

Meg Hassey

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Interdisciplinary educator and scholar of environmental governance and environmental politics focused on how inequality, narrative power, and institutional design shape outcomes in environmental security, health, and education. Brings experience in policy-engaged, empirically grounded research and teaching across global environmental governance, international relations, and human security, with strengths in mixed methods, qualitative analysis, and data-informed policy inquiry. Committed to inclusive, innovative pedagogy that connects theory to real-world environmental challenges and prepares diverse undergraduate and graduate students for research, policy, and practice.

Education

2025	University of Massachusetts, Boston Ph.D. in Global Governance and Human Security Dissertation - Narratives and Negotiations: Insights from the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee Process for Plastic Using the Narrative Policy Framework
2020	M.A. in Global Governance and Human Security
2018	University of Massachusetts, Lowell M.A. in Peace and Conflict Studies
2005	University of New Hampshire M.Ed. in Elementary Education
2001	B.S. in Marine, Estuarine, and Freshwater Biology

Areas of Expertise

- Environmental Governance
- Environmental Human Security
- Narrative Policy Framework
- International Environmental Negotiations
- Curriculum Development
- Data Analysis & Visualization
- Budget and Grant Management
- Relationship Management
- Cultural Humility
- Learning Management Systems (Canvas, Sakai, Blackboard, Brightspace)
- General Assembly, Certificate in Data Analytics (Excel, SQL, Tableau)

Academic Appointments

Visiting Teaching Professor, Babson College | Wellesley, MA | 2022–Present

- Courses taught: Global Environmental Activism; Waste, Consumption, and Environmental Justice; Gender and the Environment; Self as Global Citizens.
- Designed interdisciplinary curricula linking local environmental challenges to global frameworks and governance structures.
- Integrated experiential learning and critical policy analysis into the classroom.

Adjunct Professor, MCI-Framingham, through The Babson Academy for Entrepreneurship Education | Framingham, MA | 2024

- Delivered entrepreneurship education to incarcerated women.
- Fostered skills in innovation, leadership, and critical thinking.

Adjunct Professor, Northeastern University | Boston, MA | 2024–Present

- Graduate-level Environmental Science & Public Policy Seminar.

Adjunct Professor, Bentley University | Waltham, MA | 2024–Present

- Course taught: Globalization.

Adjunct Lecturer, Wellesley College | Wellesley, MA | Spring 2023

- Course taught: Global Environmental Activism
- Guest speaker for the Emerging Voices in Environmental Justice Series.

Instructor, MIT MOSTEC Program | Cambridge, MA & Remote | Summers 2019–2021

- Science Writing and Communication for underrepresented high school students in STEM.

Professional Experience

Research Assistant, Center for Social Policy, UMass Boston | 2024

- Coordinated the Somerville Basic Income Research Project
- Conducted interviews, coordinated translators, secured incentive gift cards, collected and entered data, transcribed interviews and meetings, and secured IRB approval for each process step.

Center Manager and Coordinator, Center for Governance and Sustainability, UMass Boston | 2018–2023

- Managed operations, communications, and events for international environmental governance projects.
- Secured \$500,000 grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

Curriculum Developer, Pearson Education | Remote | 2016–2018

- Created inclusive, standards-aligned curricula for elementary learners.

Director of Education and Career Coordinator, Just-A-Start YouthBuild | Cambridge, MA | 2014–2016

- Secured \$1.1M in funding, developed mentorship programs, and led student-centered initiatives.

Academic Support Specialist, Hawaii Pacific University | Honolulu, HI | 2012–2014

- Increased center usage by 15% in six months
- Vetted and hired an international staff of student and professional tutors

Academic Coach, Success4School | Cary, NC | 2010 – present

- Focused on Executive Function coaching with young children to adults
- Provided educational sessions tailored to the needs and learning preferences of the learner.

Additional Teaching Roles in the Public, Justice System, and Nonprofit Sectors | 2004–2012

Invited Guest Lectures & Class-Based Engagements

- Global Environmental Activism, Babson College, 2022
- Gender and Global Governance, University of Massachusetts, Boston, 2023
- Human Rights and the Environment, University of Massachusetts, Boston, 2023-2025
- Environmental Politics, Endicott College, 2025

Grants and Fellowships

- 2025 - 2026 Center for Governance and Sustainability Fellowship, UMass Boston
- 2023-2024 Ocean Endowment Fund, UMass Boston
- 2022 – 2025 Seed Funding Award, UMass Boston
- 2022 Transdisciplinary Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship
- 2020 – 2024 Scholarly Research Support, Graduate Employee Organization
- 2021 – 2024 Travel Grant, DOSS - UMass Boston
- 2021 Civil Action Project Fellow
- 2020 Travel Grant - ISA

Leadership and Consulting

- ACUNS Representative for UNEA-7 – Nairobi, Kenya, 2025
- GUTA Association of Environmental Law Representative, INC-4, Ottawa, Canada, 2024

- Center for Governance and Sustainability Representative, UNEA - 6 – Nairobi, Kenya, 2024
- Center for Governance and Sustainability Representative, UNEA – 5.2 – Nairobi, Kenya, 2022
- McCormack Racial Equity Taskforce Member, UMass Boston, 2020–Present
- Women in Leadership in Global Governance, UMass Boston, 2020–2025
- Transdisciplinary Dissertation Proposal Development Fellow, UMass Boston, 2022
- External Relations Coordinator, New England Aquarium, 2021
- Wilson Center Marine Plastic Policy Project, 2020
- Dean’s Office of Student Success Ambassador, UMass Boston, 2019–2020
- Ocean Conservation Educator, Blue Ocean Society, 2019
- SEA Change Assistant, AAAS, 2016–2018

Awards

- Career Champion by the Undergraduate Center for Career Development and the Class of 2025, Babson College

Presentations

- Different timelines, same goal: Completing the PhD as a nontraditional student, Roundtable Chair, ISA (2026)
- Negotiations and Narratives: Unpacking the Global Plastic Crisis through the INC Process, ACUNS Annual Meeting, Nairobi, Kenya (2025)
- Plastic Treaty Dialogues: Narrative Policy Framework Forum (2024)
- Marine Plastic: A Global Governance Story, Emerging Voices in Environmental Justice Series, Wellesley College (2023)
- Gender and the Environment: An Ecofeminist Analysis, ISA Northeast (2021)
- Agenda Setting: Global Plastic Governance, ISA (2020)
- Fit Women in Unfit Spaces: Global Governance and Sports, ISA (2020)
- Title IX: A Narrative Policy Framework Analysis, MPSA (2018)

Publications

- Hassey, M., Lui, R., & Auld-Brokish, C. (2021). Who pays the bill for plastic waste? New Security Beat. <https://www.newsecuritybeat.org/2021/01/pays-bill-plastic-waste/>
- Hassey, M. (2020). Seeking global action on plastic. New Security Beat. <https://www.newsecuritybeat.org/2020/07/seeking-global-action-plastic-2/>

Publications in Process

Public Scholarship & Media Engagement in Preparation

- Article: Who Gets to Be a “Green Entrepreneur”? Power, Storytelling, and the Politics of Climate Solutions
 - Contributor to public-facing environmental policy platforms, translating research on plastic governance, gender, and environmental security for broad audiences.
 - Ongoing development of youth- and culture-facing environmental commentary bridging environmental governance research and climate solutions discourse.

Manuscripts in Preparation

- Article: Strategic Storytelling in Global Environmental Governance: Narrative Power and Legitimacy in the Global Plastics Treaty Negotiations.
Target journal: Global Environmental Politics.
- Article: Financing the Green Transition: Gender, Micro-Funding, and Institutional Pathways in Environmental Entrepreneurship.
Target outlet: interdisciplinary political economy or business journal.

Service

Academic Engagement

Manuscript and Research Support, *Global Governance, 4th Edition* (Margaret Karns et al., 2024)
Contributed research assistance and manuscript support for a leading textbook in global governance, including literature review, source verification, and substantive background research on international institutions and governance processes.

Editorial and Research Support, *The Untold Story of the World's Leading Environmental Institution: UNEP at Fifty* (Maria Ivanova, 2021)

Provided research and editorial support for a monograph on the institutional history and global role of the United Nations Environment Programme, including document synthesis, background research, and analysis of global environmental governance processes.

Policy Engagement and Scholarly Participation, Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) on Plastic Pollution. Participated in multiple INC sessions as a scholar–observer, engaging with state and non-state actors and contributing to policy-relevant analysis of global environmental negotiations.

Conference Service, International Studies Association (ISA)

Panel participant and organizer for panels on global environmental governance, narrative strategies, and multilateral institutions.

Public and Policy Engagement

Policy Engagement and Stakeholder Participation, United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA)

Engaged with UN delegates, NGOs, and civil society representatives during UNEA sessions, translating negotiation dynamics into teaching and scholarly outputs.

Advisor and Collaborator, Environmental NGOs and Civil Society Organizations

Provided policy-relevant analysis, research support, and strategic input on plastics governance, environmental justice, and stakeholder participation.

Public Scholarship and Knowledge Translation

Integrated real-time global policy processes into classrooms through simulations, practitioner engagement, and policy brief assignments.

Teaching-Related Service

Faculty Advisor and Program Designer, Experiential and Project-Based Learning Initiatives
Designed and supervised student-led policy projects, NGO proposals, and environmental entrepreneurship challenges linking coursework to real-world governance problems.

Undergraduate and Graduate Mentorship

Mentored students pursuing careers in environmental policy, international organizations, and nonprofit leadership, including guidance on research, fellowships, and professional pathways.

Community-Engaged Teaching, Prison Education Programs

Designed and taught interdisciplinary environmental courses within prison education initiatives, supporting access to higher education for incarcerated learners.

Institutional Service

Curriculum Development and Innovation, Environmental Studies and Global Studies Programs. Contributed to course development, syllabus redesign, and interdisciplinary curriculum alignment across environmental policy and globalization courses.

Student Advising and Support, Visiting and Adjunct Faculty Roles. Provided academic advising and individualized student support across multiple institutions.