Steve Rayner is James Martin Professor of Science and Civilization and Director of the Institute for Science, Innovation and Society at Oxford University, where he also co-directs the Oxford Programme for the Future of Cities, the Oxford Geoengineering Programme, and the Oxford Martin Programme on Resource Stewardship. He is also Honorary Professor of Climate Change and Society at the University of Copenhagen and Senior Fellow at the Breakthrough Institute, a non-partisan environmental think tank based in California’s Bay Area. He previously held senior research positions in two US National Laboratories and has taught at leading US universities.

He has served on various US, UK, and international bodies addressing science, technology and the environment, including Britain’s Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the Royal Society’s Working Group on Climate Geoengineering. He is currently a member of the Lead Expert Group for the British Government’s Foresight Programme on Future Cities. Until 2008 he also directed the national Science in Society Research Programme of the Economic and Social Research Council. He was included in the 2008 Smart List by Wired Magazine as “one of the 15 people the next US President should listen to”.