

Announcements

ISE and the Graduate Division Announce the Summer 2024 Sustainability Research Fellows

Congratulations are in order for the seventeen Mason graduate students recently selected as Sustainability Summer Research Fellows. Unique among summer research opportunities, this fellowship pairs Mason doctoral or masters students with organizations engaged in applied and impactful research on a host of sustainability, resilience, and environmental justice initiatives. In Summer 2024, students from a wide array of programs and backgrounds will co-create and conduct research activities with partner organizations that are making a positive impact on our world.

[Click Here to Learn More](#)



Call for Applications: C-RASC Summer 2024 GRA Fellowship

Fellows will have support for developing their research agenda in addition to the particular research goals that are co-identified with the partner organization.

Applications are due April 14th, 2024



<https://bit.ly/3VzeIBF>

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

Graduate Advising and Mentoring

Welcome to the 2024 Mason Graduate Advising and Mentoring Questionnaire! Administered as a partnership by the Graduate Division and in alignment with the 2024 Graduate Student Experience Survey, this questionnaire provides faculty and staff with a unique formal opportunity to share their experiences and suggestions on graduate advising and mentoring. Your personal experiences will allow campus leaders to collect a comprehensive inventory on current practices and identify campus-wide concerns to elevate support and recognition of all faculty and staff contributing to the success of graduate students.

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

News

- [Mason's research is best in Virginia in multiple EduRank rankings](#)
- [Mechanical engineering students build motorized Vitruvian man for a School of Music performance](#)
- [Mason's Pride Week offers educational and enrichment opportunities for the campus community](#)
- [Mason doctoral student aims for the stars through a passion for math](#)

- [Mason postdoc leads scientific breakthrough that could revolutionize cancer treatment](#)
- [How climate change affects birds](#)

Events

Gras Lecture in the Environmental Humanities: Literature for a Changing Planet

Martin Puchner is the Byron and Anita Wien Professor of English and Comparative Literature at Harvard University. He is a prize-winning and bestselling author whose books include *The Written World: The Power of Stories to Shape People, History, Civilization* (Random House 2017) and *Culture: The Story of Us, From Cave Art to K-Pop* (Norton 2023). He is the general editor of *The Norton Anthology of World Literature*.

In his Gras lecture, Puchner will be discussing the ideas in his book, *Literature for a Changing Planet* (Princeton 2022) which argues for why we must learn to tell new stories about our relationship with the earth if we are to avoid climate catastrophe. At this turning point for the planet, scientists, policymakers, and activists have woken up to the power of stories in the fight against global warming. In *Literature for a Changing Planet*, Puchner ranges across four thousand years of world literature to draw vital lessons about how we put ourselves on the path of climate change—and how we might change paths before it's too late. This is an important talk on the role of the Humanities in the fight against climate change and how our discipline might change as a result.

Wednesday, April 10, 2024 7:30 PM | Fenwick Library, Reading Room #2001 | 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

17th Annual Capabilities Demo: Adapting to Climate Change

April 15-16, 2024

Mason Square Van Metre Hall
Arlington, VA



This event brings together world-class discussions of Adaptation to Climate Change along with exhibitors from a global knowledge-sharing network with a focus on building sustainable resilience, promoting human security, and improving emergency response.

Benefits of Attendance

- Engaging speakers and panels on topics related to adapting to climate change.
- Engagement with companies that hire students interested in resilience and sustainability, and
- Opportunity to participate in a raffle for gift cards.



REGISTRATION

Resiliency – Adaptation – Sustainability

@STAR_TIDES
@GMU_CRASC

SPIN Grant Database Webinar

To learn how to use the SPIN database search tools most effectively, please join us for a virtual SPIN Grant Database Webinar: Tuesday April 16, 11:00 am to 12:00 pm. This webinar will be presented by William DeCocco from InfoEd Global, the company that hosts SPIN.

Tuesday, April 16, 2024 from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm | Click [here](#) to learn more.

Local-Level Climate Resiliency Plans and Nature-based Solutions: Creative Innovations From Germany.

Local governments across the northern Virginia region are applying with greater regularity nature-based solutions to mitigate the effects of urban heat islands and local-level flooding. But the persistent threats from sustained greenhouse gas emissions have raised questions among policymakers about the adequacy of scale of nature-based and related programs.

In Germany, metropolitan regions such as Stuttgart and Berlin have established themselves as global pioneers in the design, planning and implementation of regional-level green infrastructure programs. The nature-based programs of these cities are built around large-scale and interconnected systems of parks, forests and gardens and contributed to cooling urban centers, absorbing stormwater, boosting biodiversity and creating functional open spaces for the public.

Thursday, April 18, 2024 from 12:00 pm to 1:15 pm (ET) | Click [here](#) to learn more.

MASON I-CORPS: TAKING RESEARCH TO MARKET APRIL 18, 2024, 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM VIRTUAL

ABOUT INFO SESSION

Join us to learn about Mason's NSF I-Corps Program! This program teaches an evidence-based approach to research solution evaluation.

- Is the solution desirable?
- Who is the ideal audience?
- Where do you even start?

The I-Corps program is here to help answer these questions.

ABOUT THE PRESENTERS



Todd Morrill, the Mason I-Corps Lead Instructor, is a Faculty Director at the Bay Area I-Corps Node at the University of California, Berkeley. With extensive experience as a National Instructor for the NSF I-Corps, he has taught and coached over 500 teams. In his presentation, he will provide an overview of the I-Corps program.



Fatah Kashanchi (PhD), is an esteemed professor in Virology and Director of the Laboratory of Molecular Virology at the George Mason University. He will share how participating in the I-Corps Regional Program enhanced his partnerships and improved his research solutions.



Radhika Barua (PhD) is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering at the Virginia Commonwealth University. In her presentation, she will highlight how participating in the I-Corps Regional program helped her to secure funding and establish partnership with a corporate partner.

WHAT WE WILL COVER?

- What is NSF I-Corps program
- Benefits of the I-Corps program to you as a Faculty, Researcher, Student or Staff
- Funding opportunities that will open up after participating in the I-Corps program
- Success stories of how participating in I-Corps has resulted in significant impact in research commercialization

WHO CAN ATTEND?

Faculty, Researchers, Postdocs, Students and Staff from any institutions of higher learning in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

REGISTRATION

Register for the Info session by clicking on the link or scanning the QR code below:

<https://gmu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcpd-ChqDgjE90KhGOj9qTpFlwi2SHkntN>



[Register Now](#)

For any additional information contact:

- Sampson Addo, Mason I-Corps Hub Program Manager at saddo2@gmu.edu
- Gisele Stolz, Mason's I-Corps Director, Senior Director, Entrepreneurship Programs, Office of Research, Innovation, and Economic Impact at gstolz2@gmu.edu

Free &
Open to
Everyone

Engage with Us!

Energy and Environment Forum

hosted by the Loudoun County Environmental Commission



Thursday, May 14, 2024
5:30 - 8:00 p.m.



Academies of Loudoun
42075 Loudoun Academy Drive, Leesburg

Breakout Sessions - Learn about ongoing activities in the areas of energy and the environment and provide comments on the following topics:

- Electric Vehicles
- Environmental Careers
- Everyday Home Energy Savings
- Invasive Plants
- Energy Equity
- Solar Energy
- Watersheds
- Wildlife Corridors

Ongoing Listening Session - Provide feedback on what Loudoun should be working on with respect to environmental and sustainable energy matters.

Find detailed information:
loudoun.gov/environmentalforum



**LOUDOUN
COUNTY**
VIRGINIA

If you require a reasonable accommodation for any type of disability or need language assistance in order to participate in the Energy and Environment Forum, please contact Keara Moore at keara.moore@loudoun.gov or 571-258-3443/TTY-711. Three business days' notice is requested.

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 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has a call for the Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants Program.

The Community Change Grant will fund community-driven projects that address climate challenges and reduce pollution while strengthening communities through thoughtful implementation. This historic level support will enable communities and their partners to overcome longstanding environmental challenges and implement meaningful solutions to the meet the community needs now and for generations to come.

Application Due Date: November 21, 2024

Anticipated Funding Amount: \$1-3 million

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

The Directorate for Education and Human Resources in NSF has announced a call for proposals addressing Racial Equity in STEM Education.

Proposals funded by this solicitation will: (1) substantively contribute to institutionalizing effective research-based practices, policies, and outcomes in STEM environments for those who experience inequities caused by systemic racism and the broader community; (2) advance scholarship and promote racial equity in STEM in ways that expand the array of epistemologies, perspectives, ideas, theoretical and methodological approaches that NSF funds; and (3) further diversify project leadership (PIs and co-PIs) and institutions funded by NSF.

Application Due Date: Oct. 8, 2024

Funding Amount: \$5,000,000

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

The NSF Directorate for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences has announced its Security and Preparedness (SAP) call for proposals.

The Security and Preparedness (SAP) Program supports basic scientific research that advances knowledge and understanding of issues broadly related to global and national security. Research proposals are evaluated on the criteria of intellectual merit and broader impacts; the proposed projects are expected to be theoretically motivated, conceptually precise, methodologically rigorous, and empirically oriented. Substantive areas include (but are not limited to) international relations, global and national security, human security, political violence, state stability, conflict processes, regime transition, international and comparative political economy, and peace science.

Application Due Date: August 15, 2024

Funding Amount: Not Specified

Student Opportunities



Sign up for the
Student Poster Contest
at the
STAR-TIDES CAPABILITIES DEMO
April 15, 2024

Are you a student conducting research or working on a project in an area related to climate science, climate policy, climate engineering, community resilience, disaster response and recovery, emergency management, and/or fostering human health and security? You are encouraged to submit a poster to our poster contest! The top two posters will win cash prizes!

Posters will be displayed at the STAR-TIDES Capability Demo on April 15 at George Mason University's Mason Square Campus in Arlington, VA. Contestants will give a short presentation to judges at the event. Winners will be announced at the Reception the evening of April 15, 2024.

Contestants must be enrolled as students at George Mason University in the Spring 2024 semester.

Sign up here:

<https://tinyurl.com/59xrervt>



The signup deadline is Friday, April 5, 2024 at 11:59PM Eastern Time.



[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.

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

Share this email:



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove™

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

4400 University Drive, MS 6D5
Fairfax, VA | 22030 US

This email was sent to .

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.