



## Bradford R. Spangler

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### Summary

A Mediator and Program Manager at Meridian Institute with eight years of experience convening and facilitating multi-party collaborative processes. Has worked on a variety of issues in the environmental and public health policy arenas, including freshwater quality and quantity, energy, forest management, endocrine-disrupting chemicals, children's health protection, food safety, and community resilience to natural disasters. 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 in Boulder.

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### 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.

#### Mediator and Program Manager

Manages and facilitates policy dialogues, negotiations, and strategy development projects involving teams of facilitators. Conducts convening assessments, designs collaborative processes, plans and facilitates meetings, helps participants develop consensus documents, and conducts implementation activities. Selected highlights are summarized below:

- Member of a team of facilitators and researchers supporting the Community and Regional Resilience Institute (CARRI), an applied research project aimed at identifying and sharing critical paths that any community or region may take to enhance resilience to manmade or natural disasters. Facilitated work groups in Gulfport, Mississippi, one of three initial CARRI partner communities. Also provided facilitation support to the Resilience Benefits Work Group of the Community Resilience System Initiative, a national-scale collaborative effort aimed at developing a nationally accepted system that communities can use to assess and enhance their

resilience, and receive tangible benefits as a result. Currently assists with content development and facilitation of pilot community testing of the Community Resilience System prototype.

- Assisted in planning and facilitating The Johnson Foundation Freshwater Forum, a series of five conferences held between March and December 2009 and involving a broad range of experts examining freshwater challenges facing the United States. Outcomes from the Forum informed deliberations at a June 2010 Freshwater Summit, a meeting of high-level leaders from diverse sectors that culminated in *Charting New Waters: A Call to Action to Address U.S. Freshwater Challenges*. Served as lead author of *Charting New Waters*. Continues to provide planning and facilitation support for a series of regional freshwater forums that will highlight opportunities to implement the consensus principles and recommendations presented in *Charting New Waters*.
- Please see <http://merid.org/staff/bspangler> for a full list of 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.

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.

### **University of Colorado Conflict Research Consortium**

Boulder, Colorado 2000–2004

#### *Research Associate*

Conducted conflict resolution and peace studies research and logged more than

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## **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