Announcements

Mason as a Living Lab

"In 2011, Mason began reporting its sustainability progress to the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System (STARS) from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education and earned a Silver rating. By 2014, we were the first university in Virginia to achieve a Gold STARS rating. In 2012, Mason committed to supporting the United Nations Global Compact, the world’s largest corporate sustainability initiative. The UN’s 17 Sustainable Development Goals also drive much of the work coming out of the university’s Institute for a Sustainable Earth (ISE). And still, Mason aspires to do more."

Click here to read the full story.

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

- Technology on the field and court helps Mason student-athletes in the gym.
- Dean's blog: Aerospace learning, research, and engagement: Mission Accomplished.
- Advancing infectious disease capabilities through biomedical research laboratory core support.
- Focus on the Future: Molly Corder.

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.

Sunrise Science: Join Dr. Rick Spinrad, Undersecretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and the 11th NOAA Administrator, for a conversation about the state of ocean health and how NOAA is working to protect biodiversity, support marine industries, and spur climate readiness in communities across the country. *Hosted by the Science Museum of Virginia.*

Thursday, November 2, 2023 at 8:00 AM (ET) | Click [here](#) to register.
The Office of Community Engagement and Civic Learning (CECiL) is excited to bring to campus Engage! An annual issue-based program to bring together Mason and our community partners to understand critical social justice issues in our surrounding communities while coming up with potential service projects, collaborations, and solutions. This year, the focus issue is food Insecurity. Community members, faculty, staff, and students are invited to better understand the food insecurity in this area and work together to think about opportunities for collaboration and solutions through community-engaged learning, research and scholarship. **Hosted by the George Mason University Office of Community Engagement and Civic Learning.**

**Thursday, November 2, 2023, from 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM (ET) | Click here to register.**

From traveling to a destination to exploring it upon arrival, mobility is at the heart of travel—and it’s continuously evolving. On November 15, join U.S. Travel Association for an advocacy event designed to gather travel industry executives, business leaders and trailblazers as well as public policy elites. Together, we will identify the factors essential to spur travel’s growth and innovation, share a vision for where we will lead and discuss the policies required to usher in the future of travel. **Hosted by the U.S. Travel Association.**

**Wednesday, November 15, 2023 | Click here to register.**

The Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution’s annual **Vernon M. and Minnie I. Lynch Lecture** is the Carter School’s premier event, which features ground-breaking approaches to analyzing conflict and promoting peace. Delivered by public officials, scholars, and practitioners, this lecture series recognizes the generosity of the Carter School's earliest supporters, Edwin and Helen Lynch. Hosted by the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution at George Mason University.

**Thursday, November 16, 2023 | 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 1: Human Health, Well-Being, and Capabilities

*The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has an open application call for the *Evidence for Action: Innovative Research to Advance Racial Equity* program.

*Evidence for Action* (E4A) prioritizes research to evaluate specific interventions (e.g. policies, programs, practices) that have the potential to counteract the harms of structural and systematic racism and improve health, well-being, and equity outcomes. This funding is geared toward studies about ‘upstream’ causes of health inequities, such as the systems, structures, laws, policies, norms, and practices that determine the distribution of resources and opportunities, which in turn influence individuals’ options and behaviors.

Application Due Dates: Open  
Funding Amount: Not Specified

Research Theme 2: Sustainable and Resilient Communities and Ecosystems

*The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has issues a funding opportunity for the* National Estuarine Research Reserve System (NERRS) Land Acquisition and Construction Program for Fiscal Year 2024.

The National Estuarine Research Reserve System (NERRS) consists of estuarine areas of the U.S. and its territories designated and managed for research and education purposes. By funding Reserve lead agencies and universities to conduct land acquisition and construction projects that support the NERRS mission, NOAA will
strengthen protection of key land and water areas, enhance long-term protection of Reserve areas for research and education and provide for facility and exhibit construction activities that meet the highest sustainable design standards possible.

Application Due Date: February 9, 2024
Funding Amount: $8,500,000

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**Research Theme 3: Harnessing the Digital Revolution for Sustainability and Education for All**

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has an ongoing call for the Design for Environmental Sustainability in Computing.

The goal of the Design for Environmental Sustainability in Computing (DESC) program is to address the substantial environmental impacts that computing has through its entire lifecycle from design and manufacturing, through deployment into operation, and finally into reuse, recycling, and disposal. These impacts go well beyond commonly-considered measures of energy consumption at run-time and include greenhouse warming gas emissions, depletion of scarce resources like rare earth elements, and the creation of toxic byproducts.

Application Due Date: Proposals Accepted Anytime
Funding Amount: Not Specified

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**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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

ise.gmu.edu

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