Development,  
and the Future of Coastal Flood Risk”

**Harvard Graduate School of Design | Cambridge, MA**

2011          Master of Landscape Architecture, with Distinction  
2011          Master of Urban Planning, with Distinction

**Harvard College | Cambridge, MA**

2007          Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Science and Public Policy, Cum Laude

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

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2017          Lincoln Institute of Land Policy C. Lowell Harriss Dissertation Fellowship  
2017          Boston Area Research Initiative/Boston Indicators Research Seed Grant  
2017          Lynne Sagalyn and Gary Hack Fund Grant  
2017          William Emerson Travel Fund Grant  
2014 – 2017   Department of Urban Studies and Planning Fellowship  
2013 – 2014   MIT Presidential Fellowship  
2011          Charles Eliot Traveling Fellowship  
2011          Landscape Architecture Thesis Prize  
2011          Award for Academic Excellence in Urban Planning  
2011          Graduate School of Design Unsung Hero Award  
2009          Penny White Award  
2007 – 2008   Harvard University Presidential Scholarship  
2007          Thomas Temple Hoopes Prize  
2007          Laurance S. Rockefeller Thesis Prize  
2006          Harvard Center for the Environment Undergraduate Summer Research Fund  
2006          Harvard Office of International Programs  
2004          Nemours/duPont Hospital for Children Summer Research Scholar

## PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

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### City of Boston Conservation Commission

2013 – Member

- *Responsible for administering the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act*
- *Drafting Local Wetlands Ordinance to give City additional home rule powers*

### RAND Corporation | Pittsburgh, PA

2015 – 2016 Adjunct Researcher

2015 Summer Associate

- *Formulated population and land use change scenarios for re-evaluation of the Allegheny County Sanitary Authority's \$2.8 billion wet weather management plan. Assessed implementation potential and modeled impact of green infrastructure strategies on combined sewer overflows under climate change uncertainty*
- *Facilitated stakeholders and issue framing as a 100 Resilient Cities Strategic Partner*

### Mayor's Office of New Urban Mechanics | Boston, MA

2014 Summer Fellow

- *Initiated public space improvements to City Hall's lobbies*
- *Coordinated a pilot stormwater management project with the Boston Water and Sewer Commission and Boston Public Schools as a part of the newly launched Complete Streets program*

### Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates | Brooklyn, NY

2011 – 2013 Senior Designer

2010 Intern

2009 Intern

- *Led MVVA's contribution to the coastal protection strategy of Brooklyn and Queens for New York City's Strategic Initiative for Rebuilding and Resiliency, a multi-agency fast-tracked inventory, analysis, and recommendation report to help allocate \$14 billion of recovery funds in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy*
- *Managed MVVA Team contribution to Summer 2012 Port Lands Acceleration Initiative, a comprehensive public and stakeholder evaluation process for \$1.9 billion of environmental and infrastructural investments, resulting in over \$600 million of cost savings and an expedited 30-year development timeline*
- *Contributed to winning proposals for Austin's Waller Creek Design Competition and St. Louis's Framing a Modern Masterpiece: The City + The Arch + The River Competition*

### O2 Planning + Design | Calgary, AB

2008 Intern

- *Designed concepts for pro-bono playground renovation at public school for children with special needs. Surveyed Kinbrook Island Provincial Park for existing conditions analysis. Edited cartographic and ecological data for Calgary Regional Plan*

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Peer-Reviewed Articles and Reports

- 2018 Wilson, M. “Catastrophes and their Classifications: Revising New York City’s Hurricane Evacuation Maps after Irene and Sandy.” *Journal of Homeland Security and Emergency Management*.
- 2017 Fischbach, J.; Siler-Evans, K.; Tierney, D.; Wilson, M.; Cook, L.; and May, L. “Resilient Stormwater Management in Allegheny County: A Pilot Study”. *RAND Corporation*.
- 2007 Chung, E.; Miller, R.; Wilson, M.; McGeady, S.; and Culhane, J. “Antenatal risk factors, cytokines and the development of atopic disease in early childhood.” *Archives of Disease in Childhood. Fetal and Neonatal Edition*, 92(1), 68-73.

### Manuscripts in Progress

- In Revision Berger, A.; Wilson, M.; Masoud F.; and Zeckhauser, R. “Theorizing the Resilient District: Design-Based Decision Making for Urban Coastal Climate Change Adaptation.” *Journal of Urbanism*.
- Submitted Wilson, M.; Fischbach, J.; Siler-Evans, K.; and Tierney, D. “Modeling Neighborhood-Scale Uncertainty of Impervious Cover Change and its Potential Impacts on Resilient Stormwater Management.” *Landscape and Urban Planning*.
- Submitted Wilson, M.; Kousky, C. “The Long Road to Adoption: How Long Does it Take to Review and Adopt a Flood Map?” *Issues in Science & Technology*.
- Prepared Wilson, M and Keith, D. “Smarter Systems Thinking for Smart Cities: Using Simulation to Explore the Resilience of Boston’s Urban Snow Management.” Intended for *Environment and Planning B*.

### Conference Papers

- 2018 “The Spatial Politics of Urban Flood Resilience.” Urban Affairs Association Annual Conference in Toronto, ON.
- 2017 “Exploring the Resilience of Boston’s Urban Snow Management Policies.” International Conference of the Systems Dynamics Society in Cambridge, MA.
- 2017 “Theorizing the Resilient District: Design-Based Decision Making for Urban Coastal Climate Change Adaptation.” Association of American Geographers Annual Conference in Boston, MA.
- 2015 “Emergent Professionalism in Disaster Planning: Revising New York City’s Hurricane Evacuation Maps after Irene and Sandy.” Urban Affairs Association Annual Conference in Miami, FL.

### Theses

- 2011 “Shifting Ground: Redefining Boston’s Landscape Infrastructure for a Changing Climate.” Master of Landscape Architecture Thesis. Harvard Graduate School of Design. Cambridge, MA.
- 2007 “Challenges Facing the Development of the Athabasca Oil Sands.” Undergraduate Honors Thesis. Harvard College. Cambridge, MA.

## Other Publications

- 2017 Wilson, M. Interview by Rajesh Kasturirangan. Climate Conservations S2E4: Planning for Climate Change with Communities. *MIT ClimateX*.
- 2015 Fischbach, J.; May, L.; Chandra, A.; Wilson, M. “100 Resilient Cities: City of Pittsburgh Agenda-Setting Workshop Summary Report.” *RAND Corporation*.
- 2013 Larsen, K. and Wilson, M. “Wood that Could and Should.” *Landscape Architecture Magazine*.
- 2010 Flaxman, M., et al. “Alternative Futures for the Telluride Region, Colorado.” *Telluride Foundation*.

## Featured Work

- 2012 Busquets, J. “As Grandes Avenidas Inovadoras em Lisboa: Repensar as Infraestruturas Reais e Virtuais.” *Camara Municipal de Lisboa*.
- 2011 Ireland, C. “Rising Seas, Imperiled Cities.” *Harvard Center for the Environment*. 3(2).
- 2011 Steinitz, C. and Munoz-Criado, A. “The Visual Assessment of the Autonomous Community of Valencia, Spain.” *Chinese Landscape Architecture*. (2:168-185).
- 2011 “Shifting Ground: Redefining Boston’s Landscape Infrastructure for a Changing Climate.” *StudioWorks*. Harvard Graduate School of Design.
- 2011 “Shifting Ground: Redefining Boston’s Landscape Infrastructure for a Changing Climate.” *A View on Harvard GSD 3*. Cambridge, MA: Tank Form.
- 2010 Waugh, E., ed. “Next Nexus: Defining New Ground in South Boston.” *GSD Platform 3*. Cambridge; New York: Actar.
- 2010 Waugh, E., ed. “Providence: Jewelry District Studio.” *GSD Platform 3*. Cambridge; New York: Actar.
- 2009 Correa, F., ed. “One Island, One Farm, One Park, Seven Social Landscapes.” *GSD Platform 2*. Cambridge; Barcelona: Actar.
- 2009 Mostafavi, M. and Doherty, G. “Grounding a Sustainable Urban Strategy.” *Ecological Urbanism*. Baden, Switzerland: Lars Muller.

## ENGAGEMENTS AND EXHIBITIONS

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### Guest Lectures

- 2018 “Boston’s Climate Preparedness: Towards a Project-Level Future Flood Resilience Indicator.” MIT Sloan Executive Education.
- 2017 “Representing Resilient Districts.” Norman B. Leventhal Map Center, Boston Public Library. Boston, MA.
- 2017 “Big Plans: Redefining Boston’s Landscape Infrastructure for a Changing Climate.” University of Hartford – Architecture Studio II.
- 2016 “Big Plans: Redefining Boston’s Landscape Infrastructure for a Changing Climate.” Northeastern University – Cities, Landscape, and Contemporary Culture.

- 2015 “Resiliency Districts: Boston.” MIT Corporation Partners Program: [RE]Shape – Design Transformations in SA+P.
- 2012 “Shifting Ground: Redefining Boston’s Landscape Infrastructure for a Changing Climate.” Harvard GSD – Urban Responses to Sea Level Rise.
- 2011 “Shifting Ground: Redefining Boston’s Landscape Infrastructure for a Changing Climate.” Harvard GSD – Urban Planning Career Discovery.
- 2010 “American Transects: the Road and the In Between.” Harvard GSD – Landscape Lunchbox Penny White Award Presentation.

**Exhibited Work**

- 2017 “Boston and Vicinity Infrastructure Map: Resilient Districts.” *Regions and Seasons*. Norman B. Leventhal Map Center, Boston Public Library. Boston, MA.
- 2014 “A New Vision for City Hall's Public Spaces: Concrete Opportunities to Demonstrate Transparency, Openness, and Access.” *Understanding and Improving Cities: Policy/Research Partnerships in the Digital Age*. City of Boston and Boston Area Research Initiative. Boston, MA.
- 2014 “Shifting Ground: Redefining Boston’s Landscape Infrastructure for a Changing Climate.” *Sink or Swim: Designing for a Sea Change*. Annenberg Space for Photography. Los Angeles, CA.
- 2014 “Emergent Professionalism in Disaster Planning: Revising New York City’s Hurricane Evacuation Maps after Irene and Sandy.” *MIT Sustainability Summit: Coastal Cities*. Cambridge, MA.
- 2011 “Shifting Ground: Redefining Boston’s Landscape Infrastructure for a Changing Climate.” *GSD Commencement Exhibition*. Cambridge, MA.
- 2010 “Next Nexus: Defining New Ground in South Boston.” *GSD Platform 3*.
- 2010 “Providence: Jewelry District Studio.” *GSD Platform 3*. Cambridge, MA.
- 2009 “One Island, One Farm, One Park, Seven Social Landscapes.” *GSD Platform 2*.
- 2009 “Curating Beer + Dogs.” *GSD Student Wall*. Cambridge, MA.

**TEACHING AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

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**Courses Taught**

- 2016 Big Plans: Adapting to Climate Change | MIT 11.123
- 2015 Big Plans + Mega-Urban Landscapes | MIT 11.123

**Teaching Assistantships**

- 2015 Introduction to Spatial Analysis | MIT 11.205
- 2015 Workshop on Geographic Information Systems | MIT 11.520
- 2014 Introduction to Spatial Analysis | MIT 11.205
- 2014 Workshop on Geographic Information Systems | MIT 11.520
- 2010 First Semester Core Urban Planning Studio | GSD 1121

### **Research Assistantships**

- 2016 – 2017 Alan Berger, MIT
- 2011 Daniel Schrag, Harvard
- 2011 Jerold Kayden, Harvard
- 2009 – 2010 Richard Forman, Harvard
- 2008 – 2009 Carl Steinitz, Harvard

## **ACADEMIC, PROFESSIONAL, AND OTHER SERVICE**

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### **Municipal Advisory Committees**

- 2016 – 2017 Neighborhood Of Affordable Housing ClimateCARE Adaptation Planning Working Group
- 2016 – 2017 City of Cambridge Alewife Climate Resilience Focus Group
- 2015 – 2016 Trust for Public Lands – Climate-Smart Cities Technical Advisory Team

### **University and Departmental Committees**

- 2015 – MIT Campus Resilience Committee
- 2015 – 2016 MIT Environmental Solutions Initiative – Education Committee
- 2015 DUSP City Design & Development PhD Student Admissions Committee
- 2010 GSD Landscape Architecture MLA I Admissions Committee
- 2010 GSD Landscape Architecture Junior Faculty Search
- 2009 GSD Urban Planning Senior Faculty Search
- 2009 GSD Landscape Architecture Junior Faculty Search

### **Studio and Thesis Reviews**

- 2016 Harvard GSD – Urban Planning and Design Master Thesis Preparation Seminar
- 2015 MIT – Terra-Sorta-Firma: Coding Resilient Urbanism in South Florida
- 2015 Harvard GSD – Urban Planning and Design Master Thesis Preparation Seminar
- 2014 Harvard GSD – The Ocean State
- 2014 Northeastern – The Boston Basin: Urban Design Guidelines for the Ecoregion
- 2011 Harvard GSD – Urban Planning Career Discovery

### **Consulting Engagements**

- 2015 Kingdom of the Netherlands Consulate General in New York City
- 2014 African Agribusiness Knowledge Center (Ghana)
- 2013 Rebuild by Design MIT+ZUS Proposal “New Meadowlands”

### **Volunteer and Additional Work Experience**

- 2016 – Worcester Street Community Garden, Communications and Projects Director
- 2016 – 2017 Friends of Blackstone and Franklin Squares, Board Member
- 2009 – 2010 Harvard GSD Language Resource Center, Tutor
- 2009 Project Link Lite, High School Instructor
- 2007 – 2008 The Memorial Church, Harvard University, Student Assistant

2007 – 2008 The Memorial Church, Harvard University, Grants Committee Member  
2003 – 2007 The Memorial Church, Harvard University, Choir Secretary and Choral Fellow  
2004 – 2005 Resource Efficiency Program, Harvard Green Campus Initiative, House Liaison  
2003 – 2004 Harvard Health Policy Review, Senior Layout Editor

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

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Licensed Landscape Architect in the State of Connecticut #LAR.0001327  
Graduate Education Teaching Certificate from MIT Teaching and Learning Laboratory

Proficient with	Adobe Creative Suite, ArcGIS, AutoCAD, Microsoft Office Suite, Rhino, and Sketchup
Working Knowledge of	@Risk, Access, AutoCAD Civil 3d, Quark XPress, SLOSH, Stata, 3ds Max, Vectorworks, VenSim, and video editing software.
Experimenting with	HAZUS, HEC-RAS, Python, R Studio, and SWMM software.

Citizen of the United States and Canada