



Announcements

Institute for Digital Innovation to Officially Launch

The Institute for Digital Innovation (IDIA) will officially launch Tuesday, June 23, 2020, with a virtual event. President-designate Greg Washington will provide introductory remarks, while Interim Provost and Executive Vice President Mark Ginsberg will address the importance of Mason's Institutes. Deb Crawford, Vice President for Research, Innovation, and Economic Impact, will share IDIA's vision, Liza Durant, Associate Dean of Strategic Initiatives and Community Engagement at the Volgenau School of Engineering, will outline the development of IDIA-HQ, and Paula Sorrell, Associate Vice President for Innovation and Economic Development, will address making a place in Northern Virginia for IDIA. The remarks will be followed by a Q&A

- **Date:** Tuesday, June 23, 2020

- **Time:** 12-1:30pm
- **Location:** Virtual
- **Registration**

Institute for Digital InnovAtion (IDIA)

The virtual event includes remarks by President Gregory Washington, Interim Provost Mark Ginsberg, Vice President for Research, Innovation & Economic Impact Deb Crawford, and more.

June 23, 2020
12:00 - 1:30 pm



Institute for
Digital InnovAtion



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](#)**.



Upcoming Mason Events

Mason Online Pandemic Modeling Forum

Professor Robert Axtell, Computational Social Science Ph.D. Program, Department of Computational and Data Sciences, College of Science, will be hosting the Mason Online Pandemic Modeling Forum to be held weekly on Fridays throughout the summer, focusing on the effects of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and COVID-19 disease. This third session will feature Ingrid Saunes, Norwegian Ministry of Health, who will discuss a new [COVID-19 health system](#).

- **Date:** Friday, June 19, 2020
- **Time:** 3-4:30pm
- **Location:** Virtual
- [Join WebEx Meeting](#)

Virtual Panel: Illegal wildlife markets, zoonotic disease transfer and corruption—Connections and what the global community must do about it

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, there is greater international willingness to address illegal wildlife markets, especially those involving live animals. This [virtual event](#) will examine the role that corruption has played in allowing these markets to flourish, what the future may hold if trade is driven underground, and new approaches that practitioners must consider to protect natural resources, public health, and assure good governance.

- **Date:** Tuesday, June 23, 2020
- **Time:** 9am
- **Location:** Virtual
- [Registration](#)

Congratulations!

Funding Announcements, Awards, and Accomplishments



WSA Coronal and Solar Wind Modeling Research and Development Support

Primary Investigator (PI): Jie Zhang, College of Science

Funding source: Catholic University of America & NASA

Effect on CBD on Exosome release from CNS infected cells

PI: Fatah Kashanchi, College of Science

Co-PI: Lance Liotta, College of Science

Funding source: US Department of Health and Human Services

Continuation of Base Level Support for the GLOBAL ENERGY AND WATER EXCHANGES CORE PROJECT (GEWEX) INTERNATIONAL PROJECT OFFICE (IGPO)

PI: Petrus Johannes Van Oevelen, College of Science

Funding source: NASA

Collaborative Research: Geoinformatics: Facility: Paleobiology Database: Preserving and Presenting Ancient Data For Future Research

PI: Mark Uhen, College of Science

Funding source: National Science Foundation

JCOIN Coordination and Translation Center - Community Stakeholder

PI: Faye Taxman, Academic Administration

Co-PI: Danielle Rudes, Academic Administration

Co-PI: Rebekah Hersch, Academic Administration

Funding source: US Department of Health and Human Services

Low-fidelity, stochastic modeling to assess COVID-19 mitigation strategies for H-2A farm workers

PI: Leigh McCue-Weil, Volgenau School of Engineering

Funding source: Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital & CDC

Research Support for FDA's Youth Tobacco Education Campaigns

PI: Xiaoquan Zhao, College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Funding source: Food and Drug Administration

WF-3 - Development and readiness of satellite products for fire and smoke forecasting: Improving the applicability of GBBEPx products for CAM-CMA

PI: Daniel Tong, College of Science

Funding source: National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

Implementing novel methods to solve thermodynamics in 3D modeling of the solar atmosphere

PI: Jie Zhang, College of Science

Funding source: Catholic University of America & NASA

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

Dear Colleague Letter: Engineering Research to Advance Solutions for Environmental PFAS (ERASE-PFAS)

The [Environmental Engineering program](#) announces a special funding focus on new science and technologies for the treatment and remediation of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) to improve and protect public and environmental health. The objective of the Environmental Engineering program at NSF is to support research on the prevention, minimization, mitigation, and/or remediation of environmental pollution to protect human and ecological health.

Priority topics for this special funding focus include:

- Research that enables the development of technologies for mitigation, remediation, and/or treatment of PFAS in the environment
 - Research that elucidates the underlying limitations of PFAS transformation reactions that could lead to potentially transformative, feasible technologies for PFAS remediation; and
 - Research that identifies biological, chemical, and/or physical reaction mechanisms for the treatment of fluorotelomer-based fluorosurfactants in AFFFs and other products.
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- **Funding source:** National Science Foundation
 - **Contact:** [Karl J. Rockne](#)

Dear Colleague Letter: Pilot Projects to Integrate Existing Data and Data-Focused Cyberinfrastructure to Enable Community-level Discovery Pathways

Through this [Dear Colleague Letter \(DCL\)](#), NSF encourages proposals to the Cyberinfrastructure for Emerging Science and Engineering Research (CESER) program within the Office of Advanced Cyberinfrastructure for pilot projects that bring together researchers and CI experts to develop the means of combining existing community data resources and shared data-focused CI into new integrative and highly performing data-intensive discovery workflows that empower new scientific pathways.

Aims of such pilot projects can include, but are not limited to:

- Improving the end-to-end process of accessing, integrating and transforming research and education data to knowledge and discovery for one or more communities
 - Creating new workflows and new usage modes to address multi-disciplinary and cross-domain scientific objectives;
 - Addressing emerging community-scale scientific data challenges such as real-time, streaming and on-demand data access; data discovery through knowledge networks and intelligent data delivery; enabling access to data with privacy concerns; and data fusion, integration and interoperability;
 - Enhancing the performance and robustness of community-scale data integration and discovery workflows such as through automated curation, end-to-end performance monitoring, provenance tracking, and means of assuring data trustworthiness; an
 - Federating learner data to empower innovative assessment tools for large-scale modeling of learning gains.
-
- **Funding source:** National Science Foundation
 - **Estimated number of awards:** \$1,500,000
 - **Deadline:** July 1, 2020
 - **Contact:** [NSF](#)

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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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

[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

Early Career Grant

The National Geographic Society offers Early Career Grants which are designed to offer less experienced individuals an opportunity to lead a project. Projects must align with one of three focus areas: wildlife; human journey; or, changing planet. Grants will be awarded for projects up to one year in length and will not exceed US \$10,000.

- **Funding Source:** The National Geographic Society
 - **Amount:** Up to \$10,000
 - **Deadline:** October 21, 2020
 - **Contact:** [NGS grants](#)
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Saltonstall-Kennedy Grant Program

The Saltonstall-Kennedy Grant Program funds projects that address the needs of fishing communities, optimize economic benefits by building and maintaining sustainable fisheries, and increase other opportunities to keep working waterfronts viable.

NOAA Fisheries seeks applications that demonstrate direct benefits to the U.S. fishing industries and applications which involve:

- Fishing community participation aimed at helping fishing communities to resolve issues that affect their ability to fish.
 - Making full use of those species that are currently under federal or state fishery management plans
 - Addressing the socioeconomic impacts of overfishing and overcapacity.
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- **Funding source:** NOAA Fisheries
 - **Amount:** Up to \$300,000
 - **Deadline:** November 20, 2020
 - **Contact:** [Clifford Cosgrove](#)
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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**

Other Upcoming Events



Webinar: How to make the international financing of SDGs adapted to new vulnerabilities

This event is part of a series of webinars "Financing the 2030 Agenda in a vulnerable world", organised within the framework of the [Initiative for Development and Global Governance \(IDGM\)](#).

This [third session](#) will deal with the adaptation of the international financing of SDGs both to the structures of countries and to the risks they face, of which Covid-19 is a major illustration today. The panel will consider how to differentiate the responses according to the specific challenges of each country, paying particular attention to the most vulnerable, starting with the least developed countries. It will also address the long-term consequences of ongoing debt relief, and the importance of business support both in responding to the crisis and in pursuing SDGs.

- **Date:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020
- **Time:** 10am
- **Location:** Virtual
- **[Registration](#)**



Global Virtual Conference: The Ages of Globalization

This global virtual conference turns to world history to tell the story of global humanity and shed light on how we can meet the challenges and opportunities of our time, such as preventing conflicts and achieving economic, social and environmental objectives aligned with sustainable development.

- **Date:** Friday, June 19, 2020
- **Time:** 9am
- **Location:** Virtual
- **[Join Live Stream](#)**



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



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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