



Office of Research, Innovation,
and Economic Impact
**INSTITUTE FOR A
SUSTAINABLE EARTH**
George Mason University®

Weekly Newsletter
April 8, 2025

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Announcements

Seed Grants for Living Lab Projects

Mason's Living Lab program continues to support the development of new research and scholarship initiatives. Mason faculty are invited to submit proposals for funding to support research projects that utilize Mason's campuses and socio-environmental systems to develop innovative solutions to local or global challenges and/or advance a novel sustainability-focused research agenda. Proposals will be considered from individuals or teams with a budget not to exceed \$25,000. Proposal Due Date: Apr 25, 2025.

For more information read the [Request for Proposals](#) or contact malila@gmu.edu.

The Office of Research, Innovation and Economic Impact is recruiting a new IDIA Executive Director. Current Mason Faculty interested in the Additional Assignment are encouraged to apply. You can find more information about the position and the required performance and personal competencies for the position at this link: [IDIA Executive Director - Additional Assignment Position Description.docx](#)

We are requesting a cover letter and CV by April 25, 2025.

Events

CONVERSATIONS AND CONNECTIONS

Stronger Together

The Impact of Social Ties on Public Health

April 9, 2025 | 6 – 8:30 pm | Merten Hall Room 1201
Reception and Panel Discussion

Join Dean Melissa Perry as she convenes national thought leaders for a panel discussion on social isolation and loneliness across the life span. This engaging dialogue will explore the true scope and severity of the issue—is it really a public health crisis? The panel will challenge assumptions, explore solutions, and highlight the role of individuals and communities in fostering connection.



RSVP now

MODERATOR



Melissa J. Perry, ScD, MHS
Inaugural Dean,
College of Public Health,
George Mason University

PANELISTS

Jawad H.

Student, BA, Government and International Politics,
Class of 2025
Former Student Senator, George Mason University

Mary Louise Pomeroy, PhD MPH

Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Center on Aging and Health, Bloomberg School of
Public Health, Johns Hopkins University



LaToya Thomas, MRP, BS

Principal & Founder, Brick & Story



Rachel Wernicke, PhD

Associate Dean and Chief Mental Health Officer
George Mason University



[Click Here to Register](#)



VIRTUAL EVENT



Strengthening Information Integrity in the Humanitarian Context

9 APRIL 2025 | 10:15 AM EDT

[REGISTER](#)

[Click Here to Register](#)

Peace Week

SPRING 2025



*“Conflict Resolution in a
Changing and Uncertain World”*

April 14th-18th

Over 20
sessions
available!

What is Peace Week?



A variety of hosted seminars, workshops, and interactive sessions designed to present innovative strategies, effective practices, and cutting-edge innovations in the field of conflict resolution. Open to anyone interested.

Why Peace Week?



The challenges of the rapidly evolving world necessitate a fundamental rethinking of the concept of peace and how it can be achieved and sustained. We hope to equip attendees with the tools and insights needed to navigate and address complex societal challenges of a changing and uncertain world.



**JIMMY AND ROSALYNN
CARTER SCHOOL FOR PEACE
AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION**
George Mason University®

Register Today!

[Click Here to Register](#)



18th Annual STAR-TIDES Capabilities Demonstration



April 13-15
(Sunday-Tuesday)
Mason Square, Arlington

*Managing Forced Migration:
Reducing Conflict and Improving
Outcomes*



April 16-17
(Wednesday-Thursday)
Pentagon Center Court



Register Here

<https://go.gmu.edu/STreg>



Resiliency Adaptability Sustainability #STARTIDESdemo

Click Here to Register

7TH ANNUAL MASON ENERGY FORUM

The Mason Energy Forum will address the complex relationship between AI, data centers and the data economy, and the changed energy transition environment. It will be a day of panels from leading policy makers, academics, and private sector players on the energy promises and potential difficulties of AI, as well as local challenges for public resources and engagement.

APRIL 23, 2023
Van Metre Hall, 125
8:30 am - 5:00 pm

[REGISTER
HERE TO
ATTEND](#)

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

David Sandalow, Inaugural Fellow
Center on Global Energy Policy at Columbia University

Mason Square Campus
3351 Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22201

Virginia Square-GMU Metro on the Orange/Silver Lines
Hourly parking available in the Van Metre Garage

[Click Here to Register](#)

Building Community Power, Growing Community Wealth

Democratizing NOVA Summit 2025

April 26th - 27th



Register at nextsystem.gmu.edu



GMU Fairfax Campus

[Click Here to Register](#)

Free Online Certificate in **COMMUNICATING SCIENCE FOR POLICY**



Just 5 Hours over 3 Days

including a 1-hour discussion with congressional staff

Apply and learn how to engage decision-makers this summer! Choose one of the training sessions listed below.

During two sessions of 2 hours each, you will learn how to identify what stage a policy issue is in, what your role should be, and how to connect with decision-makers. The trainings conclude with a final hour-long panel discussion with congressional science and technology staff. A pre- and post-survey are required to complete the certificate.

Pick 1 of 4 Training Sessions

June 25 + 26
July 9 + 10
July 16 + 17
July 23 + 24

Eastern: 12 - 2 pm
Pacific: 9 - 11 am

APPLY HERE



Final Policymaker Panel Discussion

July 30 @ 12 pm Eastern / 9 am Pacific
with congressional science and technology staff



[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 and Development Services (RDS) is excited to share the following NEW resource available to assist faculty with proposal support for NSF Broader Impacts. RDS has created a guide to George

Mason University [Programs and Resources](#) that may be leveraged for crafting projects for the National Science Foundation (NSF) grant applications. The programs listed are provided as a starting point, and there are many other opportunities at George Mason University for broader impacts work. The list of programs is located behind a firewall so you will need your GMU credentials to access the site.

Please visit our website at [Research Development Services](#) for a complete list of resources our office provides to our faculty, students and staff in identifying and seeking funding to increase George Mason University's funded research base.

Student Opportunities

Research and Engagement for Action on Climate and Health (REACH) Center Climate and Health Research Fellowship

The REACH Center Climate and Health Research Fellowship is now accepting applications for the 2025 cohort! This fellowship is designed to support outstanding students who demonstrate academic excellence, have a strong interest in community-engaged work, and show a deep commitment to advancing health and environmental justice through equitable climate solutions. The program provides an enriching experience that includes mentorship, professional development, and financial support to help students achieve their goals.

[Click Here to Apply](#)

Next Generation Fellows

The UCAR Next Generation graduate Fellowship is a prestigious, multi-faceted opportunity to explore the interplay between the areas of Earth System Science research and its impact on society. Fellows engage with, and learn from UCAR's experts while participating in dedicated professional development and leadership training opportunities.

Each Fellow receives a \$40,000 Fellowship over two years (\$10,000 twice per year); Fellowship Visits that entail up to 20 weeks of paid research trip to Boulder, Colorado or Washington, D.C. or other agreed upon location; funding to attend conferences, professional coaching; and the support of a like minded cohort.

The primary goals of this program are to facilitate engaged, motivated "Next Generation" students in exploring the intersections between science and society, and to support Fellows in becoming future leaders in the field of atmospheric and Earth System Sciences.

[Click Here to Apply](#)

2025 VASG Chesapeake Bay Commission Commonwealth Fellowship

Virginia Sea Grant and the Chesapeake Bay Commission seek a graduate-level fellow for a one-year placement in the CBC Annapolis, MD office. The fellow will work under the guidance of the Commission's Executive Director and Administrative Officer, with opportunities to support the Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania Directors. This position offers the opportunity to be at the intersection of science and policy, at the state, regional, and federal levels, on issues of concern to the Commission's member jurisdictions when it comes to the health of the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed.

The Chesapeake Bay Commission is a tri-state, bi-partisan body that works predominantly with the legislatures of Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Maryland to develop sound policies and laws related to the Chesapeake Bay. The Commission provides information and advice on Chesapeake Bay issues to the members of these three legislatures and works interactively with executive branch leaders and agencies of all three states. As a signatory to the Chesapeake Bay Agreement, the Commission is fully involved in the work of the Chesapeake Bay Program partnership and advises Congress on the needs of the Chesapeake Bay restoration effort.

[Click Here to Apply](#)

VentureWell's E-Team Program

The E-Team Program, part of the VentureWell Accelerator, supports student ventures as you embark down the path you're likely to take as an innovator and entrepreneur. We help you advance your invention through a powerful mix of up to \$25,000 in grant funding, entrepreneurship training, mentorship by dedicated staff, national recognition, and networking with peers and industry experts.

Do you have an idea that can change the world? Every year, we award over \$800,000 in non-dilutive E-Team grants to early-stage innovator teams that develop scalable innovations which aim to solve a large social, health, or environmental challenge.

[Click Here to Apply](#)

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.





Institute for a
Sustainable Earth

ise.gmu.edu

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