



David W. Cash

David Cash has spent his career trying to understand and better harness knowledge to solve pressing policy challenges.

He earned a PhD in public policy from Harvard University, concentrating in environment and natural resources. He also completed an MAT in science education from Lewis & Clark College and a BS in biology from Yale. While at Harvard, he conducted applied research that focused on bridging knowledge and action, exploring how science and technical information can inform decision-making related to environmental and sustainable development issues.

His first foray into education was as a middle and high school teacher, developing curriculum and teaching earth science, biology, chemistry, and environmental science. His passion for teaching and learning was evident in his subsequent roles, in which he has sought to develop, share, and apply knowledge to support informed policymaking and legislative decisions.

Spending the past decade in Massachusetts state government in catalytic roles, Cash helped to transform the commonwealth's energy and environmental policy and regulatory landscape. His job history includes senior positions at the Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Public Utilities, and Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. In these roles, he helped develop and implement nation-leading science-based environmental, climate, clean energy, water and waste management regulatory programs; innovative renewable energy and grid modernization efforts; and the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative—the nation's first CO₂ cap-and-trade program.

While working in state government positions, Cash extended his efforts internationally, participating in a U.S. State Department mission to India on clean energy and climate and via USAID collaborations with regulators and policymakers in Tanzania and Ghana.

Cash was also a research fellow and lecturer in environmental science and public policy at Harvard University and, as a PhD student, was a White House global environmental policy intern at the Council on Environmental Quality.

He has published numerous professional, peer-reviewed academic and lay articles and book chapters. He is the recipient of awards and fellowships from the U.S. EPA, Environmental League of Massachusetts, Harvard University, the Institute for the Study of World Politics, Howard Hughes Foundation, Earthwatch, and the Environmental Leadership Program.

Dean Cash joined the McCormack Graduate School in July 2015.