Announcements

Help to assess biodiversity at George Mason University while discovering the many different creatures that live on campus. Use your eyes, phone camera and the iNaturalist app to record as many species as possible October 1 - November 19, 2023.

Click here to join the project to add your observations.
In the News

- Mason physicist receives university’s first DOE Early Career Award to advance quantum technologies.
- Science and engineering meet to create new surface water robot.
- Dean’s Blog – Mental health: It’s time we talk and do something about it.
- African scientists collaborate to solve global problems.
- Mason named to top 100 list for patents awarded in 2022.
- Shoot for the stars at George Mason University’s Space Day.
Upcoming Events

Methane Mitigation and Health Briefing Series: A Three-Part Exploration: The Global Climate and Health Alliance invites you to a series of short briefings on mitigating methane and the benefits for health, in the Energy, Food System, and Waste sectors. Learn more about the need to rapidly drive down emissions of this powerful, short-lived climate pollutant, and about the health benefits, in the Energy, Food, and Waste sectors of strategies to reduce methane. Reducing methane emissions offers a quick win against climate change and important wins for people’s health, a chance to make near term progress while longer term transformations are under way. Following the launch of GCHA's report series, Mitigating Methane: A global health strategy, this series of 30 minute briefings takes a closer look at what this means, in each of the key methane-emitting sectors, and opportunities to move the needle on methane, climate, and health. Hosted by the Global Climate and Health Alliance.

Part 1: Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at 9:00 AM (ET) | Click here to register.
Part 2: Tuesday, October 31, 2023 at 9:00 AM (ET) | Click here to register.
Part 3: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 at 9:00 AM (IST) | 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.
Funding Opportunities

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. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced two competitions in implementation grants under the Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) program.

EPA has announced two competitions for CPRG implementation grants. The CPRG general competition for implementation grants is designed to enable states, municipalities, tribes, and territories to achieve the following goals: 1) implement ambitious measures that will achieve significant cumulative GHG reductions; 2) pursue measures that will achieve substantial community benefits, particularly in low-income and disadvantaged communities; 3) complement other funding sources to maximize these GHG reductions and community benefits; 4) pursue innovative policies and programs that are replicable and can be ‘scaled up’ across multiple jurisdictions.

Application Due Date: NOI Feb. 1, 2024; Full application package April 1, 2024
Anticipated Funding Amount: ranging between $2 million and $500 million

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

The American College of Gastroenterology has announced the 2024 Health Equity Research Award – Request for Applications.

The goal of the Health Equity Research Award is to support promising investigators in developing research careers that have a direct bearing on clinical gastrointestinal
practice by advancing our knowledge in reducing disparities in care and outcomes of racial/ethnic minorities, women, LGBTQ+ populations, and/or those living with a disability that is not derivative of a gastrointestinal disease, within the broader context of gastrointestinal and liver diseases.

Application Due Date: December 4, 2023
Funding Amount: up to $75,000

---

**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**

**Next System Fellows**

We are now accepting application for admission to the Spring 2024 cohort of Next System Fellows. Maybe you hope for a life in which you can make a real difference in the world. You seek a career in public service, research and education, social enterprise, activism, or advocacy. You need to build your practical experience and career networks. The Next System Fellows are a part of Mason's prestigious Arlington Fellows program. As a Fellow you will:

- Intern with a partner organization, union, or research group, or with Mason’s own Democratizing NOVA project.
- Set yourself up for a career in social and public service, organizing, research, technology, cooperative development, social entrepreneurship, teaching, and more.
- Learn about and engage directly with real world next system projects such as worker cooperatives and solidarity economy initiatives, community owned enterprises and services, campaigns for abolition and political democracy, transition and resilient communities, democratic and sustainable technologies, non-violent conflict resolution and restorative justice projects, and more.

Click [here](#) to learn more.
**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.](#)

---

**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.