



BUCPUA Spring 2021 Event Selections

Climate Change: The Global Dimension

Monday, March 1st | 4:00pm
Advisory Committee on Socially Responsible Investing
[Register](#)

The Boston University community is invited to attend a series of forums, as part of an ongoing discussion on socially responsible investing. Speaker:

Adil Najam, Dean, Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies, and Professor, International Relations and Earth & Environment, College of Arts & Sciences

Urban Heat: Rising Temperatures and Population Vulnerability in Cities

Thursday, March 4th | 4:00pm
Advisory Committee on Socially Responsible Investing
[Register](#)

The Boston University community is invited to attend a series of forums, as part of an ongoing discussion on socially responsible investing. Speakers:

Katharine Lusk, Co-Director and Founding Executive Director, Initiative on Cities
Lucy Hutyra, Associate Director, BU URBAN Program, and Associate Professor, Earth & Environment, College of Arts & Sciences
Patricia Fabian, Associate Professor, Environmental Health, School of Public Health

The Curse of Connoisseurship

Every Tues. and Thurs. of March
6:00pm
BU Diversity and Inclusion
[Register](#)

By nature, the world of wine and spirits is largely exclusive as it tends to focus on expensive luxury goods, gatekeeping, and arcane learning. The elitism associated with these products contributes to class differentiation, with some groups gaining from the involvement while others become marginalized. Therefore, the topic of beverage studies becomes a unique sector with intricate and previously unexplored aspects of class making. Through a series of virtual speaking engagements, these events will address who is othered and made invisible as a result of underrepresentation in the wine and spirits industry. These conversations, helmed by students and alumni from the MET College's Gastronomy Department, will bring together industry professionals from across the Boston beverage scene to discuss the existing barriers present within this community. In particular, we will foster conversations about the language, rhetoric, spaces, and events used to discuss, share, and sell wine and spirits.

The Future of The University

Tuesday, March 23rd | 12:00pm-1:00pm
Pardee School of Global Studies
[Register](#)

Part of the Spring 2021 Pardee House Webinar Series: "The Future of..." Featuring:

Phil Baty, Chief Knowledge Officer, Times Higher Education
Kenneth Elmore, Associate Provost & Dean of Students, BU
Scott Jaschik, Co-founder & Editor, Inside Higher Ed
Barbara R. Snyder, President, Association of American Universities



Women Leading the Charge in Energy Storage to Advance Renewable and EV Growth

Friday March 26th | 11:30am
BU Institute of Sustainable Energy
[Register](#)

In this webinar, women at the forefront of energy storage technologies will discuss the future of electrochemical energy storage, including technological challenges, promising new directions, and the transition of fundamental research to commercial products.

The Privileged Poor

Thursday April 1st | 10:00am
BU Diversity and Inclusion
[Register](#)

Dr. Anthony Abraham Jack will discuss how class and culture shape how undergraduates navigate college and shed new light on how inequity is reproduced. Jack will discuss the social and personal costs of exclusion on undergraduates' opportunities and social well-being. As our final speaker in the series, Dr. Jack will analyze how higher education can enact different behaviors to create a more equitable and just environment?

Downtown after COVID: Will Urban Centers be the Same?

Wednesday April 7th | 12:00pm
[Register](#)

For many who work in white collar office jobs, COVID-19 has ushered in a new era of working from home. Will the end of the pandemic bring back bustling urban centers filled with restaurants, cafes, shops, and white-collar office jobs? Will businesses forgo rent in favor of Zoom? Join the Boston University Initiative on Cities and City Planning & Urban Affairs Program as experts discuss the likely future of downtown spaces, from mass transit to mass gathering, what can we expect to see downtown after the COVID-19 pandemic ends? Join the Boston University Initiative on Cities and City Planning Urban Affairs program for a discussion featuring experts in city planning, sustainability, and real estate:

Brian Swett, Principal, Boston Office Leader & Director of Cities in the Americas, Arup

Emily Keys Innes, Founder of Innes Associates; Faculty and board member at the City Planning & Urban Affairs (CPUA) Program at Boston University

David Valecillos, Director of Design, North Shore Community Development Coalition; Faculty and alumnus of the CPUA Program

Lightning Talk: Class in the Classroom

Friday April 9th | 12:00pm
BU Diversity and Inclusion
[Register](#)

Remote and hybrid classrooms have highlighted the kind of class inequities that have always existed but have been easy to ignore in higher education. This Lightning Talk session, will focus on areas of practice and content that help us understand the myriad ways that class plays out in our classrooms, with strategies to create more inclusive classes.



The Future of the Digital Economy

Thursday April 22nd | 1:00pm
Pardee School of Global Studies
[Register](#)

Part of the Spring 2021 Pardee House Webinar Series: “The Future of...” Featuring:

Azer Bestavros, Associate Provost for Computing & Data Sciences
Robin R. Murphy, Professor of Computer Science & Engineering, Texas A&M University
Nicol Turner Lee, Director, Center for Technology Innovation, Brookings Institution

A System Dynamics Framework to Guide Sustainable African Electricity Sector Expansion: The Critical Role of Social Factors

Friday April 23rd | 11am-12:30pm
BU Institute of Sustainable Energy
[Register](#)

Our panelists will discuss forthcoming research that proposes a system dynamics framework to describe the forces that shape electricity infrastructure expansion in Africa. In particular, the framework highlights two major factors that have generally been underemphasized: the role of societal structures and the consideration of the full spectrum of risks in electricity infrastructure development and operations.

Can the University Restore Trust and Confidence in Experts and Science?

Friday May 21st | 11am-12:30pm
BU Institute of Sustainable Energy
[Register](#)

From climate change to public health, Americans purposively ignore and distrust experts. The COVID-19 pandemic and the last presidential election magnified this phenomenon. This panel will discuss the role of the modern university in contributing to such mistrust, and how it can help restore trust and confidence in experts and science.

Improving Sustainable Investing through Better ESG Metrics

Friday June 18th | 11am-12:30pm
BU Institute of Sustainable Energy
[Register](#)

New research led by the BU Impact Measurement and Allocation Program (IMAP) is helping financial practitioners understand and use sustainable investing metrics and techniques to make better investment decisions, starting with carbon accounting and human capital ESG metrics. This webinar will discuss the program’s early research, done in collaboration with industry stakeholders and investors.