

Kathleen A. Merrigan

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Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy
Tufts University, Boston Massachusetts

2001-present

Director of the Agriculture, Food and Environment Program

- Oversee all aspects of M.S. and Ph.D. programs
- Participate in leadership of the school through the Admissions Committee, Benefits Committee, Dean's Council, and Strategic Planning Task Force
- Direct USDA *Sustainable Science Fellows Program* (\$351K) to support students from traditionally underserved populations

Assistant Professor

- Designed curriculum and annually teach 3 required courses: *Fundamentals of Public Policy* and *Agricultural Science and Policy I and II*
- Primary advisor to 5 doctoral students
- Served/serving on 8 doctoral dissertation committees
- Annually advise up to 28 master students; serve on master and undergraduate thesis committees for Tufts UEP, Anthropology, and IR departments
- Major contributor to Tufts OpenCourseware: <http://ocw.tufts.edu>

Director of the Center on Agriculture, Food and the Environment

- Examine animal health and welfare issues related to organic production as co-Principle Investigator on USDA grant (\$198K)
- Compare the antioxidant capacity of foods grown through conventional and organic systems as co-Principle Investigator on Organic Center grant (\$50K)
- Oversee New Entry Sustainable Farming Project, an initiative to assist immigrants with agricultural experience in becoming commercial farmers (\$1 million annually)
- Direct students annually in group research projects, leading to professional publications such as *The Conservation Security Program: Rewards and Challenges for New England Farmers* (2006)

Adjunct Faculty

- Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service: Create active citizenship initiatives, such as launching garden-based learning initiative with local Chinatown elementary school, through support of 2-year Tufts fellowship (\$30K)
- Contribute seminars as faculty of the Tufts interdisciplinary M.S./Ph.D. program *Water: Systems, Science, and Society*

Federal Agency Administrator 1999-2001
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service

Responsible for managing \$1.2 billion agency and 10,000 employees. Agency activities included user-funded programs such as food grading and certification; industry-initiated, regulatory programs such as research and promotion programs and marketing orders; mandated programs such as national organic standards, pesticide data collection, and market price reporting; and procurement of commodities for domestic feeding programs including National School Lunch.

Expert Consultant Summers 2008, 1998
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

2008: drafted joint international action plan for research in organic food systems.
1998: drafted first-ever organic agriculture policy statement adopted by the Conference of Member Nations.

Senior Analyst 1994-1999
Henry A. Wallace Institute for Alternative Agriculture

Responsible for monitoring national agriculture and food systems policy. Assisted grassroots groups, facilitated collaboration between non-governmental organizations, conducted policy research, provided congressional testimony, and disseminated information through conference presentations and publications.

Professional Staff 1987-1992
U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry

Senior science and technology adviser to Chairman Patrick Leahy. Responsible for issues related to biotechnology, organic and sustainable agriculture, agricultural research and extension, pesticides, animal and plant health, and agricultural appropriations.

Special Assistant 1986-1987
Texas Department of Agriculture

Assisted Chief of Regulatory Affairs on pesticide issues, briefed Texas state legislators, and served as liaison to the Texas Structural Pest Control Board.

Staff for U.S. Congressman John Olver 1982-1985
Massachusetts State Senate

Staff for U.S. Congressman John Olver during his tenure as State Senator : Chief of Staff (1983-85); Research Analyst for the Massachusetts Joint Committee on Taxation (1983); Manager of successful Olver for State Senate Campaign (1982).

EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Ph.D., 2000

Department of Urban Studies and Planning, Environmental Planning and Policy Group

First field: public policy; second field: environmental planning

Dissertation: *Negotiating Identity Within the Sustainable Agriculture Advocacy Coalition*

Research Assistant, 1993-1994: Designed sustainable agriculture curriculum for the International Programme on the Management of Sustainability sponsored by the Netherlands Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment. Materials currently sold through the Harvard Program on Negotiation.

MIT Instructor, 1993: Instructed graduate course *Bargaining, Negotiation and Dispute Resolution in the Public Sector*.

MIT Research Assistant, 1992-1993: Analyzed environmental policy studies for the U.S. Army Environmental Policy Institute.

Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, Master of Public Affairs, 1987

University of Texas at Austin

Thesis: *Pesticide Policymaking in an Era of Interest Group Negotiations*

Student commencement speaker

Research Assistant, 1986-1987: Examined trends in environmental legislation with attention to procedural reform aimed at providing greater congressional oversight and citizen participation in regulatory decisionmaking.

Fulbright Study, Politechnika University of Krakow, Poland, Summers 1986, 1987
Assistant in Water Policy Institute researching pesticide use and policy in Poland.

Williams College, B.A., English and Political Science, 1982

Van Vechten Prize for public speaking; Mead Government Scholar; Intern for Senator Edward Kennedy, Washington D.C.

PUBLICATIONS

Academic Press/Peer-Reviewed

Merrigan, K. and M. Bailey. (2008) Implementing Farm-to-College Programs: Lessons Learned at Tufts University. *Nutrition Today* (40)4 160-165.

Merrigan, K. (2007) North American Governance. In I. Taylor and K. Barrett (Eds.), *Genetically Engineered Plants: Decision-Making Under Uncertainty* (pp. 207-228). Binghamton, NY: Haworth Press, Inc.

Merrigan, K. (2006) Challenges in Measuring the Benefits of Organic Foods. *Crop Management*, Sept. 21.

Lockeretz, W. and **K. Merrigan**. (2005) Selling to the Eco-conscious Food Shopper. *Nutrition Today*, 40(1) 45-49.

Merrigan, K. (2005) Organic Food Regulations: Part Art, Part Science. In C. Hassler (Ed.), *Regulation of Functional Foods and Nutraceuticals: A Global Perspective* (pp. 69-78). Ames, Iowa: Blackwell Press.

Merrigan, K., M. Mackey, G. Blackburn, V. Young, J. Dwyer, C. Juma, B. Bistrain, I. Rosenberg. (2003) Agricultural Biotechnology: The Road to Improved Nutrition and Increased Production? *Nutrition Reviews*, 61(6) Part II. 95-100.

Merrigan, K. (2000) Politics, Policy, and IPM. In *Emerging Technologies for Integrated Pest Management: Concepts, Research, and Implementation*, APS Press (American Phytopathological Society), 2000.

Merrigan, K. (1997) Government Pathways to Reform. In W. Lockeretz (Ed.), *Visions of American Agriculture* (pp. 155-172). Ames, Iowa: Iowa State University Press.

Merrigan, K. (1995) Herbicide-Tolerant Plants: A Case of Science Gone Astray? *Health and Environment Digest*, 9(1) 3-5.

Youngberg, I. G., N. Schaller and **K. Merrigan**. (1993) The Sustainable Agriculture Policy Agenda in the United States: Politics and Prospects. In P. Allen (Ed.), *Food for the Future: Conditions and Contradictions of Sustainability*, (pp. 295-318). New York: John Wiley & Sons Inc.

Merrigan, K. (1993) National Policy Options and Strategies to Encourage Sustainable Agriculture: Lessons From the 1990 Farm Bill. *American Journal of Alternative Agriculture*, 8(4) 158-160.

Merrigan, K. (1992) New Directions for Agricultural Research and Extension in the 1990 Farm Bill. *HortScience*, 27(3) 204-206.

Merrigan, K. and S. Smith. (1987) The Massachusetts Experience. In J. Schmandt and R. Wilson (Eds.), *Promoting High Technology Industry: Initiatives and Policies for State Governments*, (pp. 65-96). Boulder, Colorado: Westview Press.

Land Grant University and Government Publications

Merrigan, K. (June 2003) The role of consumer demand, government standards and market facilitation, in *Organic Agriculture: Sustainability, Markets and Policies*, Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development, CABI Publishing.

Merrigan, K. (1995) Property is Nothing More Than Persuasion, in *Genes for the Future: Discovery, Ownership, Access*, J. MacDonald (ed.), Ithaca, New York: National Agricultural Biotechnology Council.

Merrigan, K. (1994) Agricultural Sustainability: the Unfinished Agenda, *Public Issues Shaping the 1995 Farm Bill*, Special Report 473, University of Missouri-Columbia.

Merrigan, K. (June 1993) A Time for Change: Research and Extension in the New Administration, *The Future of Agricultural Research and Extension: Policy Perspectives*, Rural Policy Research Institute Report, University of Nebraska.

Merrigan, K. (1992) Farm Policy and Sustainable Agriculture, *Building Bridges: Cooperative Research and Education for Iowa Agriculture*, Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture, Iowa State University.

Popular/Industry Press

Merrigan, K. (2004) From the Farm to the Students, op-ed column, *Boston Sunday Globe*, Jan. 4, 2004.

Merrigan, K. (2003) Dear Senator, an essay on federal policies and improved nutrition in *Catholic Rural Life*, Vol. 46, No. 1, Fall 2003.

Merrigan, K. (2002) Essay, *Organic Gardening Magazine* 60th anniversary issue. Chosen as one of 5 organic leaders/visionaries (others: John Ikerd, Willie Nelson, Joan Dye Gussow, and Elliot Coleman) to imagine the state of organic agriculture in 2020, September 2002.

Merrigan, K. (2002) Genetic engineering: a call to scrutinize science, essay in *Tufts Nutrition*, 4 (1) fall 2002.

Merrigan, K. (2001) Forward, *Organic Foods Sourcebook*, Elaine Lipson, Contemporary Books (McGraw Hill).

Merrigan, K. (2000) Boards Should Commit to Embracing Diversity, *The Packer*, January 3, 2000.

Merrigan, K. (1998) Agriculture's New Frontiers, *Agricultural Outlook Forum '98 Proceedings*, U.S. Department of Agriculture, May, 1998.

Merrigan, K. (1997) Forward, *Directory of Organic Expertise*, CAAF, 1997.

Published Research Reports

Merrigan, K., O. Chen, C. Mirle, P. Milbury, J. Blumberg. (2007) *New Approaches to Measure the Impact of Farming Systems and Technology on Food Quality*, Report submitted to The Organic Center.

Beckhardt, R., S. Borron, E. Ladow, A. LoDolce, **K. Merrigan.** (2007) Envisioning a Food Garden on the Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway. Commissioned by the Massachusetts Horticulture Society.

Lockeretz, W. and **K. Merrigan.** (2006) *Ensuring Comprehensive Organic Livestock Standards*, Proceedings of the 1st IFOAM International Conference on Animals in Organic Production.

Merrigan, K. (1997) *An Analysis of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utility Service Water and Wastewater Loan and Grant Program*. Commissioned by USDA to conduct an independent evaluation of the RUS loan and grant program, with particular focus on how decreasing amounts of grant funds affect participation of low income rural communities.

Merrigan, K. (1993) *Time to Read Between the Lines*, 1993. Publication of first year doctoral research paper analyzing U.S. federal investments in research infrastructure and proposing “base-closing” initiative.

Susskind, L., **K. Merrigan**, P. Schimek. (1994) *The Uses and Organization of Environmental Policy Studies*, Prepared for the U.S. Army Environmental Policy Institute, , DACA 88-92-D-0006.004, March, 1994.

Invited Congressional Testimony

The Conservation Security Program: Insight and Recommendations Based on the New England Experience, Hearing before the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, U.S. Senate, Jan. 17, 2007.

Illegal Activities at the Hunts Point Marketing Terminal, Hearing before the Subcommittee on Livestock and Horticulture of the Committee on Agriculture, House of Representatives, No. 106-58, 2000.

Statements of the Administrator, Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations for 2000, Hearings before the Subcommittee on Appropriations, House of Representatives, No. 106-Part 3, Conservation Programs and Marketing and Regulatory Programs, 1999.

Time to Read Between the Lines, Hearing before the Subcommittee on Resource Conservation, Research, and Forestry of the Committee on Agriculture, House of Representatives, No. 104-27, 1996.

Setting Priorities for Agricultural Research Facilities, Hearing before the Subcommittee on Department Operations and Nutrition of the Committee on Agriculture, House of Representatives, No. 103-21, 1993.

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Secretary of Agriculture Plow Honor Award, June 2001.

Chosen as member of *Natural Health's* first-ever Hall of Fame, appearing in the 30th anniversary issue, March 2001.

Fourth Annual Organic Leadership Award, Organic Trade Association, 2000.

SELECTED AFFILIATIONS (past and present)

U.S. Cabinet-level Advisory Board Appointments

U.S. Department of Agriculture National Organic Standards Board (1995–1999)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Food Safety Advisory Committee (1996-1998)

U.S. Department of Agriculture Facilities Reform Commission (1997-1999)

Consensus Dialogue

Stakeholder participant in a national forum supported by the Pew Foundation (2001-03) to assess current law and regulations for agricultural biotechnology and develop recommendations for improvement. www.pewagbiotech.org

Expert Panel Member

Food Quality and Safety panel, *Integrating and Strengthening the European Research Area*, effort to determine R&D priorities for the European Union's Sixth Framework Program found at: <http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/eoi-analysis.htm>, 2002.

Sustainable Agriculture Affiliations

- American Academy for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Network for Science and Innovation for Sustainable Development
- Stone Barns Center for Food and Agriculture Advisory Committee, a project of the Rockefeller Family, 2002-2006.
- The Organic Center Board of Directors, 2004-present.
- Standards Committee, Human Farm Animal Care, 2003-2007.
- Organic Farming Research Foundation Board of Directors, 1992-1995.
- National Campaign for Sustainable Agriculture Steering Committee, 1994-1999.
- Kellogg Foundation Integrated Food and Farming Systems Network Steering Committee, 1996-1998.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Organic Standards for Animal Health and Welfare? Act Now Before It's Too Late, The College of Life Sciences and Agriculture at the University of New Hampshire, Feb. 2008. video available at: <http://www.organicdairy.unh.edu>.

The Importance of Organic Agriculture in the U.S. in Coming Years, Congressional Briefing sponsored by the Center for Health and the Global Environment, Harvard Medical School, Washington, DC, Oct. 2007.

Organic Agriculture and Food Security, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, Rome, Italy, April 2007.

Fast Food/Fat Nation: America's Growing Obesity Epidemic, Cambridge Forum (nationally syndicated radio show), April 2007.

Food Quality and Organic Agriculture, Seeds of Change, Santa Fe, New Mexico, April 2007.

Is Peaceful Coexistence Possible? Presentation at the American Wine Institute on GMOs, July 2006, San Francisco, CA.

The Potential of Organic Agriculture, presentation for environmental journalists from around the world, Greenaccord, Rome, Italy, Oct 2006.

Understanding and Nourishing the Roots of Food Quality, Symposium organizer and participant, American Academy for the Advancement of Science Annual Meeting, St. Louis, MO, Feb 2006.

Immigrant Farming in the Shadow of the City, luncheon keynote at the annual meeting of the American Association for Agricultural Economics, Providence, RI, July 2005.

A Food Systems Approach to Improving Nutrition and Health, opening conference keynote panel, Society for Nutrition Education, Orlando, FL, July, 2005.

Measuring and Communicating the Benefits of Organic Food Production, Innovations in Organic Marketing, Technology, and Research, USDA-ERS workshop, Oct 2005.

The Sustainability of Agriculture, panel speaker in seminar series, MIT, Nov. 2005.

Mad Cow and Mad Politics, seminar at Kennedy School of Government, Regulatory speaker series, 2004.

U.S. Governance of Ag Biotech: Principles and Practice, Norwegian Trade Council, Boston, MA, October 2003.

Community-based Agriculture and the Stone Barns, Agriculture and Human Values Society annual meeting, Austin, TX, June 2003.

Applying Lessons Learned from the Organic Label to Ecolabels, keynote speech, Tufts Conference on Greening of the Food Market, Boston, MA, Nov 2002.

Policy Approaches to Organic Agriculture, Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Washington D.C., Sept 2002

Ensuring Farming 'Welfare', The Center for Environment and Society and the Chesapeake Fields Institute, Washington College, Easton, MD, March 2002.

The Organic Foods Production Act: Ten Years After, Keynote presentation, The 5th Biennial Organic and Business Regulatory Conference, OFRF, Berkeley, CA, July 2001.

Resolving Uncertainty Through Government Sponsored Research, presentation at Tufts conference, Agricultural Biotechnology: The Road to Improved Nutrition and Increased Production, Boston, MA, Nov. 2001.