

Richard A. Watts, Ph.D.
Senior Lecturer, Geography
Director, Center for Community News
Director, Center for Research on Vermont
Co-Director: Reporting and Storytelling Program
University of Vermont

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Natural Resource Planning, 2006. Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, University of Vermont. Burlington, Vermont.

Master of Arts. Newspaper Journalism, 1989. S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, Syracuse University. Syracuse, New York.

Bachelor of Arts. Political Science, 1985. State University of New York at Cortland. Cortland, New York.

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

**Geography Department, College of Arts & Sciences,
University of Vermont** **2017- Present**
Lecturer & Senior Lecturer

**Community Development & Applied Economics
University of Vermont** **2014 - 2017**
Lecturer

**Community Development & Applied Economics
University of Vermont** **2011 - 2014**
Assistant Research Professor

Transportation Research Center, University of Vermont **2007 – 2011**
Research Center Administrator & Senior Research Analyst

**Rubenstein School for the Environment & Natural Resources
University of Vermont** **2006 - 2007**
Lecturer

Environmental Program, University of Vermont **2001-2006**
Adjunct

Snelling Center for Government **2006-2008**
Public Policy Fellow

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate

ENGR 295 Critical Issues in Transportation for the 21st Century (2007-2009)
CDAE 392 Graduate Seminar (2009-2017)
TRC 310 *Graduate Seminar* (2010-2012)

Undergraduate

ENVS 195 Energy and the Environment (2001-2007)
ENVS 195 Activism and the Environment (2001, 2002)
NR 153 Introduction to Public Policy (2006, 2013)
NR 104 Social Processes and the Environment (2006, 2007)
ENVS 195 Sustainable Transportation Planning (2008-2014)
ENVS 201 Research Methods (2013-2014)
ENVS 295 Cars, Culture and the Media (2010)
CDAE 120 Strategic Writing for Communications (2012)
CDAE 006 Energy Alternatives (2013-2014)
CDAE 024 Human Communications (2016-2017)
CDAE 251 Social Problems (2015-16)
CDAE 195 Media-Action-Policy (2015-17)
VS 52 Introduction to Vermont (2015-19)
AS-190 Internships in Vermont (2017-19)
VS-123 Vermont Media and Politics (2019)

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Stephens, JC, M. Burke, B. Gibian, E. Jordi, and **R. Watts**. Operationalizing Energy Democracy: Challenges and Opportunities in Vermont's Renewable Energy Transformation. *Frontiers in Communication*. October, 2018.

Discourses of Departure?: Examining the “Rural as Deficit” and “No Jobs” Narratives in Vermont. Wendy I. Geller, Seth Marineau, and **Richard Watts**. *The Northeastern Geographer*. Special Issue: Should I Stay or Should I Go?: Youth and Out-migration from Vermont (Volume 7, 2015).

L. Keir, **R. Watts**, and S. Inwood. Environmental Justice and Citizen Perceptions of a Proposed Electric Transmission Line. *Journal of Community Development* (2014)

R. Watts, J. Maddison. Source Diversity is Greater in Print than Radio and TV News Stories in the Coverage of a Controversial Environmental Debate. *Newspaper Research Journal* (2014).

R. Watts, R. Mills, R. Fish. The Highway Coalition Revisited: Using the Advocacy Coalition Framework to Explore the Content of AASHTO’s Daily Transportation Update. *Public Voices* (2013). Vol. 13 (1) 79-99.

R. Watts, S. Kaza. Planning for power: frame production in an environmental conflict over the siting of a high-voltage transmission line. *Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences*, (2013). Vol. 3 (3) 247-258

P. Spencer, **R. Watts**, L. Vivanco, B. Flynn. The Effect of Environmental Factors on Bicycle Commuters in Vermont: Influences of a Northern Climate. *Journal of Transport Geography*, (2013) (31) 11-17.

R. Watts, Jonathan Maddison. The Role of Media Actors in Reframing the Media Discourse in the Decision to Reject Relicensing the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant. *Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences* (2012) 2: 131-142.

J. Maddison, **R. Watts**. Newspaper Source Prominence in News Media Coverage of Vehicle Emissions 2000-2008. *Newspaper Research Journal* (2012) Vol. 33, No. 2.

R. Watts, K. Frick, J. Maddison. Policy Making, Incrementalism And News Discourse: Gasoline Tax Debates In Eight U.S. States. *Public Works Management Policy* (2012) Vol. 17 no. 3: 238-255.

J. Maddison, **R. Watts**. The Technological Fix as a Frame in Media Debates about Tailpipe Emissions. *Technology in Society* 33 (2011) 294–303.

J. Dowds, P. Hines, **R. Watts**, C. Farmer. Estimating the Impact of Electric Vehicle Charging on Electricity Costs Given an Electricity Sector Carbon Cap. *Transportation Research Record*. (2010) Vol. 2191: 43-49.

Books

Samuel B; Hand: Green Mountain Scholar. Editors H. Nicholas Muller III, Kristin Peterson-Ishaq, J. Kevin Graffagnino, and **Richard Watts**. Center for Research on Vermont, 2017.

Richard Watts. *Public Meltdown: The Story of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant*. Center for Research on Vermont/White River Press. March 21, 2012.

RESEARCH REPORTS & PAPERS

Watts, R. “Student Internship Experiences: Summary of 200 Student Intern Reflections.” College of Arts & Sciences, 2019.

Watts, R. “Thirty Years of Tobacco Control in Vermont,” History Insert in the Burlington Free Press, 2018.

Watts, R. “Conversations at the Door: VPIRG Summer Canvass report,” Center for Research on Vermont, 2017.

Watts, R., P. Hines, J. Dowds. October, 2010. The Debate over Re-Licensing the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant. *The Electricity Journal*. Elsevier Publications.

Watts, R. September, 2010. An Examination of Gasoline Taxes in News Media Discourse. *New York Transportation Journal*. New York, NY.

Watts, R. June, 2010. Increasing Carpooling in Vermont: Opportunities and Obstacles. Transportation Research Center. Burlington, Vermont.

Watts, R. May, 2009. An Examination of News Media Discourse Related to Gas Taxes.

Transportation Research Center. Burlington, Vermont.

A. Weeks, **R. Watts**, L. Aultman-Hall. August, 2009. The Transportation Impacts of Smart Growth in Two Maine Rural Towns. Transportation Research Center. Burlington, Vermont.

S. Letendre and **R. Watts**. May, 2008. Effects of Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicles on the Vermont Electric Transmission System. Transportation Research Center. Burlington, VT.

Watts, R., E. Wang, L. Aultman-Hall. 2008. Transportation Efficiency in Vermont. Transportation Research Center. Burlington, Vermont.

E. Wang, T. Coffin and **R. Watts**. July, 2007. The Vermont Transportation Energy Report. Clean Cities Coalition. Transportation Research Center. Burlington, VT.

Watts, R. June, 2006. The Vermont Transportation Energy Report. Vermont Clean Cities Coalition, Snelling Center for Government. Burlington, Vermont.

Watts, R. May, 2006. Engaging Citizens in Vermont's Energy Future. Snelling Center for Government. Burlington, Vermont.

Watts, R. August, 2003. Evaluation & Review: Citizen Participation and Local Official Consultation in the Transportation Planning Initiative. Attitudes Towards the TPI: TAC Members, RPC Staff, VTrans Staff. Vermont Agency of Transportation. Montpelier, VT.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)

Living in a car-free world; charging for parking & free bus passes – 2018 Vermont Walk-Bike Summit, May 4, 2018, White River Junction Vermont.

The Nega-Mile: Reducing Energy use through reducing the use of motorized vehicles, Renewable Energy Vermont Conference, Oct 19, 2018, Burlington, Vermont.

Crumbling Infrastructure or Long-Term Solution: An Examination of News Media Discourse Related to Gas Taxes. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. August 5, 2010. Denver, CO.

Planning for Power: An Examination of News Media Discourse in the Siting of a High-Voltage Transmission Line in Vermont. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. August 7, 2009, Boston, MA.

Effects of Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicles on the Vermont Electric Transmission System. Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting. January 15, 2008. Washington, D.C.

Citizen Participation and Frame Analysis in the Development of Scenarios for the VTrans Long Range Transportation Business Plan. Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting. January 15, 2008. Washington, D.C.

Planning for Power: Citizen Participation in the Planning for a High-Voltage Transmission Line in Vermont. International Society for Society and Natural Resources (ISSRM) Conference, June 14, 2008. Burlington, Vermont.

GRANTS (LEAD PROJECT INVESTIGATOR)

Vermont Research on Country Stores, Preservation Trust of Vermont \$10,000 (2021)

Community News Service, Efficiency Vermont \$10,000 (2021)

Community News Service, National Life Foundation \$10,000 (2021)

Community News Service, Lintilhac Foundation, \$5,000 (2020)

Community News Service, Gannett Foundation \$5,000 (2020)

Media Classroom Resources. Humanities Center, University of Vermont, \$3,000 (2019).

Digital Storytelling. Clean Energy Fund, University of Vermont, \$11,160 (2019)

Chittenden County Bus Commuter Ridership Project. CCRPC, \$10,000 (2019).

Community News Service & Digital Story Telling. Lintilhac Foundation, \$6,000 (2019)

Community News Service. International Society of Weekly Newspaper Editors, \$1000 (2019).

Community News Service. James Jeffords Fund at the University of Vermont, \$8,355 (2019).

Energy Action Seminar -- College of Arts & Sciences. Clean Energy Fund, University of Vermont (co-PI Mark Usher), \$30,000 (2019).

Internships in Vermont. Vermont Department of Labor, 25,000 (2019).

Lake Between Conference. Government of Quebec (co-PI David Massell), \$15,000 (2018).

Lake Between Conference. Humanities Center at UVM (co-PI David Massell), \$3,000 (2018).

Reporting & Documentary Storytelling Education Support. EPI grant, University of Vermont, (Co-PIs Deb Ellis; Greg Bottoms), \$2500 (2018).

Community News Service. Lintilhac Foundation, \$5000 (2018)

Energy Action Seminar. Clean Energy Fund, UVM. 2015-2017 (\$75,000)

VPIRG Summer Canvass Report. Lintilhac Foundation, \$4000 (2017)

Climate Change & Winter videos. Lintilhac Foundation, \$5000 (2017)

French Connections Conference. Government of Quebec (co-PI David Massell), \$15,000 (2016)

Energy Action Seminar. Clean Energy Fund, UVM, \$15,000 (2014)

Power from the North Conference. Government of Quebec (co-PI David Massell), \$15,000. (2014)

Energy Action Seminar. Clean Energy Fund, UVM, \$12,500 (2013)

Sustainable Transportation Leaders, Social Networks, Communications & Policy Outcomes. Richard Watts, Tao Sun, Curt Ventriss. Transportation Research Center, UVM, \$88,914 (2012-2014).

Bicycles, Transportation Sustainability, and Quality of Life. Richard Watts, Luis Vivanco, Stephanie Kaza, Josh Farley. Transportation Research Center, UVM. \$201,605 (2012-2014).

Sugar Sweetened Beverages and Media Discourse. Richard Watts, Sarah Heiss, Jane Kolodinsky, Brian Flynn, Rachel Johnson. Food Systems Spire, \$15,000 (2011-2012).

Social Ties and Transportation: A Community-level basis for reducing Vehicle Tailpipe Emissions. Tom Macias (PI), Richard Watts. Transportation Research Center, UVM, \$118,222 (2012-2015).

Tailpipe Emissions and the Construction of Knowledge Related to Vehicles in Northern Climates. Transportation Research Center, UVM, \$293,964 (2011-2014).

Gasoline Taxes, Media Discourse and Network Analysis, \$42,770 (2009-2011).

Efficient Transportation in Vermont. VTrans, \$30,000 (2008-2009).

Modeling Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicle Impacts In Vermont From Empirical Vehicle/User Data, \$50,000 (2007).

FTA Shared Car Demonstration Program. U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration, \$500,000 (2001).

Vermont Electric Vehicle and Demonstration Program. U.S. Department of Defense Advanced Research Projects Administration, \$250,000 (1994-1996).

COMMUNITY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Sustainability Faculty Fellow. University of Vermont (2009).

Board Member, Center for Research on Vermont. University of Vermont (2009-2013).

Board Member & President, Vermont Public Interest Research Group (2013-18).

Board Member; Local Motion (2018-present).

Environmental Representative, Chittenden County Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee (2005- present).

Member, Lake Champlain Chamber of Commerce Regional Affairs Committee and Energy Policy and Transportation Policy Review Study Committees (1995-2013).

Director, Center for Research on Vermont (June 2013 – present).

Program Director, Vermont Studies Program (June 2013 –present).

Coordinator, Internships, College of Arts & Sciences (2017 – present).

Co-Director, Reporting & Documentary Storytelling (July 2019 – present).

Member, Faculty Honors College Seminar on Land Grant (2012) & Faculty Honors College Summer on Opiate and Addiction (2016).

Co-coordinator, Faculty Honors College Seminar on Journalism (2017).

Student Advisor: Renewable Energy Network club; Tai Kwan Do club; VPIRG club

Faculty Representative, University of Vermont Parking & Transportation Council (2014-present).