In the News

- 4-VA@Mason awards funding for twelve promising investigations
- Mason scientists explore innovative approach to silence HIV in the central nervous system, encourage scientific collaboration
- "A massive find": Mason student helps unearth rare fossil in Maryland
- A window into the region's past and present

Upcoming Events

A Celebration of Legacy and Impact: Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter, Peacemakers and Leaders for Change: You are cordially invited to the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution's two-day symposium event—A Celebration of Legacy and Impact: Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Peacemakers and Leaders for Change. Join us as we commemorate President and Mrs. Carter's contributions to making the world more peaceful, with a charge for how we can collectively continue their good works. Hosted by the George Mason University Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Center.

Monday, October 16, 2023 & Tuesday, October 17, 2023 | Click here to register.
Mason I-Corps: Taking Research to Market: Join us to learn about the George Mason University's NSF I-Corps Program, part of the new Mid-South Hub led by Vanderbilt University! This is an evidence-based approach to assist researchers to take their research and innovations to market for real-world impact. Hosted by Mason I-Corps.

Friday, October 20, 2023 from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM (ET) | Click here to register.
What Makes Us "Human" in the Digital Age? A CHR & IDIA Joint Symposium:
The Center for Humanities Research (CHR) is partnering with the Institute for Digital Innovation (IDIA) to bring faculty from across George Mason University to engage on some of the thorniest, transdisciplinary problems of our times that must be addressed both humanistically and technologically. Hosted by the George Mason University Center for Humanities Research.

Friday, October 20, 2023 from 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM | Click here to register.

Mason Space Day 2023: Mason Space Day is an exciting, collaborative, and engaging event, with an aim to educate the public on the technology and science behind some of the leading aerospace projects in the area. The day offers lectures from those at the forefront of space exploration and a number of organizations with hands-on space-related activities, educational information, and more. Hosted by the George Mason University College of Science.

Sunday, October 23, 2023 from 3:00 PM to 9:00 PM | Click here to register.

Indo US Bridging RARE Summit 2023: In the 40 years since the Orphan Drug Act was legislated in the USA, there is a growing understanding of the importance of rare diseases that affect over 30 million Americans. While the situation in Europe is similar, no such awareness exists in many parts of the world, such as India, which is home to over a quarter of the world’s population. It is time to change that, for the 1.5 billion people in India, and the 8 billion people across the world. Hosted by the George Mason University Institute for Biohealth Innovation.

Sunday, October 29, 2023 & Monday, October 30, 2023 | Click here to register.

The Nexus of Emergency Management and Public Health: Public Administration Responses to the COVID-19 Pandemic: Disasters are increasing in frequency and severity, but do not impact everyone equally—even in the same jurisdiction. Responding to, coping with, recovering from, and rebuilding after disasters are critical elements necessary for future planning and preparedness activities. Still, there are fundamental questions surrounding ethical challenges and administrative implications. Emergency and crisis management agencies and personnel have an obligation to protect citizens, including responding to public health challenges without discrimination. Hosted by the George Mason University The Center for Resilient and Sustainable Communities.

Wednesday, November 1, 2023 from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM (ET) | Click here to register.
Heather's Highlights: Each week we will highlight current funding opportunities, alternating between the six ISE Research Themes.

Research Theme 4: Clean Energy, Decarbonization, and Climate Action

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) has issued a funding opportunity called US DOT Climate and Transportation Research Initiative.

This funding opportunity for a Climate Change and Transportation Research Initiative to advance the research and technology needed to tackle the Nation’s climate and transportation challenges. The initiative will be led by a university or nonprofit. DOT seeks proposals focused on advancing research and technologies that support the Nation’s goals to decarbonize the transportation sector by 2050, strengthen resilience of the Nation’s transportation infrastructure, and address adverse environmental impacts created by the transportation system.

Application Due Date: November 27, 2023
Anticipated Funding Amount: $2,500,000

Research Theme 5: Enhancing Equality, Equity, and Access to Basic Goods and Services


Evidence for Action prioritizes research to evaluate specific interventions that have the potential to counteract the harms of structural and systemic racism and improve health, well-being, and equity outcomes. The focus on racial equity means they are concerned both with the direct impacts of structural racism on health and well-being of individuals and the indirect impacts of structural racism on community health and well-being.
people and communities of color, as well as the ways in which racism intersects with other forms of marginalization, such as having low income, being an immigrant, having a disability, or identifying as LGBTQ+ or a gender minority.

Application Due Date: Continuous
Funding Amount: Not Specified

Research Theme 6: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions to Support Thriving Economies

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has released a call for proposals under their Security and Preparedness (SAP) program.

The Security and Preparedness (SAP) program supports research and research infrastructure on issues broadly related to global and national security, including international conflict dispute resolution, domestic political instability and civil war, and the security implications of climate change.

Application Due Date: January 15, 2024
Funding Amount: Not Specified

Student Opportunities

Impact Fellows Program

The Impact Fellows Program gives you the opportunity to expand your networks and build the skills needed to thrive as a well-rounded leader in today’s complex world. Through a comprehensive two-year program, you will learn about the UN Global Goals as a framework for the biggest challenges facing society and learn about how business can thrive while creating economic, social, and environmental value. The connections you make during this program will enable you to expand your interests, kickstart your career, and realize your full potential. Participating in the program will open doors throughout your time at Mason and beyond.

Click here to learn more.

The Energy and Climate Policy Fellows

The Energy and Climate Policy (ECP) Fellows program is for selected students interested in the nexus between energy/climate change and local community engagement. This program incorporates law, policy, equity, and modeling to take academic research beyond the classroom and into the community. This is a 15-credit
academic program based at the Mason Square campus and incorporates an internship experience into the semester.

Click here to learn more.

José E. Serrano Educational Partnership Program with Minority Serving Institutions (EPP/MSI)

The EPP/MSI Undergraduate Scholarship provides funds for two years of undergraduate study to rising junior undergraduate students majoring in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields that directly support NOAA’s mission. Participants conduct research at a NOAA facility during two paid summer internships. Since 2001, 219 students have completed the program and over 75% go on to graduate school.

Click here to learn more.

AES Innovation Challenge

The AES Energy Innovation Challenge is a competition that brings together teams of graduate students from diverse backgrounds to create and present solutions to relevant problems the energy industry is facing. We want to challenge aspiring energy professionals to explore new and potentially untapped solutions.

The AES Energy Innovation Challenge is a prize-based competition that provides students with an exciting opportunity to gain the real-world experience, skills, and insights required to help accelerate the responsible energy transition upon graduation — all while networking with leaders from a global Fortune 500 company dedicated to leading the transformation to smarter, greener energy future.

Click here to learn more.

The 2023 Virginia Climate Center Student Photo Competition

The VCC is sponsoring a photo competition in collaboration with the Associated College Press and National Scholastic Press Association to depict climate change and climate change solutions through the lens of high school and college students residing in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Winning photos will be used to help educate Virginians about the local implications of global climate change and the benefits of climate solutions for us here in the Commonwealth.

Click here to learn more.

The Institute for a Sustainable Earth (ISE) aims to connect members of the Mason community with others across the Mason community–and with other
communities, policy-makers, businesses and organizations—so that, together, we can more effectively address the world’s pressing sustainability and resilience challenges.

The ISE Newsletter provides up-to-date information on conferences, funding opportunities, and research pertaining to environmental science and sustainability. The biweekly newsletter aims to facilitate information sharing among researchers, practitioners, and relevant local, national, and international organization.