Alumni Participant Bios

Sustainability & Food Justice

Jacqueline Ho ’14 — Resources for the Future, Development Officer
Jacquie credits her environmental consciousness to Bill McKibben, Michael Pollan, and Brown’s Center for Environmental Studies. She has been involved in environmental change – or what she thinks is change, because one can never really know – through a number of avenues. These include organizing protests against fossil fuel infrastructure, criticizing said protests as a distraction, writing her senior thesis about the competing logics behind different climate strategies, and studying the regulations governing inactive oil and gas wells. As a new member of the fundraising team at Resources for the Future, she now spends her time trying to convince the well-resourced that paying environmental economists to build more sophisticated carbon tax models would be a good use of their year-end donation. Her advice to current Brown students: Cherish the spaces you have for critical thought. They are hard to come by in the working world.

Emily Kirkland ‘13 — Better Future Project, Director of Organizing
Emily graduated from Brown in 2013 with a degree in Economics and Environmental Studies. At Brown, Emily originally focused on international development and considered majoring in Latin American Studies. But after participating in the 2011 Keystone XL sit-ins outside the White House and helping to start Brown’s fossil fuel divestment campaign, she discovered a passion for grassroots organizing, and has been doing climate justice organizing and advocacy ever since. Following graduation, Emily spent six months in Los Angeles working on clean energy issues with Environment California, then moved to Boston to work as the Communications Coordinator for 350 Massachusetts and Better Future Project, where she is now the Director of Organizing.

Julianna Rodriguez ’14 — Equitable Food Initiative, Administrative Coordinator
Julianna graduated Brown in 2014 with a BA in Environmental Studies. Her academic work at Brown was focused on local food systems, sustainable agriculture, and environmental and food justice issues. While at Brown, she worked at the CRC as a peer advisor and coordinator of the Matched Advising Program for Sophomores (MAPS) and spent 2 years as a coordinator for the Brown Market Shares Program. She now works for the Equitable Food Initiative, a food certification program that leverages the expertise of farm workers to address food safety, farm labor, and pest management issues on farms.

James Hafner ’87 - Land For Good, Executive Director
Jim Habana Hafner is a 1987 Brown graduate (Development Studies) who has spent his entire career doing program, research and outreach work related agriculture, natural resources, and rural and community development. He has worked with farmers, NGOs, researchers, policy makers and businesses on land tenure, farming systems, watershed management, agricultural trade and public health. Prior to 2003, most of his work was focused internationally - especially in Southeast Asia, post-Soviet Bloc countries, and less industrialized countries generally. Jim was raised in Amherst, Massachusetts, where he spent summers working on local farms and farm stands. He also spent significant stints living in the Philippines and Thailand. Jim has an M.S. in International Agricultural Development (UC Davis) and a Ph.D. in Natural Resources (Cornell). He has taught environmental studies, soil science and geography at universities in California, Connecticut and Massachusetts. He returned to New England with his family in 2003 and now lives in Hadley, MA. Jim is currently the Executive Director of Land For Good, a NH-based, New England regional non-profit whose mission is to put more farmers more securely on more land through its educational, direct service and innovation work on farmland access, land tenure and farm transfer.