

Dr. Niel Bowerman, DPhil, MPhys (Oxon)

Short Biography

Niel Bowerman is Assistant Director at the Future of Humanity Institute, University of Oxford. He was a co-founder of the Centre for Effective Altruism, and has a DPhil in physics from Oxford University. Niel was a member of President Obama's Energy and Environment Policy Team, was Climate Science Advisor to the Office of the President of the Maldives, and was Executive Director of Climatico. Niel has delivered speeches at G8 Summits, the European Parliament, World Bank, UK Treasury and at the World Economic Forum in Davos. Niel was short-listed for 'Most inspirational young person' by UK Climate Week, and was named a 'Young Global Shaper' by the World Economic Forum.

Education

- 2010 - 2014 **DPhil**, Atmospheric, Oceanic and Planetary Physics, University of Oxford supervised by Prof. Myles Allen, Prof. David Frame and Dr. Jason Lowe, Met Office mitigation advisor to the UK Government. 'Emission targets for avoiding dangerous climate change'
- 2005 - 2009 **Masters in Physics** (MPhys), Keble College, University of Oxford (High 2:1)
Winner of the Johnson Memorial Prize for my MPhys Project on 'Modelling the behaviour of the coupled climate-carbon cycle system'.
Runner-up for the Gibbs Prize.
- 1998 - 2005 Latymer Upper School, London, UK
A-Levels: Mathematics, A; Further Mathematics, A; Physics, A; Music Technology, A

Relevant Experience

Future of Humanity Institute, Oxford University, UK – August 2015 to present

- Appointed as Assistant Director, with responsibility for all non-research elements of the Institute, including non-academic fundraising, finances, media, communications and operations.
- Raised £1m+ in funding from high net worth donors to date.
- Gave oral evidence at the European Parliament on the ethics of artificial intelligence.

Centre for Effective Altruism, UK – August 2011 to August 2015

- Proposed and then co-founded the organisation.
- Initiated and coordinated three of the four major restructurings that allowed the organisation to grow from zero to sixteen full-time staff over the course of four years.
- Held a range of management roles including Director of Communications for Giving What We Can, Acting Executive Director of 80,000 Hours, and Director of Special Projects for the Centre for Effective Altruism.
- Co-founded and led the Global Priorities Project, a joint initiative with the Future of Humanity Institute at Oxford University, and wrote a policy brief for the UK Prime Minister's Office.
- Lead on media strategy, coordinating hundreds of articles on effective altruism and helping turning it into a popular term.
- Raised £250k+ for the organisation from dozens of donors.
- Managed a team of three full time staff and 11 contractors in five time zones.

Atmospheric, Oceanic and Planetary Physics, University of Oxford, UK – August 2009 to November 2014

- My research was policy relevant, so it was presented at the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, UK Treasury, the House of Lords, and UK Department for Energy and Climate Change.
- Employed initially on a contract funded by the UK Department for Energy & Climate Change (DECC), and later on a fully funded DPhil with additional funding from the UK Met Office.

Climate Science Advisor to the Office of the President of the Maldives – January to July 2011

- Worked with the President's press officer to answer scientific enquiries made by the media.
- Drafted a report on sea level rise in the Maldives based on an extensive literature review.
- Initiated a collaboration between Oxford University and the President's Office to do research in the Maldives and to hire someone part-time to do my role, however this project never came to fruition after President Nasheed was forced to resign in a coup.

UK Youth Delegation to Copenhagen UN Climate Change Conference – August 2009 to March 2011

- Was primary media liaison for the delegation, helping footage of our delegation be shown on Newsnight twice in two weeks, as well as in dozens of other media outlets.
- Met and discussed policy positions with numerous high-profile delegates, including Secretary of State for climate change Ed Miliband and his advisors.
- Continued on as press officer and communications advisor to the UK Youth Climate Coalition, placing dozens of articles and quotes for our team in the mainstream media.

Climatico – www.ClimaticoAnalysis.org – September 2008 to January 2010

- Co-founded the group and sat as Executive Director.
- Led a team of 30+ volunteer analysts from academia and the professional policy community, which produced independent analyses of national and international climate change policy.
- Co-edited our first quarterly assessment report, which gained international media coverage.
- Attended the 2009 G8 Summit as an analyst, giving rapid-reaction interviews to the media.

Obama's Energy and Environment Policy Team, USA – June to November 2008

- Was a member of the team during the US general election and took part in teleconferences on energy and environmental policy with then-Senator Barack Obama's advisors.
- Personally hosted an event in Washington, DC for energy and climate professionals.

World Bank, International Headquarters, Washington, DC, USA – July to September 2008

- Produced an extensive literature review on the economics of adapting to climate change, and gave a presentation on the topic to roughly 40 World Bank employees.

G8 Research Group, UK – 2006 to 2008

- Sat on the executive committee after a year as an analyst.
- Attended the 2008 G8 Summit, wrote wire pieces and gave interviews for the media.
- Co-edited a peer-reviewed 250+ page report titled 'Governing Global Climate Change', assessing G8 nations compliance with their previous climate change commitments, which received international media attention.

Climate Justice Project, UK – 2006 to 2008

- Founded the group, inspiring chapters in six Universities across the UK.
- As spokesperson, worked with NGOs and students across the country to promote Contraction and Convergence, an equitable international climate policy framework, which is now tacitly accepted by many as the basis for the 80% emissions reduction legislated in the UK Climate Change Act.

Oxford University Student Union Environment & Ethics Officer, UK – 2005 to 2007

- Responsible for a committee of roughly 40 college environment officers.
- Coordinated over a dozen campaigns, including one that resulted in the University signing a five-year 'green energy' contract, making it the fifth largest renewable electricity user in the UK at the time.

Department for International Development, UK – June 2006

- Shadowed Secretary of State Hilary Benn and his special advisor Alex Evans.
- Took part in high-level policy and media discussions.

Awards

- Inaugural **Vice-Chancellor's Civic Award** from the Vice Chancellor of the University of Oxford.
- Shortlisted for UK Climate Week's **Most Inspirational Young Person** award.
- Named a '**Young Global Shaper**' by the **World Economic Forum**, and attended the Annual Summit 2012 in Davos where I was one of six panellists in the closing plenary alongside Nobel Peace Prize Winner Muhammad Yunus.

Selected Publications

- **Bowerman, N.H.A.**, D.J. Frame, C. Huntingford, J.A. Lowe & M.R. Allen. Cumulative carbon emissions, emissions floors and short-term rates of warming: implications for policy. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society A*, **369**, 45-66 (2011) doi: 10.1098/rsta.2010.0288. Citations: 35
- Huntingford, C., J.A. Lowe, L.K. Gohar, **N.H.A. Bowerman**, M.R. Allen, S.C.B. Raper & S.M. Smith. The link between a global 2°C warming threshold and emissions in years 2020, 2050 and beyond. *Environmental Review Letters*, **7** 014039 (2012). doi:10.1088/1748-9326/7/1/014039. Citations: 30
- Smith, S.M., J.A. Lowe, **N.H.A. Bowerman**, L.K. Gohar, C. Huntingford & M.R. Allen. Equivalence of greenhouse gas emissions for peak temperature limits. *Nature Climate Change*, **2**, 535–538 (2012). Citations: 55
- **Bowerman, N.H.A.**, D.J. Frame, C. Huntingford, J. Lowe, S. Smith & M.R. Allen. The role of short-lived climate pollutants in meeting temperature goals. *Nature Climate Change*, **3**, 1021-1024 (2013). doi:10.1038/nclimate2034. Citations: 35
- Otto, A., B.J. Todd, **N.H.A. Bowerman**, D.J. Frame, M.R. Allen, Climate system properties determining the social cost of carbon. *Environmental Research Letters*. **8**(2):024032, (2013). doi:10.1088/1748-9326/8/2/024032. Citations: 5
- Huntingford, C., J.A. Lowe, N. Howarth, **N.H.A. Bowerman**, L.K. Gohar, A. Otto, D.S. Lee, S.M. Smith, M.G.J. den Elzen, D.P. van Vuuren, R.J. Millar, M.R. Allen. The implications of carbon dioxide and methane exchange for the heavy mitigation RCP2.5 scenarios under two metrics. *Environmental Science & Policy*. **51**, 77-87 (2015). doi:10.1016/j.envsci.2015.03.013. Citations: 3

References available on request