

## Lea N. Lupkin

Lea Lupkin is a Sustainability Program Analyst at EnergyClimate Solutions. She comes to ECS from the Sustainable Endowments Institute, where she helped publish the *College Sustainability Report Cards 2009* and *2010*, the only comparative evaluation of sustainability and endowment practices of higher education institutions in the U.S. and Canada. Providing a range of research and communications services for SEI for two years, she led an extensive feedback process with college administrators and students aimed at improving the *College Sustainability Report Card* and administered several independent research projects of innovative funding mechanisms for campus sustainability projects.

Lea became an avid student organizer around issues of climate change and environment in college. She served on the student steering committee for the hugely successful *Power Shift 2007*, the first national youth climate summit in Washington D.C., and helped to co-found the Virginia Climate Action Network to connect and leverage the youth voice across the state for climate change action. Lea was heavily involved in promoting sustainable change on her own campus, Roanoke College, serving as a student representative on the President's Green Advisory Committee, co-authoring the school's first Carbon Emissions Inventory and Mitigation Recommendations, and completing her honors thesis on Revolving Loan Funds as a Funding Mechanism for Campus Sustainability.

Lea was a Founding Director in 2007 of the *Roanoke Valley Cool Cities Coalition*, a nonprofit committed to reducing carbon emissions through local action, and whose affiliates represent over 15,000 citizens in the Roanoke Valley. She has led workshops on Student Empowerment, Green Endowments, Power Mapping in Universities, and Leadership Development at college, state, and national conferences, and has presented sociological and environmental research at the American Sociological Association and the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education national conferences.

Also passionate about biodiversity conservation, Lea has interned with the Verde Ventures program at *Conservation International*, which invests in conservation-oriented businesses in biodiversity hotspots, to identify opportunities for the program to engage in the Voluntary Carbon Trading Market. She currently serves as the Policy Advisor on the Convention of Biological Diversity for *SustainUS*, a sustainable development youth organization, and is involved with *The Leadership Campaign*, a student-driven campaign calling on the state of Massachusetts to repower the state with 100% clean electricity.

Lea Lupkin graduated with honors from Roanoke College with a BA in Environmental Policy and studied development and French at the West African Research Center in Dakar, Senegal. She enjoys Slow Food, FreeCycle, and photography.