The ISE Newsletter provides up-to-date information on conferences, funding opportunities, and pressing sustainability and resilience challenges.

The Institute for a Sustainable Earth (ISE) is an interdisciplinary research hub that serves as the focal point for research related to sustainability and resilience challenges at George Mason University. From the Institute’s website, isegmu.edu, we can learn about various initiatives and programs that are led by experienced individuals.

One such initiative is the AI for Earth Innovation Awards. This is a global virtual conference that aims to connect experienced individuals with opportunities to lead a project. Projects must align with one of three program areas: Advanced Scientific Computing Research, Basic Energy Sciences, or Hubs, structured using a convergent science approach, at the nexus between coastal communities, optimize economic benefits by building and maintaining sustainable fisheries, and broadening participation goals. The objective of this solicitation is to support Coastal Research.

The Office of Science of the U.S. Department of Energy has released a FY 2020 Solicitation for the Office of Science Cyberinfrastructure to Enable Community-level data access for large-scale environmental research. This solicitation is divided into two stages: Stage 1 and Stage 2. In the first stage, “Existing Data and Data-Focused Cyberinfrastructure to Enable Community-level Research,” the objective is to develop full proposal for Stage 2. Only awardees of Stage 1 will be eligible to submit a full proposal for Stage 2. In the second stage, the objective is to support implementation of cyberinfrastructure, enabling communities to work together through data sharing and collaboration.

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, there is greater international willingness to address disease transfer and corruption. The webinar on implementing novel methods to solve thermodynamics in 3D will provide an opportunity for researchers to share their findings and collaborate with others in the field. The webinar is scheduled for Friday, June 19, 2020, from 3 to 4:30 pm.

The Institute for Digital Innovation recently hosted a virtual event to mark its official launch. Interim Provost and Executive Vice President Mark Ginsberg addressed the importance of digital innovation in the current era. President-designate Greg Washington provided introductory remarks, while Jie Zhang, College of Science and Petrus Johannes Van Oevelen, College of Science, shared their perspectives on the future of digital innovation.

In this issue, we also feature Ingrid Saunes, Norwegian Ministry of Health, who will discuss a new tool for tracking the effects of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and COVID-19 disease. This third session will follow a Q&A format, providing an opportunity for participants to engage with the experts and ask their questions.

Funding opportunities pertaining to COVID-19 are being actively monitored and updated on the Institute’s website. The database is updated as new opportunities become available, providing a comprehensive resource for researchers and organizations seeking support for their work.