

Dr. Sarah Kapnick [Kap-nick], NOAA Chief Scientist



Sarah Kapnick, Ph.D., serves as chief scientist for NOAA, where she is responsible for guiding the programmatic focus of NOAA's science and technology priorities. Her expertise in climate science has made her a trusted resource across the federal government and for national and international outlets and publications such as the Associated Press, New York Times, Wall Street Journal, PBS, BBC, the Today Show, National Public Radio, Time, Popular Science, and National Geographic.

Prior to her current role, Dr. Kapnick previously held a position as a physical scientist and deputy division leader on seasonal to decadal variability and predictability at NOAA's Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory (GFDL). At GFDL, her work spanned seasonal climate prediction, mountain snowpack, extreme storms, water security, climate economics, and climate impacts. She served as an expert and reviewer for NOAA's Small Business Innovation Research Program, a member of its Eastern Region Climate Team, a science panelist for Climate.gov and the NOAA team lead for the NASA High Mountain Asia Team. She was

a recipient of the NOAA Albritton Outstanding Science Communicator Award, American Geophysical Union Cryosphere Early Career Award, and National Science Foundation postdoctoral fellowship award.

Dr. Kapnick has extensive experience at the intersection of climate science and economics. Most recently, she served as a managing director at J.P. Morgan, functioning as Senior Climate Scientist and Sustainability Strategist for Asset and Wealth Management. While at J.P. Morgan she supported sustainability and climate action efforts and served as an advisor on new business and investment opportunities and risks. Additionally, she co-founded a renewable energy forecasting startup, and has held positions at a voluntary carbon registry and Goldman Sachs.

Dr. Kapnick is a member of the American Geophysical Union, the American Meteorological Society, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. She received a Ph.D. in Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences with a Certificate in Leaders in Sustainability from UCLA, and an A.B. in Mathematics with a Certificate in Finance from Princeton University.