UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA TRANSPORT INSTITUTE
SPEAKERS’ SERIES

STIMULATING TRANSFORMATIONAL THINKING FOR MARITIME SYSTEMS CLIMATE RISK ADAPTATION:
PORT OF PROVIDENCE (RI) DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

Dr. Austin BECKER
Assistant Professor, Department of Marine Affairs, University of Rhode Island, USA

Date: March 4, 2016, Time: 9:30 a.m., Venue: Drake 140

Abstract: The speaker presents the results from a workshop with 28 industry, government, and non-profit stakeholders of the port of Providence (RI) that tested three tools designed to facilitate a robust dialogue around the challenging topic of long-term planning for storms and sea level rise. He proposes transformational hurricane resilience design concepts to engage stakeholders in broad, long-term thinking, and applies a real-time, multi-criteria decision-making tool that allows stakeholders to weigh the costs and benefits of long term transformational adaptation concepts and recognize common resilience goals.

Speaker’s Biography: Austin Becker is Assistant Professor of Coastal Planning, Policy, and Design in the Department of Marine Affairs at University of Rhode Island. He is also an Associate of the University of Manitoba Transport Institute. His teaching and research on sustainable design, port planning and policy, GIS, and climate policy contribute to the untangling of complex planning and policy problems. He uses urban coastal areas, and seaports in particular, as a lens through which to study tools that enhance stakeholder participation in long-term planning. He is a regularly invited speaker at international conferences, as well as numerous conferences in the US. He earned his PhD in Stanford University’s Emmett Interdisciplinary Program in Environment and Resources.

For further enquiries, please contact: umti@umanitoba.ca

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