

Clarisse Hart

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Education

Graduate coursework, Environmental Conservation; UMass Amherst

Dissertation focus: Nonnative Pest Preparedness and Action in Massachusetts Municipalities

M.F.A., Writing, Literature, and Publishing; Emerson College

Concentration: Creative Nonfiction Writing

B.A., Environmental Studies / English; Mount Holyoke College

Recent Professional Experience

Harvard Forest, Harvard University - Petersham, MA

2007 – Present

Director of Outreach & Education [*new title; 2018 - Present*]

- Direct strategic communication
 - Create content for all websites, social media, print publications, and displays (see HF [website](#), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and – new in July 2019 – the [Witness Tree social media project](#))
 - Oversee media relations to publicize programs and communicate research findings by 6 senior scientists + two dozen research affiliates from area institutions
 - Lead science communication training sessions and environmental writing workshops for staff, students, and visiting groups
- Manage teams
 - As part of HF Executive Team, co-strategize goals and \$4.5 million operating budget for staff of 45; manage internal communication; lead quarterly all-staff-meetings
 - Directly supervise staff of 3; manage contractors (e.g. web/publication design, video production) and mentor/supervise 1-5 student interns annually
 - Founder of HF Diversity & Inclusion working group
- Span institutional boundaries
 - Coordinate programs with university leaders and offices across schools (faculty, deans, centers, museums, Sustainability Office, Public Affairs, Alumni Affairs, Student Affairs)
 - Liaise with partner schools, municipal boards, state/federal agencies, non-profit partners
 - Represent Harvard Forest on university & national committees and at conferences
- Oversee "K to grey" education
 - Strategize, administer, fund with grant support, and evaluate place-based, interdisciplinary programs for Harvard students & alumni

- Direct the Fisher Museum and trails: interpretive materials, public programs, temporary exhibits, facilities, and cohort of 45 volunteers
- Develop and lead site tours that engage 2,000+ students, land-based professionals, journalists, decisionmakers, and stakeholders annually
- Oversee and serve as PI for K-12 Schoolyard Ecology program: field trips, hands-on citizen science, teacher professional development for 70+ teachers & 3,500+ students/yr
- Coordinate the Forest's arts & humanities exhibits and programming
- Collaboratively manage Harvard Forest's alumni affairs and development
- Collaboratively strategize communications for New England Wildlands & Woodlands conservation initiative

Outreach & Development Manager for Education & Research Programs [*same duties as above, excepting Executive Team duties added in 2018; 2009 – 2018*]

Research Assistant to Senior Ecologist Aaron Ellison [2007 – 2009]

- Technician for long-term field experiments on nutrient cycling, foodwebs, & carbon
- Managed the Harvard Forest biogeochemistry laboratory
- Mentored students on multiple studies of arthropod community dynamics

Emerson College - Boston, MA

2004 – 2007

Adjunct Instructor (course: “Wilderness and the American Mind”) [2006 – 2007]

Assistant to the Executive Director, Institute for Liberal Arts (full-time) [2004 – 2007]

- Coordinated all events, websites, and outreach, including the College-wide Common Reading & Viewing Experience (CRVE)
- Assisted in department administration, budgeting, and strategic planning
- Scheduled approximately 40 undergraduate courses per academic year
- Hired, trained, and supervised all consultants and student employees

Center for Coastal Studies - Provincetown, MA

2001 – 2005

Research Assistant (full-time) / Naturalist (seasonal) [2003-2005]

Intern / Research Assistant (seasonal) [*fall 2001, summer 2002*]

- Supported studies of N. Atlantic humpback whale population dynamics
- Led public whale watching trips while collecting data on animals encountered
- Created region's first field ID catalogue of humpback whale dorsal fins

Recent Appointments

U.S. Long-Term Ecological Research Network

- Co-Chair: Communication Committee (2015 to 2019)
- Co-Chair: Diversity in Ecology Committee (2014 to 2019)

- Executive Committee for Education
 - Co-chair: Higher Education Working Group (2012 to present)

Issues in Ecology (ESA journal)

- Advisory Board member, representing communications (2015 to 2020)

Co-founder: *Science Communication & Engagement Section, Ecological Society of America* (2015)

Petersham, Massachusetts Forest & Shade Tree Committee (an appointed town board)

- Co-Chair (elected position – 2018 to Present)
- Secretary (elected position – 2014-2018)

Recent Publications

Select Books, Reports, & Peer-reviewed Articles

- Bahlai C, **Hart C**, Kavanaugh M, White J, Ruess R, Brinkman T, Ducklow H, Foster D, Fraser W, Genet H, Groffman P, Hamilton S, Johnstone J, Kielland K, Landis D, Mack M, Sarnelle O, Thompson J. Future Trajectories for Ecosystems in the U.S. Long Term Ecological Research Network: Cascading Effects. *Ecosphere* (in press).
- Foster D, Fallon Lambert K, Kittredge D, Donahue B, **Hart C**, Labich W, Meyer S, Thompson J, Buchanan M, Levitt J, Perschel R, Ross K, Elkins G, Daigle C, Hall B, Faison E, D'Amato A, Forman R, Del Tredici P, Irland L, Colburn B, Orwig D, Aber J, Berger A, Driscoll C, Keeton W, Lilieholm R, Pederson N, Ellison A, Hunter M, and Fahey T. 2017. [*Wildlands and Woodlands, Farmlands and Communities: Broadening the Vision for New England*](#). Harvard University Press, Cambridge MA.
- Hirsch, J. 2017. [*And Again: Photographs from the Harvard Forest*](#). Essays by Foster D, **Hart C**, and Kelley MA. Harvard University Press, Cambridge MA.
- Foster D, Kittredge D, Donahue B, Lambert KF, **Hart C**, Levitt J. 2014. The Wildlands and Woodlands Initiative of the Harvard Forest. In: Levitt JN, in *Conservation Catalysts: The Academy as Nature's Agent*. Cambridge: Lincoln Institute of Land Policy. pp. 3-30.
- Driscoll C, Lambert K, Chapin FS, Nowak D, Spies T, Swanson F, Kittredge D, **Hart C**. 2012. [*Science & Society: The Role of Long-Term Studies in Environmental Sustainability*](#). *Bioscience* 62(4): 354-67.

Select Products & Press Releases

- [Harvard Forest Biennial Report 2016](#)
- [Harvard Forest Biennial Report 2013](#)
- [Wired Tree Tells Climate Stories Online](#)
- [Land Conservation Boosts Local Economies](#)
- [Tree Rings Extend Today's High-Tech Climate Stories](#)
- [16 Giant Viruses, New to Science, Unexpectedly Found in Harvard Soils](#)
- [Wildfire in a Warming Climate](#)
- [Hemlock Decline Linked to Shift in Water Resources](#)
- [Visiting Artist Explores Ecosystem Change with Scientists](#)
- [Canadian Forests a Refuge as Warming Creeps North](#)
- [Why More Hotspots Aren't So Cool](#)
- [More Maple Seeds, Less Maple Syrup](#)

- [When Forests Take the Hit](#)
- [Pitcher Plants Provide Tipping Point](#)
- [Harvard Forest Artist Portrays Colonial Clash over Land](#)

Select Freelance Articles

- *Mount Holyoke Alumnae Quarterly*: "[Trees that Teach & Are Remembered](#)"
- *Tree Care Industry Magazine*: "[Spreading the Warmth](#)"
- *Orion*: Lay of the Land: "Tree People"
- *Whole Terrain*: "Being There"
- Massachusetts Audubon Society's *The Quiet Earth*. Poem: "[Summer Rain](#)"
- *Worcester Living Magazine*: "[Trees of Life](#)"
- *Ecotone*: "[While Our Backs Are Turned](#)"
- *Worcester Living Magazine*: "[Therapy on Wheels](#)"
- *Christian Science Monitor*: People Making a Difference: "[Scott Budnick serves breakfast](#)--with a side order of respect--to the homeless"

Recent Presentations

- Poster: "Witness Tree Social Media Project: Lessons in Science Outreach from a Novel Climate Ambassador"
Ecological Society of America, August 2020
- Workshop: "Communicating Science Vividly and Effectively" (and variations to title)
 - *Harvard Forest Freshman Seminar 2012 through 2020*
 - *Harvard Forest Summer Research Program 2013 through 2019*
 - *Int'l Society for Arboriculture – New England annual conference 2016*
 - *Ecological Society of America – annual meeting 2015 & 2016*
- Panelist: "The Experimental Forest"
Cambridge Science Festival, April 2019
- Panel Moderator: "How Does Nature Say Goodbye? Loss, Action, and Renewal in a Disappearing Hemlock Forest"
Harvard Forest Fisher Museum, October 2018
- Workshop: "Convening Conversations about Diversity & Inclusion"
Workshop: "Integration of Environmental Sciences, Arts, and Humanities"
Presentation: "Harvard Forest Education: Leveraging Core Site Science to Build STEM Literacy"
Long-Term Ecological Research (LTER) Network: All Scientists' Meeting, October 2018
- Workshop: "Writing Nature's Stories"
 - *Hampshire College Ecology course (undergrad) 2019*
 - *Harvard Forest Wintersession program (grad/undergrad) 2014-2017*
 - *Montgomery College: "A Day of Writing with Authors" (for K-12 students) 2016*
- Student Workshop: "Prioritizing Conservation Projects"

UMass Amherst – Conservation Biology course (grad & undergrad) 2016

- Workshop: “Ants & Spiders: Myths, Facts, Your Questions Answered”
Int’l Society for Arboriculture – New England annual conference 2015
- Workshop: “Undergraduate Education in Ecology: Innovations and Opportunities”
Long-Term Ecological Research (LTER) Network: All Scientists’ Meeting 2015
- SciComm Panelist/Expert
CommSciCon (Harvard-MIT Graduate Student Conf. on Science Communication) 2014

Current Grants

Co-Investigator:

- National Science Foundation: From Microbes to Macrosystems: Understanding the response of ecological systems to global change drivers and their interactions (2019-2025)
- Harvard U. Climate Change Solutions Fund: Witness Tree Social Media Project (2020-2021)

Senior Personnel:

- National Science Foundation: REU Site: the Harvard Forest Summer Research Program in Ecology (2020-2022)
- National Science Foundation: MSB-FRA: Improved Understanding of Feedbacks between Ecosystem Phenology and the Weather-Environment Nexus at Local-to-Continental Scales (2017-2022)
- Cardinal Brook Trust: Harvard Forest Schoolyard Ecology Program (2020-2021)
- Highstead Foundation: Research, Outreach, and Education to Advance the Wildlands, Woodlands, Farmlands, and Communities Initiative (2019-2020; pending for FY21)

Languages

- French (intermediate writing, reading, and speaking; professional working proficiency)
- Spanish (elementary reading and speaking; limited working proficiency)