



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

Weekly Newsletter
April 22, 2025

[Announcements](#) | [In the News](#) | [Events](#) | [Funding Opportunities](#) | [Student Opportunities](#)

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.

Seeking IDIA Executive Director

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

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

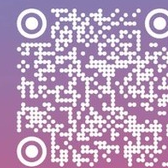
Apply and learn how to engage decision-makers this summer! Choose one of the training sessions listed below.

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	} Eastern: 12 - 2 pm Pacific: 9 -11 am
July 9 + 10	
July 16 + 17	
July 23 + 24	

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.

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Research Theme 4: Clean Energy, Decarbonization, and Climate Action

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has a call for proposals for their Fire Science Innovations through Research and Education (FIRE) program

The Fire Science Innovations through Research and Education (FIRE) program invites innovative multidisciplinary and multisector investigations focused on convergent research and education activities in wildland fire. All areas of science, engineering, and education supported by the U.S. National Science Foundation are included in this program. FIRE supports research proposals and conference (network) proposals that focus on one or more of the following elements: Focus area 1: Next Generation Coupled Fire Models (FIRE-MODEL); Focus area 2: Enhancing Capacity for Fire Resilience in the Wildland-Urban Interface (FIRE-WUI); and Focus area 3: Fire Science Innovations through Research and Education (FIRE) Networks (FIRE-NET).

Application Due Date: June 12-20, 2025

Anticipated Funding Amount: Not Specified

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

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) has an active funding opportunity open for Exploring Equitable Futures.

RWJF is taking bold leaps to transform health in our lifetime and pave the way to a future where health is no longer a privilege, but a right. They have three main goals: 1) economic inclusion for family wellbeing; 2) equitable and accountable public health and healthcare systems; and 3) healthy and equitable community conditions. The purpose of this call for proposals is to support projects that seed new and unconventional ideas that could radically advance health equity for generations to come.

Application Due Date: October 15, 2025

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

The National Science Foundation has upcoming due dates for full proposals for the Security and Preparedness (SAP) program

The Security and Preparedness (SAP) Program supports basic scientific research that advances knowledge and understanding of issues broadly related to global and national security – including conflict dispute resolution, international and comparative political economy, domestic political instability and conflict processes, and security implications of natural hazards and stressors.

Application Due Date: August 15, 2025

Funding Amount: not specified

Student Opportunities

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](#)

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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