



**Woodrow Wilson  
International  
Center  
for Scholars**

## **Temperatures Rising: Climate Change, Water, and the Himalayas**

### **KENNETH HEWITT**

Kenneth Hewitt is a cofounder of the Cold Regions Research Centre and he is professor emeritus at Wilfrid Laurier University in Canada. Over the past 45 years his research has focused predominantly on geomorphology and hazards/disasters. Most of his geomorphological research and related glaciological and hydrological studies have targeted the northwest Himalaya and Karakoram where he first went in 1960. In the 1980s and 1990s, he was among the first researchers to criticize the deterministic, ahistorical, and asocial concept of hazards and disasters and its dependence upon the use of choice and decision models. His book, *Interpretations of Calamity from the Viewpoint of Human Ecology* became, and still is, a reference in this field. Through extensive fieldwork, Hewitt has most recently described and explained the role of catastrophic slope failures and rock avalanches in shaping the morphology of the Karakoram and northwest Himalaya.

### **ISABEL HILTON**

Isabel Hilton is the founder and CEO of *chinadialogue*, a London-based, bilingual media resource on environmental affairs in China and global climate change. She has an MA in Chinese from Edinburgh University and, after two years postgraduate work in Edinburgh, studied in China for two years, first at the Beijing Foreign Language and Culture University and then at Fudan University in Shanghai. She began her career in journalism with Scottish Television and then worked for the *Daily Express* and the *Sunday Times* before joining the launch team for *The Independent* in 1986. In 1992, she became a presenter of the BBC's flagship news program, *The World Tonight* and a columnist for *The Guardian*. In 1999, she joined the *New Yorker* as a staff writer. Her work has appeared in the *Financial Times*, *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times*, and many other publications. Since 2001, she has been a presenter of the BBC Radio Three's cultural program, *Night Waves*. She has authored and co-authored several books and holds an honorary doctorate from Bradford University.

### **KATHERINE MORTON**

Katherine Morton is a fellow in the Department of International Relations at Australian National University (ANU). She is a China specialist and her research interests include global civil society, international environmental politics, international development, and the influence of international norms and interventions on domestic political and socioeconomic change. She is presently engaged in a study of transnational advocacy at the grassroots in China and its impact on the struggle for social and environmental justice. Her key publications include, "Transnational Advocacy at the Grassroots in China: Potential Benefits and Risks," "Civil Society and Marginalisation: Grassroots NGOs in Qinghai Province," and "Surviving an Environmental Crisis: Can China Adapt?" Before working with ANU, she was an East Asia Research Consultant and Deputy Director of the East Asia Programme, University of Sussex.