ISE Network Catalyst Grants 2024-2025: Call for Applications

- Supporting transdisciplinary research that addresses urgent challenges -

With the Network Catalyst Grants, the Institute for a Sustainable Earth will support the development of transdisciplinary faculty teams in applied research aligned with UN Sustainable Development Goals. Supported teams will catalyze a network of collaborators within and beyond George Mason University and aim to secure additional sources of funding. The ISE is growing a broad network of partners, and Network Catalyst teams will work with the Institute to forge new and sustained engagements with community-based organizations, NGOs, governments, the private sector, or other strategic partners. Up to four funded teams will receive:

- ISE mentorship and assistance in engaging external partners
- $5,000 to support network-building activities (workshops, basic research)
- Grant proposal development support
- A fully-funded graduate research fellowship stipend in Summer 2025

Learn more about this innovative program, including how to prepare an application, at the ISE’s Network Catalyst Program webpage. Applications are due Friday, March 22, 2024.

Network Catalyst Grants Informational Webinars: Mon., Feb 26 at 4 pm and Thurs., March 7 at 9 am. Please contact Dr. Jeremy Campbell at jcampb30@gmu.edu for more information.
When will the cherry trees bloom in 2024?

Mason’s Department of Statistics and their partners invite contestants to submit their predictions for Washington, D.C. (USA), Kyoto (Japan), Liestal-Weideli (Switzerland), Vancouver, BC (Canada) and New York City (USA), along with a compelling narrative and reproducible analysis containing any data and code used. Complete entries will be eligible to win cash and prizes—based on multiple categories, including best prediction and best narrative—and will be featured on Real World Data Science. See the complete competition rules for details.

News

- At Fuse topping out ceremony, student researchers demonstrate the power of VR in physical rehabilitation
- Costello College of Business finance professor receives coveted NSF early-career award
- Mason selected for participation in Department of Commerce consortium dedicated to AI safety
- Developing passive sampling methodologies for equilibrium sampling of PFAS compounds in surface water and groundwater

Events
Assessing Clean Water Access in Metro Atlanta, Post Tri-State Water Dispute

Atlanta is one of the few large metropolitan areas in the United States not located near the mouth of a river. The city accesses freshwater almost exclusively from the Chattahoochee River. Water withdrews cannot tap into an underground aquifer due to the underlying piedmont. While recent wins over access to Lake Lanier provide some security for a stable source of freshwater, infrastructure challenges of aging pipes bring into question Atlanta’s ability to meet future freshwater demands. Atlanta’s short-term response has been to replace the aging infrastructure and create a freshwater reservoir. The primary question is will this meet the city’s future needs for fresh water? Hosted by George Mason University's Center for Resilient and Sustainable Communities (C-RASC).

Mar 13, 2024 from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM (ET) | Zoom Webinar | Click here to register.

The Annual STAR-TIDES Capabilities Demonstration showcases products and activities of the STAR-TIDES (Sharing To Accelerate Research – Transformative Innovation for Development and Emergency Support) global knowledge-sharing network, The network includes several thousand members engaged in building sustainable resilience, promoting human security, and creating life-changing social and economic activities. STAR-TIDES is coordinated through George Mason University’s Center for Resilient and Sustainable Communities (C-RASC).

April 15-16, 2024 | Mason Square Van Metre Hall | Click here to register
The Accelerate Smart Cities Innovation Challenge will:

- Introduce solutions for broadband, housing, transportation, health, water, food systems, education, infrastructure, energy, and public safety
- Facilitate diverse cross-functional teams of talent with a shared purpose and passion to serve our community with tangible and innovative smart cities solutions
- Recruit those interested in smart cities innovation, particularly targeting underrepresented talent in technology and entrepreneurship
- Encourage the student teams to take their ideas to market
- Promote collaborators to local talent, including judging and mentoring opportunities
- Elevate and support nonprofit collaborators
- Enable thought leadership collaboration among organizers, collaborators, and teams
- Strengthen our regional technology ecosystem, while offering a scalable national event model
ICICLE Educational Fellows Program

The National Science Foundation-funded AI Institute for Intelligent Cyberinfrastructure with Computational Learning in the Environment (ICICLE) is now accepting applications for its 2024 Educational Fellows Program. Graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and early-career educators and researchers from all domains and disciplines actively enrolled in, or formally affiliated with, a US-based institution, are eligible to apply. Those from populations and institutions traditionally underrepresented in research computing, as well as those interested in developing skills and/or positing research questions using AI-enabled cyberinfrastructure and knowledge systems to support increased resiliency of food systems, are strongly encouraged to apply.

Click here to learn more.
RaMP-UP Fellows Program

Get a stipend of $32,000 for a full year of participation. RT ticket to Panamá and lodging while at Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute facilities. Come away with a robust research experience, scientific products, an international professional network, a peer network, and strong mentors to advocate for their careers. Check back soon for 2024/2025 application openings.

RaMP-UP Fellows spend a year engaged in BioDiversity studies with Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI) Scientists. Embedded in the tropical landscapes of Panamá, practicing cutting-edge and rigorous methodologies to make a lasting impact on Tropical BioDiversity.

Click here to learn more.

National Geographic: Internships at the Society

Every year, the National Geographic Society provides a number of students with a paid opportunity to spend the summer exploring and learning with us. We offer a diverse range of dynamic internships that are designed to offer a well-rounded experience. Our goal is to provide engaging, educational, and work-related opportunities for both undergraduate and graduate students.

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.

ise.gmu.edu