

## News

- [George Mason University ranks #1 in Virginia for best value, internships, and upward mobility.](#)
- [George Mason team identifies technology to enhance artificial photosynthesis](#)
- [Fall 2024 ScienceConnect events build community among 900+ attendee](#)
- [New scalable computing technique will make analyzing Big Data easier](#)

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## Events

### **Women Building Bio 2024**

Sep 25, 2024, 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM  
Norfolk, VA

Virginia Bio's Women Building Bio Conference celebrates the contribution of women to the life sciences in the Commonwealth and beyond. The 9th annual conference returns to the Hampton Roads area and is hosted at the newly named Macon & Joan Brock Virginia Health Sciences at Old Dominion University. They will place a lens on the issues and innovation within our ecosystem contributing to the progress in women's health initiatives.

[Click Here to Register](#)

### **George Mason Space Day**

September 28, 2024 | 3 to 9 p.m.

George Mason Space Day is an exciting, collaborative, and engaging event, with an aim to educate the public on the technology and science behind some of the leading aerospace projects in the area. The day offers lectures from those at the forefront of space exploration and a number of organizations with hands-on space-related activities, educational information, and more.



The flyer features logos for GM (Office of Research, Innovation, and Economic Impact; MASON ENTERPRISE; George Mason University), NSF, CORPS (NSF Innovation Corps), and MID-SOUTH HUB. The main title is "MASON I-CORPS: TAKING RESEARCH TO MARKET" with the date and time "OCTOBER 2, 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 Morill, 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/tJYpdO8hqTsvHdD72hApJ6Jm051fPBPLRa#/registration>

 [Register Now](#)

For any additional information contact:

- Sampson Addo, Mason I-Corps Hub Program Manager at [saddo2@gmu.edu](mailto: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](mailto:gstolz2@gmu.edu)

**A Webinar in Second Nature's Carbon Conversation Series**

Oct 2, 2024 | 3:00 PM (ET)

In this webinar with Calyx Global Carbon Ratings Firm, Co-founder Donna Lee and Chief Scientist Deborah Lawrence will share insights based on their work reviewing hundreds of carbon offset projects and project methodologies for both greenhouse gas integrity as well as claimed contributions to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. They will present the top research questions and ideas for colleges and universities to play a positive role in the VCM, and there will be time for discussion and brainstorming between researchers and the Calyx Global team in support of co-creating alignment and funding sources between the research enterprise and the private sector to contribute to global good.

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## **Center for Infectious Diseases Research Conference**

Nov 7, 2024, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

There is an exciting new conference from colleagues at the Center for Infectious Diseases Research (CIDR) on November 7, 2024, which covers the latest findings on viral, bacterial and other exotic and emerging pathogens. The meetings in on the Geroge Mason University Science and Technology Campus, and the talks will be from local leaders including NIH, FDA and some of the local universities including University of Virginia, Georgetown University and George Washington University.

This one-day meeting is expected to attract colleagues, students and other professionals (mix of academia and industry) interested in Diagnostics, Therapeutics, Novel Technologies that cover the infectious disease arena and Public health policies that impact national security. It is expected that ~100-150 people will attend and the registration is free compliments of CIDR. There will also be a tour of the BRL at GMU, which is the largest NIH funded facility in the States. Two confirmed Keynote speakers to date include Dr. Robert Redfield (former director of CDC) and Dr. Avi Nath (NIH clinical director for NINDS). There will be time for posters and company vendor showcases during the meeting.

[Click Here to Register](#)

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# PROGRESS

PROmoting Geoscience Research, Education, and Success

Are you an undergraduate student who identifies as a woman and is interested in the earth and environmental sciences?

Participation begins with a one-day professional development workshop, where you will meet peers with similar interests, learn more about careers, and expand your network.

The 2024 workshop will be **Friday, November 8th 10:00 am - 4:30 pm** in UMD's Atrium in the Stamp Student Union.

*Your professors are not involved, and your decision to participate will have no bearing on your course grade or credit. Your application to participate will be confidential.*

In Fall 2024, we are welcoming students from the following schools:



THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON, DC

Visit [col.st/fBQwO](https://col.st/fBQwO) or scan the QR code to sign up for the workshop



For more information on the workshop visit [col.st/HhwVE](https://col.st/HhwVE) or scan the QR code



PROGRESS is a mentoring program for you that is supported by the National Science Foundation.



[Click Here to Register](#)

## Climate Policy Colloquium

December 15-19, 2024

Washington, D.C.

Attendees of the Climate Policy Colloquium will gain insight into the United States policy-making process and the climate policy landscape, explore emerging challenges and opportunities in climate science and policy, and examine the inner workings of government agencies working at the interface of science and policy.

Don't miss out on attending the inaugural year of this AMS climate policy immersion workshop!

## **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 an updated call for The Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grant program.

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

Application Due Date: November 21, 2024

Anticipated Funding Amount: Varies

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

The Department of Health and Human Services has a funding opportunity announcement for Researouces Access for Preclinical Integrated Drug Development (RAPIDD) Program (X01 Climinal Trial Not Allowed)

The purpose of this FOA is to provide investigators working on the development of novel therapeutic products for HIV and HIV-associated co-infections (hepatitis B virus, hepatitis C virus, and Mycobacterium tuberculosis) with a mechanism to request NIAID DAIDS preclinical services to fill gaps in their product development efforts and facilitate the advancement of promising therapeutics from bench to clinics.

Application Due Date: January 18, 2025

Funding Amount: Not Specified

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

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is soliciting applications for their Research Grants for Preventing Violence and Violence Related Injury (R01) funding opportunity.

The CDC is soliciting investigator-initiated research to support evaluation of innovative programs, practices, or policies to address risk for violence and inequities in risk for violence and to eliminate racial dn ethnic inequities in risk for community violence. Innovative approaches are those that have not been rigorously evaluated for effectiveness in reducing community violence.

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## **Student Opportunities**

### Next System Fellows

"We are pleased to announce that Next System Studies is now accepting applications from George Mason University students to the Spring 2025 cohort of Next System Fellows!

Are you seeking a career in public service, research and education, social enterprise, community building, activism, or advocacy? Are you hoping to build practical experience and career networks in fields relevant to social change? Do you want to make a difference in the world – right here, right now?

If so, you should apply to become a Next System Fellow. The Next System Fellows are a part of Mason's prestigious Arlington Fellows program."

[Click Here to Register](#)

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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.



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