



Announcements



ISE Webinar Series – Sustainability from within a Pandemic

The disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic reveal both fragilities and resiliencies in our global society. Mason's [Institute for a Sustainable Earth](#) is hosting this [webinar series](#) to investigate some of these dimensions of the current health and economic crises through the lens of sustainability science. In moderated discussions with sustainability experts, these webinars will also explore how society could recover to a more resilient and sustainable state.

Preparedness and Social Resilience

Tuesday, May 12, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

[WebEx Event Link](#)

Panelists:

[John Balbus](#) – Senior Advisor for Public Health and Director of the NIEHS-WHO Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health Sciences, US National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

[Greg Koblentz](#) – Associate Professor of Government and Politics and Director of the Biodefense Graduate Program, Schar School of Policy and Government, Mason

[Andrew Light](#) – University Professor of Philosophy, Public Policy, and Atmospheric Sciences, Mason and Distinguished Senior Fellow, Climate Program, World Resources Institute

Moderator: [Ellen Laipson](#) – Professor, Director of the International Security Program, and Director of the Center for Security Policy Studies, Schar School of Policy and Government, Mason

Ecological Health, Public Health, and Security

Monday, May 18, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

[WebEx Event Link](#)

Panelists:

[A. Alonso Aguirre](#) – Department Chair and Professor, Department of Environmental Science

and Policy, Mason

Amira Roess – Professor of Global Health and Epidemiology, Department of Global and Community Health, Mason

Rod Schoonover – Founder Ecological Futures Group. Previous Director of Environment and Natural Resources, US National Intelligence Council

Moderator: Tom Lovejoy – University Professor, Department of Environmental Science and Policy, Mason and Senior Fellow of Biodiversity and Environmental Sciences, United Nations Foundation

Air Quality and Public Health

Thursday, May 28, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

WebEx Event Link

Panelists:

Jenna Krall – Assistant Professor and Biostatistician, Department of Global and Community Health, Mason

Mona Sarfaty – Director, Program for Climate and Health, Center for Climate Change Communication, Mason

Daniel Tong – Associate Professor of Atmospheric Chemistry and Aerosols, Department of Atmospheric, Oceanic, and Earth Sciences, Mason

Moderator: Marva King – Senior Policy Advisory from the US Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Environmental Justice (retired)

Social Inequities and the Disparities of Impact

Monday, June 1, 10 – 11 am

WebEx Event Link

Panelists:

Jhumka Gupta – Associate Professor, Department of Global and Community Health, College of Health and Human Services, Mason

Ken Reinert – Professor and Director of the International Commerce and Policy Program, Schar School of Policy and Government, Mason

Colleen Vesely – Associate Professor, Human Development and Family Science and Early Childhood Education, College of Education and Human Development, Mason

Jim Witte – Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Director of the Center for Social Science Research, and Director of the Institute for Immigration Research, Mason

Moderator: Bethany Letiecq – Associate Professor, Human Development and Family Science Program, College of Education and Human Development, Mason



ISE Faculty Profiles

The [ISE faculty directory](#) is a tool for you to find others with complementing expertise and for external and internal audiences to find you! If you haven't yet submitted your research profile information for the directory, **please complete this brief survey**.

Earth Leadership Program

Knowledge To Impact

Earth Leadership Program

Future Earth is accepting applications for the Earth Leadership Program. The Earth Leadership Program prepares researchers to work together as effective agents of change by providing tools and perspectives to help participants cross traditional disciplinary and sector boundaries. Specifically, the training provided to fellows is built around a collaborative approach that values co-design with diverse stakeholders and prepares participants to develop and execute transdisciplinary projects.

The fellowship offers mid-career researchers working in the area of environmental sustainability an outstanding opportunity to develop as global leaders. **If interested, please apply by May 29, 2020.**

Faculty Lightning Talks for Mason International Collaborative

Mason faculty are invited to attend a lightning talk session hosted by the Mason International Collaborative's Research Committee. Mason International Collaborative (MIC) is an 18-month initiative to review and to strategize on internationalization efforts. This is part of the American Council on Education Internationalization Laboratory.

The MIC Research Committee is co-chaired by Dr. Aurali Dade, Associate Vice President for Research and Innovation and Dr. Padmanabhan Seshaiyer, College of Science Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Professor of Mathematical Sciences.

- **Date:** Friday, May 8, 2020
- **Time:** 10am - Noon
- **Location:** [WebEx Event Link](#)

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MIC FACULTY LIGHTNING TALKS



10 am - Noon

The GMU community is invited to attend a lightning talks session hosted by the Mason International Collaborative's Research Committee. Come listen to faculty who are involved with research, scholarship, and creative projects in international locations or on international topics.

WebEx Meeting: <https://bit.ly/mictalks>

WebEx Meeting PW: may8mic

Interested in presenting?

GMU Faculty: Complete this form if you are interested in virtually presenting a 3-5 minute talk about your international research, scholarship, or creative project.
<http://bit.ly/gmumiciweek>

The deadline for submission is Friday, May 1. For questions or assistance, contact mic@gmu.edu



Mason International Collaborative (MIC) is an 18-month initiative to review and to strategize on internationalization efforts. This is part of the American Council on Education Internationalization Laboratory.

For more information, please contact mic@gmu.edu



Public Policy in the Pandemic Age

The [Schar School of Policy and Government Alumni Chapter](#) is organizing a panel on "How COVID-19 is Reshaping our Government, Economy, and Society". The panel will discuss the unprecedented challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic to the United States and the rest of the world.

- **Date:** Wednesday, May 20, 2020
 - **Time:** 2:00pm - 3:30pm
 - **Location:** Virtual
 - **Registration**
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Congratulations!

Funding Announcements, Awards, and Accomplishments



Ecology of MERS-CoV in Camels, Humans and Wildlife in Ethiopia

Primary Investigator (PI): Amira Roess, College of Health and Human Services

Co-PI: Sally Lahm, College of Health and Human Services

Funding source: National Science Foundation

Resilient Communities against Transnational Gangs: Northern Virginia

PI: Mariely Lopez-Santana, Schar School of Policy and Government

Funding source: U.S. Department of Education

Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health Consortium Conference

PI: Edward Maibach, College Humanities and Social Sciences

Funding source: Johnson & Johnson Services, Inc.

Supporting the Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health in sharpening its focus on health and climate equity

PI: Edward Maibach, College Humanities and Social Sciences

Funding source: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Mason 4C Core Funding and Medical Society Consortium

PI: Edward Maibach, College Humanities and Social Sciences

Funding source: The Energy Foundation

Investigating Mixtures of Pollutants and Endometriosis in Tissue (IMPLANT) Study

PI: Anna Pollack, College of Health and Human Services

Co-PI: Germaine Buck Louis, College of Health and Human Services

Co-PI: Jenna Krall, College of Health and Human Services

Funding Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

GMUF/Pandemic Religion Project

PI: Lincoln Mullen, College Humanities and Social Sciences

Funding source: George Mason University Foundation

COVID-19 Funding Opportunities

The Research Development Services office has organized a detailed database of funding opportunities pertaining to COVID-19. The database is updated as new opportunities become available. If you would like to add opportunities to the database please contact Heather Arold.

Additional Funding Opportunities

NextGen Grant

The NextGen Grant is requesting proposals that would measurably reduce existing or avoid future emissions of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. Will primarily judge proposals on the potential to help reverse global warming. The Committee will give strong consideration to meaningful social and environmental benefits associated with the carbon reduction potential of the project.

- **Funding source:** Ray C. Anderson Foundation
 - **Amount:** \$100,000
 - **Deadline:** May 15, 2020
 - **Contact:** Ray C. Anderson Foundation
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National Environmental Education and Training Program

The purpose of the National Environmental Education and Training Program is to deliver environmental education (EE) training and long-term support to education professionals across the U.S. in the development and delivery of environmental education and training programs and studies.

- **Funding source:** Environmental Protection Agency
 - **Amount:** Total funding is \$11,000,000
 - **Deadline:** May 29, 2020
 - **Contact:** Ginger Potter
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Civic Innovation Challenge

The Civic Innovation Challenge is a research and action competition in the Smart and Connected Communities (S&CC) domain designed to build a more cohesive research-to-innovation pipeline and foster a collaborative spirit. CIVIC will fund projects that can produce significant community impact within 12 months (following a four-month planning phase) — in contrast to many community-university partnerships that take years to provide tangible benefits to communities — and have the potential for lasting impact beyond the period of the CIVIC award.

In the first stage (Stage 1), up to 12 awards per track will be made for Planning Grants – each with a budget of up to \$50,000 for four months to undertake pre-development activities, including solidifying the team, maturing the project plans, and preparing to submit a well-developed full proposal for Stage 2. Only awardees of Stage 1 will be eligible to submit proposals for Stage 2.

In the second stage (Stage 2), up to four teams per track will be selected from Stage 1 award recipients to receive a full award— each with a budget of up to \$1,000,000 for up to 12 months to execute and evaluate their research-centered pilot projects.

- **Funding source:** National Science Foundation
 - **Estimated Number of Awards:** 24 to 32
 - **Estimated Funding Amount:** \$9,000,000
 - **Deadline:** Stage 1: July 1, 2020; Stage 2: March 31, 2021
 - **Contact:** David Corman, Program Director
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Navigating the New Arctic Community Office

The NSF invites proposals to establish a Navigating the New Arctic Community Office (NNA-CO). Launched in 2016, NNA has been building a growing portfolio of research and planning grants at the intersection of the built, social, and natural environments to improve understanding of Arctic change and its local and global effects.

Each NNA-funded project is responsible for its own performance, including its core research and broader impacts. However, an NNA community office is required to coordinate the activities of funded NNA projects; engage new PIs; and promote research, education, and outreach activities. The NNA-CO will also provide centralized representation of ongoing NNA activities to the broader scientific community and the public. The lead PI of the successful NNA-CO proposal will serve as the Office Director and will work with the research community to develop and implement appropriate communication networks and support for investigators, stakeholders, and research teams pursuing NNA research. NNA research is inherently convergent, seeking new knowledge at the intersection of the natural, built, and social environments.

- **Funding source:** National Science Foundation
- **Amount:** \$2,500,000 to \$5,000,000
- **Program Deadline:** July 10, 2020
- **GMU Internal Deadline:** May 18, 2020, please Include the following:
 - Solicitation Name
 - Project title
 - List of investigator(s) and collaborators
 - Project Summary (up to 3 pages). Please consider the review criteria when preparing the project summary
 - Two-page Biosketch (any style) for PI

- **Submit to:** limited@gmu.edu
 - **Contact:** [NNA Working Group](#)
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AI for Earth Innovation

[National Geographic Society and Microsoft's AI for Earth Program](#) partnered to support novel projects that create and deploy AI tools to improve the way they monitor, model, understand, and ultimately manage Earth's natural resources for a more sustainable future.

- **Funding source:** National Geographic Society and Microsoft's AI for Earth Program
 - **Amount:** Applicants may request \$5,000 to \$100,000
 - **Deadline:** July 22, 2020
 - **Contact:** [AI for Earth Innovation](#)
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Coastlines and People (CoPe)

The [Coastlines and People program](#) supports diverse, innovative, multi-institution awards that are focused on critically important coastlines and people research that is integrated with broadening participation goals. The objective of this solicitation is to support Coastal Research Hubs, structured using a convergent science approach, at the nexus between coastal sustainability, human dimensions, and coastal processes to transform understanding of interactions among natural, human-built, and social systems in coastal, populated environments.

- **Funding source:** National Science Foundation
 - **Estimated Number of Awards:** 8 to 10
 - **Anticipated Funding Amount:** \$29,500,000
 - **Deadline:** September 9, 2020
 - **Contact:** [CoPe Working Group](#)
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FY 2020 Solicitation for the Office of Science Financial Assistance Program

The [Office of Science of the US Department of Energy](#) is providing funding for research in the following program areas: Advanced Scientific Computing Research, Basic Energy Sciences, Biological and Environmental Research, Fusion Energy Sciences, High Energy Physics, and Nuclear Physics.

- **Funding source:** Office of Science, Department of Energy
- **Amount:** Up to \$5,000,000
- **Deadline:** September 30, 2020
- **Contact:** Kimberlie Laing, 301-903-3026

Global Innovation Fund

The Global Innovation Fund seeks to invest in social innovations that aim to improve the lives and opportunities of millions of people in the developing world. Open to funding innovations in any sector as long as they can demonstrate their innovation improves the lives of those living on less than USD 5 PPP per day.

- **Funding source:** Global Innovation Fund
- **Amount:** \$50,000 - \$15,000,000
- **Deadline:** Proposals accepted at anytime
- **Additional information**

Limited Submission Funding Opportunities for Mason Faculty

Limited submission funding opportunities are available to Mason researchers. These funding opportunities limit the number of submissions per institution and require an internal submission process that is restricted to Mason faculty. Visit Mason's [Research Development](#) website for additional information on the internal process and for a list of available grants.

If you plan to submit an internal application for one of the opportunities, please submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) to [Sheila Davis](#) at least one week prior to the internal due date, if possible. The NOI should include the following: Solicitation Name; PI, Co-PI, and collaborators' names; and title of proposal.

Other Upcoming Events



Maternal, Newborn and Child Health and Nutrition in the Time of COVID-19: Implications for Action and Research

COVID-19 is placing unprecedented strain on health and food systems, threatening decades of progress toward equity, health and nutrition for women and children across the world. Join [ANH Academy](#) and the [LSHTM MARCH Centre](#) for a [webinar](#) to chart the way forward for maternal, newborn and child health and nutrition.

- **Date:** Tuesday, May 5, 2020
- **Time:** 7am - 8:15am (EST)
- **Location:** Virtual
- **[Registration](#)**



Data for Nutrition

Measuring Food Insecurity in the Era of COVID-19: Insights from four global contexts

[Data for Nutrition \(DfN\)](#) and [Agriculture-Nutrition \(Ag2Nut\)](#) Communities of Practice are co-sponsoring a webinar on "Measuring Food Insecurity in the Era of COVID-19". The panel will discuss practical insights from data collection activities in four global contexts, including India, Nepal, USA, and global perspectives from the World Food Programme (WFP).

- **Date:** Wednesday, May 6, 2020
- **Time:** 9am
- **Location:** Virtual
- **[Registration](#)**



The 8th World Sustainability Forum

15 – 17 September 2020, CIGG, Geneva, Switzerland

Part of The First World Sustainability Week, 14–19 September 2020, Geneva, Switzerland

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



The 8th World Sustainability Forum

The 8th World Sustainability Forum (WSF2020) is an international scientific conference coordinated by MDPI under the patronage of the University of Basel, the University of Geneva and the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (UN SDSN). In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the theme for the meeting include: 1) health and medicine; 2) mobility and transport; and 3) food security and agriculture.

- **Date:** September 15-17, 2020
- **Location:** Virtual
- **Registration**

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

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