

Sustainability Solutions Expert



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Research Interests:

Regional Economic Change The Spatial Distribution of Economic Change Impacts of Innovation and

Research

The Economy-Environment Connection

Forecasting and Simulation Modeling







Charles S. Colgan Ph.D.

Professor of Public Policy & Management, Muskie School of Public Service, University of Southern Maine

Chair, Community Planning and Development Program, University of Southern Maine Chief Economist, Center for the Blue Economy, Monterey Institute of International Studies

Researcher and Research Council Member, Sustainability Solutions Initiative

Profile:

Charles Colgan is an economist, policy analyst, and faculty member at the University of Southern Maine's (USM) Muskie School of Public Service. Colgan's research examines employment trends, transportation needs, income discrepancies related to economic development, and the spatial distribution of economic and population change in Maine and in U.S. coastal regions. Before coming to USM, he served for 12 years in the Maine State Planning Office, including in positions as Maine State Economist and Special Assistant to the Governor for International Trade.

Colgan's research with the Sustainability Solutions Initiative focuses on urban landscape change in Maine in the metropolitan regions of Portland and Bangor. Colgan's team is building large-scale computer simulation models of these two regions using software that transforms the interactions between land use, the economy, transportation, and the environment into visual representations. Colgan uses these models in his work with stakeholders to examine the sustainability effects of scenarios that represent policy choices facing these metro regions in the future. The project's emphasis on the importance of models as predictors of change has allowed students the opportunity to actively participate in the research process. His research has resulted in the report "Changing Maine: Maine's Changing Population and Housing 1990-2010" and a companion volume focused on Southern Maine.

Colgan's research has been funded by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Maine EPSCoR, National Science Foundation, and the Senator George J. Mitchell Center and Maine's Sustainability Solutions Initiative.

Colgan has been quoted in regional newspapers, magazines and television stations. His research has been published in several journals including Ocean and Coastal Management, Growth and Change, and the Maine Policy Review. He is the editor-in-chief of the Journal of Ocean and Coastal Economics.

Degrees:

University of Maine, Ph.D. (Economic History) Colby College, B.A. (History and Government)

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Media Expertise:

The Maine and U.S. Economies

Economics of the Environment

Demography of Maine Transportation

The Economies of Coastal Regions

SSI Projects:

Sustainable Urban Regions Project (SURP)

New England SusTainability Consortium (NEST)

Courses:

PPM 606: Survey Methods and Design PPM 620: Introduction to Policy Analysis

PPM 639: Topics in Public Policy and Management PPM 650: State and Regional Economic Development

CPD 676: Energy Policy and Planning

CPD 696: Field Experience CPD 699: Studio/Capstone

PPM 709: Doctoral Applied Policy Analysis PPM 720: Seminar in Policy Analysis

Selected Publications:

Charles S. Colgan, "The Ocean Economy of the United States: Measurement, Distribution, & Trends," Ocean & Coastal Management 71 (2012): 334-343.

Caroline L. Noblet, Kathleen P. Bell, Charles Colgan, and Mario Teisl, "Economic Development and Maine's Sustainability Solutions Initiative," Maine Policy Review 21, no. 1 (2012): 128-136.

Bulent Acma, Ernesto Aguayo-Tellez, Jeffrey Alwang, Nathan Anderson, Carlos Azzoni, Natalia Barbosa, Tim Bartik, Charles S. Colgan et al., "Growth and Change Paper Reviewers/Referees, 2011," Growth and Change 42, no. 4 (2011): 680-683.

Susan J. Cook, Charles S. Colgan, and Kathleen Ashley, "The Call for Internationalization of the University," Inquiry: Critical Thinking Across the Disciplines 7, no. 2 (2010): 10-13.

Judith T. Kildow, Charles S. Colgan, and Linwood Pendleton. "The Changing Coastal and Ocean Economies of the United States Gulf of Mexico," in Gulf of Mexico Origin, Waters, and Biota: Ocean and Coastal Economy, Volume 2 (2009): 47.

Judith Tegger Kildow, Charles S. Colgan, and Jason Scorse, State of the U.S. Ocean and Coastal Economies (National Ocean Economics Program, 2009).

Senator George J. Mitchell Center and the Sustainability Solutions Initiative

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