



Bradford R. Spangler

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Summary

A Senior Mediator and Program Manager at Meridian Institute with experience designing, convening and facilitating multi-party collaborative processes since 2004. Has supported a wide range of process types and worked on a variety of issues in the environmental and public health policy arenas, including freshwater management, water sector innovation, climate adaptation, climate policy, community resilience, clean energy, hydraulic fracturing, endocrine-disrupting chemicals, children's health protection, and food safety. Prior to joining Meridian, worked at RESOLVE (a nonprofit dispute resolution organization) and the University of Colorado's Conflict Research Consortium. Earned a B.A. in Anthropology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and an M.A. in Cultural Anthropology with an Interdisciplinary Graduate Certificate in Environmental Policy from the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Meridian Experience

Meridian Institute

2008–Present

Meridian Institute designs and facilitates collaborative processes that help diverse parties identify critical issues, build relationships and trust, construct innovative solutions, and implement durable decisions. These collaborative processes address challenges at the local, state, national, and international levels, and involve leaders from government agencies, industry, nongovernmental organizations, and international institutions. Meridian also assists organizations in conducting strategy development and planning.

Senior Mediator and Program Manager

Manages and facilitates policy dialogues, negotiations, and strategy development projects. Conducts convening assessments, designs collaborative processes, plans and facilitates meetings, helps participants build and document consensus, and conducts implementation activities. Selected highlights are summarized below:

- Facilitate development of the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology's next multi-year strategic plan, due for completion in the spring of 2018.
- Provide outreach, facilitation and writing support for an October 2017 workshop on strategies for overcoming institutional barriers – regulatory, legal, governance, financial, political, and sociological – to the implementation of potable water reuse

projects. Partners include the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), ReNUWIt, The Johnson Foundation at Wingspread, and Paradigm Environmental.

- Facilitation coordinator for the beta launch of [Resilience Dialogues](#), a public-private partnership that connects community leaders to national experts via online facilitated dialogues, to help them understand climate risk and lay the groundwork for long-term resilience building. Resilience Dialogues is co-managed by the U.S. Global Change Research Program and the American Geophysical Union. Meridian Institute is a member of the [leadership team](#) and supports facilitation of the online dialogues.
- Lead facilitator of a nine-month process to develop the [Water Utility Climate Alliance \(WUCA\) 2017–2021 Strategic Plan](#). WUCA is a coalition of 11 of the United States' largest water providers, who are dedicated to collaboratively advancing water utility climate adaptation.
- Lead facilitator for a variety of stakeholder engagement activities for the U.S. EPA's [Creating Resilient Water Utilities](#) (CRWU) since 2014. Facilitated the Climate Resilience Evaluation and Awareness Tool (CREAT) 3.0 Working Group to identify and implement enhancements to third version of CREAT risk assessment software (2014–2015). Facilitated development of CRWU's *Workshop Planner: Climate Change and Extreme Events Adaptation* with technical assistance providers from the Rural Community Assistance Partnership. Designed and facilitated numerous workshops for utility personnel, consultants, and government agency representatives to enhance capacity for building the resilience of water sector utilities to extreme weather and long-term climate change impacts.
- Provided planning and facilitation support for The Johnson Foundation's Freshwater Forum, a series of conferences examining U.S. freshwater challenges (2009). Lead author and mediator of the process to develop the consensus report *Charting New Waters: A Call to Action to Address U.S. Freshwater Challenges*, which represented the outcomes of a June 2010 summit of executive-level leaders from diverse sectors. Provided facilitation support for expert convenings and authored eight reports through the second and third phases of The Johnson Foundation's [Charting New Waters](#) initiative, which focused on implementing the principles and recommendations espoused in *Charting New Waters* (2011–2012) and catalyzing the transformation of U.S. water infrastructure (2013–2014).
- Member of the Community and Regional Resilience Institute (CARRI) team supporting community and regional efforts to build resilience to natural and man-made disruptions. Facilitated work groups in Gulfport, Mississippi (2008–2010); provided facilitation support to the Community Resilience System Initiative (CRSI), a national stakeholder dialogue (2010–2011); based on CRSI outcomes, developed content and process guidance for the Community Resilience System (CRS), an online resilience assessment and planning tool, and supported CRS pilots (2011–2012). Supported the Campus Resilience Pilot Project, which adapted the CRS for application to university and college campuses (2013).
- Please see <http://merid.org/staff/bspangler> for a full list of Meridian projects.

Previous Experience

RESOLVE, Inc.

Washington, DC 2004–2008

Senior Associate

Supported senior staff in convening, facilitating, and mediating multi-party collaborative efforts aimed at resolving environmental and public health policy issues. Responsible for process design, agenda development, small-group facilitation, project management, stakeholder communications, issues research, meeting summaries, and logistics. Assisted with multiple situation assessments and served as lead author on two consultative research reports that provided advice to local government agencies by synthesizing input from technical experts and stakeholders.

University of Colorado Conflict Research Consortium

Boulder, Colorado 2000–2004

Research Associate

Conducted conflict resolution and peace studies research and logged more than 2,000 database entries into the Conflict Resolution Information Source (CRInfo). Researched and wrote numerous conflict resolution book summaries published by CRInfo and more than two dozen concept essays for the Beyond Intractability Knowledge Base.

National Parks Conservation Association

Knoxville, Tennessee 2002

Intern

Researched and wrote a report on the environmental policy context and key stakeholders in the Obed Wild and Scenic River watershed of Middle Tennessee, as well as a report on community-based watershed management success stories. Engaged in peer roundtable discussions about approaches to environmental decision making.

Education

University of Colorado at Boulder

M.A., Cultural Anthropology
Graduate Certificate: Environmental Policy
2002

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

B.A., Anthropology
1997