## ROSS D. COLLINS

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#### **OBJECTIVE**

To develop and apply my skills in systems modeling, economic theory and policy analysis to research and teach the interconnected, multi-disciplinary components that shape complex energy and environmental decisions.

## **EDUCATION**

# Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

Cambridge, MA, USA

(5.0/5.0)

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Engineering Systems, exp. Spring 2015

- Dissertation topic: Infrastructure system design for sustainable development theory and application
- Doctoral committee: Olivier de Weck, Noelle Selin, Stephen Connors, William C. Clark
- Fellowships:
  - MIT Martin Family Fellow for Sustainability (2014 15)
  - o Harvard Sustainability Science Doctoral Fellow (2014 15)
  - o National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow (2010 11, 2012 14)

Master of Science (SM) in Technology and Policy, 2012

(5.0/5.0)

- Thesis topic: Forest fire management using models of social and physical dynamics
- Advisor: Prof. Richard de Neufville, MIT Portugal Program

## University of Virginia (UVa)

Charlottesville, VA, USA

Master of Science (MS) in Systems Engineering with Highest Honors, 2010

(3.9/4.0)

- Thesis topic: Systems modeling and risk analysis of distributed photovoltaic generation
- Advisor: Prof. Yacov Haimes, Center for Risk Management of Engineering Systems

Bachelor of Science (BS) in Systems Engineering and Economics with Honors, 2008

(3.6/4.0)

Thesis topic: Economic loss modeling due to worker absenteeism during pandemic flu outbreak

#### RESEARCH

# **Harvard Sustainability Science Program**

Cambridge

Doctoral Fellow

Sep 2014 – present

- Leading a working group on models/methods for sustainability evaluation of technologies and policies
- Assisting with Kennedy School of Gov't course, Policy Analysis + Design for Sustainable Development

# **Center for Complex Engineering Systems at KACST-MIT**

Graduate Research Assistant

Cambridge & Saudi Arabia Aug 2012 – present

- Developing simulation model for evaluation of coupled water and power infrastructures; quantifying tradeoffs between short-term capital spending and long-term macroeconomic impact of strategies
- Led the power infrastructure modeling and simulation work of 3 Saudi researchers over one year project
- Helped secure \$1.4M for follow-on phase of collaboration by contributing to annual report and proposal

### **MIT Portugal Program**

Cambridge & Portugal Sep 2010 –May 2012

Graduate Research Assistant

- Collaborated with 3 Portuguese universities, paper industry, and multiple national authorities on improving country-wide forest fire prevention and response in Portugal
- Developed model linking social drivers with forest processes to evaluate long-term efficacy of policies

• Interviewed major stakeholders during 2 months of field work in various regions of Portugal

## SJTU Institute of Refrigeration and Cryogenics

Research Intern

Shanghai, China Summer 2010

- Collaborated with Chinese students and faculty to evaluate benefits/costs of solar thermal technologies
- Analyzed markets and government policies relating to solar thermal development in the US and China

## **UVa Center for Risk Management of Engineering Systems**

Charlottesville

Graduate Research Assistant

Aug 2008 – May 2010

- Developed risk quantification model of US critical infrastructure assets for Dept. of Homeland Security
- Implemented cyber risk scoring method for Va Dept. of Transportation's sensitive IT systems
- Advised team of 3 undergraduate seniors on their capstone design project that evaluated feasibility of critical infrastructure information sharing in Virginia to mitigate consequences of disasters

## **UVa Center for Risk Management of Engineering Systems**

Charlottesville

Undergraduate Research Assistant

Summer 2006, 2007

- Developed model that estimated economic losses from worker absenteeism during pandemic flu outbreak
- Produced Virginia-customized decomposition of transportation emergency support functions
- Drafted documents to help revise the current Virginia Emergency Operations Plan
- Built website to evaluate compliance of state and local authorities to federal preparedness standards

#### WORK EXPERIENCE

## **IHS Cambridge Energy Research Associates (CERA)**

Cambridge

Contractor

Aug 2012 - May 2014

- Organized Energy Innovation Pioneers program at CERAWeek the annual executive conference
- Managed outreach to 300+ companies and entrepreneurs in oil & gas, renewable, and efficiency markets

### **U.S.** House of Representatives

Washington DC

Congressional Fellow

Summer 2012

- Researched issues on water-energy nexus in U.S. electric power industry to inform legislative agenda of Subcommittee on Water & Power, Democrats within Committee on Natural Resources (NR)
- Drafted letters and memos for Personal Office of Rep. Ed Markey, Ranking Member of NR

#### Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation

Cambridge

Research Assistant

Summer 2005

Coordinated outreach toward innovative government programs; built database for managing candidates

# **PUBLICATIONS**

### Refereed Journal Articles (Published)

- Collins, R. (2014). My Vision for the Decade of Sustainable Energy for All (2014-2024). *Global Energy Affairs*, 2(1), 18-19. Global Energy Initiative.
- Collins, R., de Neufville, R., Claro, J., Oliveira, T. & Pacheco, A. (2013). Forest fire management to avoid unintended consequences: a case study of Portugal using system dynamics. *Journal of Environmental Management*, 130, 1-9.
- Collins, R. & Crowther, K. (2011). Systems-based modeling of generation variability under alternate geographic configurations of photovoltaic installations in Virginia. *Energy Policy*, 39(10), 6262-6270.

## **Refereed Journal Articles (Unpublished)**

• Collins, R., Connors, S. & de Weck, O. (2014). Integrated water and energy infrastructure planning in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia using a system dynamics model. *Energy Policy* (In Preparation).

## **Conference Papers**

- Collins, R. (2014). Using inclusive wealth for dynamic analyses of sustainable development: Theory, reflection and application. In *Proceedings of the 32<sup>nd</sup> International Conference of the System Dynamics Society*. Delft, Netherlands.
- Collins, R., Gowharji, W., Habib, A., Alwajeeh, R. & Connors, R. (2013). Evaluating scenarios of capacity expansion given high seasonal variability of electricity demand: the case of Saudi Arabia. In *Proceedings of the 31<sup>st</sup> International Conference of the System Dynamics Society*. Cambridge, MA.
- Dyke, C., J. Johnson, N. Revenko, R. Collins, M. Hamilton, M. Vedomske, K.G. Crowther (2009).
   Feasibility analysis of critical infrastructure information sharing in Virginia. *Proceedings of the 2009 IEEE Systems and Information Engineering Design Symposium (SIEDS)*. Charlottesville, VA.
- Cahill, B., **R. Collins**, R. Jurko, T. Zivic, K. Crowther, Y. Haimes (2008). Collaborative risk-based preparedness for pandemic influenza in Southeastern Virginia. *Proceedings of the 2008 IEEE SIEDS*. Charlottesville, VA. (**Best paper award** in the Risk and Regional Planning Track)

# **Technical Reports**

- Collins, R., Sakhrani, V., Selin, N., Alsaati, A. & Strzepek, K. (2014). Using inclusive wealth for policy evaluation: the case of infrastructure capital. In *Inclusive Wealth Report 2014*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press (In Press).
- Selin, N., Strzepek, K., Connors, S., McCluskey, A., Couzo, E., Alawad, A., Alhassan, A., Collins, R. & Czaika, E. (2014). Sustainable Infrastructure Planning Systems Phase 2 (SIPS2). Annual Report. CCES-KACST, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.
- Almahmoud, J., Nouh, M., Sanchez, A., Williams, J., Alwajeeh, R., Collins, R., Connors, S., Gowharji, W. & Habib, A. (2013). Integrated Energy Decision Support System (IEDSS) Annual and Final Reports. CCES-KACST, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.
- Haimes, Y.Y., K.G. Crowther, J.H. Lambert, E. Andrijcic, J. Burke, **R. Collins**, E. Evans, M. Hamilton, S. Hwang, A. Pillutla, E. Rogerson, M. Vedomske, 2010. Systems-based Methodology for Risk Modeling and Assessment: Supporting the National Risk Profile. DHS, Washington, DC.
- Haimes, Y.Y., K.G. Crowther, R. Collins, M. Hamilton, S. Hwang, A. Murray, A. Pillutla, M. Vedomske, 2010. VDOT IT Risk Assessments Final Report: Methodology and best-practices in conducting risk assessments of IT sensitive systems for the Virginia Department of Transportation. VDOT, Richmond, VA.
- Haimes, Y.Y., K.G. Crowther, B.M. Horowitz, J.R. Santos, J.H. Lambert, A. Lee, B. Caswell, M. Orsi, S. Drake, K. Favreau, N. Magnum, S. McHail, A. Olesen, B. Cahill, R. Collins, R. Jurko, and T. Zivic, 2008. Regional Homeland Security: Framework for Balancing Preparedness with Resilience in the HRPD System of Interconnected Infrastructure Systems. In Critical Infrastructure Resilience for the Hampton Roads Region Final Report, Hampton, VA.
- Haimes, Y.Y., J.R. Santos, J.H. Lambert, B.M. Horowitz, K.G. Crowther, B. Caswell, **R. Collins**, M. Haggerty, and J. McLin, 2007. Virginia Critical Transportation Infrastructure Protection and Resilience. Virginia Transportation Research Council, Charlottesville, VA.

## PRESENTATIONS AND LECTURES

- Collins, R., 2014. The Youth and Green Innovation. Plenary panel session, presented at the World Green Economy Summit, April 2014, Dubai, UAE.
- Collins, R., 2013. Defining, measuring and analyzing sustainability of systems: Literature review and application to natural resource management. Presented at the Technology, Management and Policy Consortium, June 2013, Cambridge, MA.
- Collins, R., de Neufville, R., Claro, J., Oliveira, T., 2011. Suppression or Prevention: Modeling forest fire management using System Dynamics. Presented to the Annual Meeting of INFORMS, November 2011, Charlotte, NC.
- Collins, R. and M. Vedomske, 2010. Using the Fractile Method in Decision Analysis. Guest lecture to SYS 6050 Risk Analysis on February 9, 2010.

- Collins, R., Crowther, K., 2010. Systems-based modeling of generation variability under alternate geographic configurations of photovoltaic installations in Virginia. Presented to the Annual Meeting of INFORMS, November 2010, Austin, TX.
- Collins, R. and M. Vedomske, 2009. Reliability and Fault Tree Analysis. Guest lectures to SYS 3001 The Art and Science of Systems Modeling on October 13 and 15, 2009.
- Collins, R., 2009. A systems-driven, risk-informed evaluation of solar photovoltaic options in Virginia. Presented to the Annual Meeting of the Society for Risk Analysis, December 2009, Baltimore, MD.
- Collins, R., Karvetski, C., Vedomske, M., 2009. Risk analysis of Boston snowstorms. Presented to the Annual Meeting of the Society for Risk Analysis, December 2009, Baltimore, MD.

#### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- System Dynamics Society, 2013 present
- Active Referee for Journal of Environmental Management, 2013 present
- Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS), 2009 2011
- Society for Risk Analysis (SRA), 2009 2011
- Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), 2009 2011

### **LEADERSHIP**

# Climate CoLab, MIT Center for Collective Intelligence Fellow

2014-present

- Working with former Sec. of State George Shultz to design/judge contest on US carbon price legislation
   MIT Engineering Systems Society Co-President, Alumni Chair
  - Managing student and alumni input concerning ESD reorganization, liaising with new director

## MIT Technology and Policy Student Society President

2011-2012

• Coordinated technology policy seminars, speaker series, outreach, recruitment, and socials

MIT Science Policy Initiative Congressional Chair

2011-2012

- Organized institute-wide science advocacy effort for Congressional Visits Day in Washington, DC
   MIT Energy Conference Logistics Coordinator
  - Facilitated activities of 100+ student organizers and 1,000+ participants at two conferences

# Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society, UVa Chapter Vice President

2007-08

Organized tutoring and career information sessions for undergraduate engineers

# **ADDITIONAL AWARDS & HONORS**

- Winner of 2013 Global Energy Initiative Essay Contest, 1<sup>st</sup> place out of 400 entries from 67 countries
- MIT Technology and Policy Best Thesis Award, Honorable Mention, 2012
- NSF International Research and Education in Engineering Program Award, Shanghai, China, 2010
- UVa Dept. of Systems & Information Eng. Louis T. Rader Outstanding Grad Student Award, 2010
- UVa Center for Risk Management of Engineering Systems Distinguished Grad Student Award, 2010
- UVa Engineering Research Symposium (UVERS) Best Poster Award, Honorable Mention, 2010
- UVa Dept. of Systems & Information Engineering Matthew David Wait Memorial Award, 2008

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

## Achieving Careers in Engineering and Science at MIT

2011

- Mentored local high school students on SAT test taking, college apps, and future high school coursework
   Middle and High School Science Fair Judge

  2010, 2014
  - Judged science projects at two regional fairs: Albemarle County, VA and Boston, MA

# **UVa Campus Kitchens Project**

2010

- Recovered food from UVa cafeterias to bring meals to Charlottesville community via Salvation Army UVa Monroe Society 2005 2007
  - Led outreach for prospective students by facilitating overnight stays with current students on campus

UVa Madison House 2006

• Coached 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade boys basketball team for the local Charlottesville YMCA

## **Habitat for Humanity**

2003

Volunteered with my hometown church to help build new housing developments in Miami, FL

#### RELEVANT COURSEWORK & SOFTWARE

- Math and Dynamic Programming (MatLab, GAMS, Excel Solver)
- Linear Statistical Models and Econometrics (R, S-Plus)
- Risk and Decision Analysis (@Risk and StatTools for Excel)
- System Dynamics (Vensim, AnyLogic)
- Discrete Event Simulation (Arena, AnyLogic)
- Data and Information Engineering (php, SQL)
- Computer Science (JAVA)
- GIS Methods (ArcGIS)
- Micro/Macro Economics for Public Policy
- Finance, certificate through Coursera.org

## **REFERENCES**

#### Professor William C. Clark

Director, Harvard Sustainability Science Program; Harvey Brooks Professor of International Science, Public Policy and Human Development, Harvard University

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http://www.hks.harvard.edu/about/faculty-staff-directory/william-clark

#### Professor Olivier de Weck

Co-Director, KACST-MIT Center for Complex Engineering Systems; Professor of Aeronautics and Astronautics and Engineering Systems, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

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http://esd.mit.edu/Faculty Pages/deweck/deweck.htm

### **Professor Noelle Selin**

Esther and Harold E. Edgerton Career Development Assistant Professor of Engineering Systems and Atmospheric Chemistry, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

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# Professor Richard de Neufville

Professor of Engineering Systems and Civil and Environmental Engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

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## **Professor Kenneth Strzepek**

Professor Emeritus of Civil, Environmental and Architectural Engineering, University of Colorado at Boulder; Research Scientist, Joint Program on the Science and Policy of Global Change, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

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## Mr. Stephen R. Connors

Director, Analysis Group for Regional Energy Alternatives, MIT Energy Initiative, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

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#### **Professor Hazhir Rahmandad**

Associate Professor, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

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### **Professor John Sterman**

Director, MIT System Dynamics Group; Jay W. Forrester Professor of Management, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

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## **Professor Yacov Haimes**

Founding Director, UVa Center for Risk Management of Engineering Systems; Lawrence Quarles Professor at the School of Engineering & Applied Sciences, University of Virginia

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http://web.sys.virginia.edu/yacov-y-haimes.html

#### **Professor Joost Santos**

Assistant Professor of Engineering Management & Systems Engineering, George Washington University joost@gwu.edu

http://www.seas.gwu.edu/~joost/Welcome.html

#### Dr. Kenneth G. Crowther

Multi-Disciplined Systems Engineer and Risk Analyst, MITRE Corporation

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