Announcements

WORLDWIDE TEACH-IN ON CLIMATE AND JUSTICE
MARCH 30, 2022 | 4 P.M. - 7 P.M. EDT | ONLINE

Join us to move beyond climate despair into realistic optimism.

Our one-day summit features four unique panels providing you with actionable knowledge to make an impact at Mason and beyond.

- Climate Action: Where We Are Now and a Hopeful Future
- Environmental and Climate Justice: Practical Knowledge for Action
- Say This, Not That: Develop Your Communication Skills for Action
- Act Now! Opportunities for Student Action and Engagement

This summit is held in support of Bard College’s Worldwide Teach-In on Climate and Justice, part of the Solve Climate by 2030 initiative.

REGISTER

[go.gmu.edu/TeachIn]

Solve Climate by 2030: Worldwide Teach-In on Climate and Justice

Wednesday, March 30, 2022, 4pm - 7pm ET (Online)
Registration

Interested in climate solutions and moving beyond climate despair into realistic optimism? Join us on Wednesday, March 30 at 4pm ET for George Mason University’s Solve Climate by 2030: Worldwide Teach-In on Climate and Justice virtual event! This climate and justice teach-in will address important topics pertinent to climate change and environmental justice. The student-moderated discussions will be interactive, solutions-oriented, and feature Mason experts.

We strongly encourage Mason faculty and all climate educators to invite your students to attend Mason’s Teach-In on Climate and Justice! Human-caused climate change is interconnected with every discipline, so it’s relevant to your courses! One effective way to encourage your students to attend this university-wide event is to present the Teach-In on Climate and Justice as an extra credit activity.
Schedule (all times ET):

- **Climate Action: Where We are Now and a Hopeful Future** – 4:00 – 4:45 p.m.
  
  **Panelists:** Dr. David Hart (Schar School of Policy and Government), Dr. John Qu (College of Science), Dr. Jagadish Shukla (College of Science)

  **Participant-moderator:** Brad Gay (Doctoral student, College of Science)

- **Environmental and Climate Justice: Practical Knowledge for Action** – 4:45 – 5:30 p.m.
  
  **Panelists:** Dr. Cher Chen (School of Integrative Studies), Dr. Jennifer Sklarew (College of Science), Dr. Levi Van Sant (School of Integrative Studies)

  **Participant-moderator:** Dasha Maslyukova (Undergraduate student, College of Science)

- **Say This, Not That: Develop Your Communications Skills for Action** – 5:30 – 6:15 p.m.
  
  **Panelists:** Eryn Campbell (Center for Climate Change Communication), Beverly Harp (Center for Climate Change Communication), Margaret Orr (Center for Climate Change Communication)

  **Participant-moderator:** Lia Zakiyyah (Doctoral student, Climate Change Communication)

- **Act Now! Opportunities for Student Action and Engagement** – 6:15 – 7:00 p.m.
  
  **Panelists:** Graduate and Professional Student Association, Green Patriots, Entrepreneurs for Future of Radiant Tomorrow at Mason, Hypernova Solar, Native American and Indigenous Alliance, Roosevelt at Mason, Student Environmental Justice Alliance, and Student Government

  **Participant-moderator:** Amelia Fuller (Undergraduate student, College of Science)

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**WORLDWIDE CLIMATE JUSTICE TEACH-IN**

**Climate Change and a Sustainable Earth by Dr. John Qu and Dr. Raymond Motha**

ISE Faculty Fellow, Dr. John J. Qu, Professor in the Department of Geography and Geoinformation Science and Dr. Raymond P. Motha, Research Professor and Co-Director of the Global Environment and Natural Resources Institute published a new textbook focused on the basic scientific principles of climate change that may be used to help develop long-term strategies to cope with the resulting broader environmental, societal, and economic impacts.
The book combines the principles of changing climate with specialized fields of the Water-Energy-Food-Health (WEFH) Nexus to examine how the Earth operates as an integrated system. Foreword by the late Dr. Thomas E. Lovejoy.

Climate Change and a Sustainable Earth - Cambridge Scholars Publishing
American Climate Leadership Summit

George Mason University students and faculty invited to join the American Climate Leadership Summit 2022 (ACLS 2022), celebrating its 11th year!

Join ecoAmerica and 1,000s of diverse leaders and students from across the nation at ACLS 2022, March 28-31! Learn the latest updates and collaborate with a diversity of local and national leaders on ways to raise American climate ambition, restoration, and justice, no matter if you are a seasoned advocate or new to the issue. Hear from speakers Samantha Montano, PhD, Assistant Professor, Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Hon. Sheldon Whitehouse, U.S. Senator (D-RI), United States Senate, Katharine Hayhoe, PhD, Endowed Chair in Public Policy + Public Law at Texas Tech University, and Rev Lennox Yearwood Jr, President + Founder, Hip Hop Caucus and many more.

In an effort to further diversity participation and ensure youth participation, the George Mason University community is welcomed to participate for free! This includes full attendance for the All Access Summit Pass, exclusive access to the National Health + Faith Climate Forums, main sessions, engagement activities, plus attendance at the American Climate Leadership Awards. To access these complimentary registrations, please contact the ISE’s Dr. Jeremy M. Campbell (jcampb30@gmu.edu) for a discount code to use during registration.

25Live Guide – Feature Your Sustainability Events

The Office of University Events, the Institute for a Sustainable Earth, and the Office of Sustainability collaborated to develop this 25Live Guide to increase the visibility of and engagement with your sustainability-focused events at Mason. 25Live is Mason’s institution-wide event and academic scheduling system which dovetails with unit calendars such as Today@Mason. Please use this 25Live Guide to ensure your sustainability-focused events, whether they are in-person or virtual, are featured on Today @ Mason and through ISE and the Office of Sustainability.

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 your profile here.

Upcoming ISE Events

The Future of International Human Rights Litigation in U.S. Courts

Monday, March 28, 2022, 4:30pm - 6pm ET

Please join the Institute for a Sustainable Earth, the Human Rights and Global Justice Initiative, and the School of Integrative Studies for this discussion with Professor Paul Hoffman on the past and future of international human rights claims in U.S. Courts. In particular, Professor Hoffman
will discuss the future of litigation under the Alien Tort Statute and efforts to use U.S. law to achieve corporate accountability for complicity in human rights violations.

Watershed Resiliency Planning: Lessons from the Danube
Tuesday, March 29, 2022, 12pm - 1:15pm ET
Registration

The foreseeable increase of more intense storms, major weather events, and sea-level rise will result in higher levels of flooding across the greater Washington DC region. This is especially the case for communities of the region located directly along the Potomac River. The union of these
phenomena will compel local governments of the region to think, plan, and implement more holistic and creative resiliency strategies.

For over 40 years, the City of Vienna, Austria, has pioneered a holistic approach to managing the Danube River that has made the city and region a global pioneer in flood management, resiliency planning, and livability. A consensus-based approach that fuses applied science, political compromise, and convergence of gray and green infrastructure planning has helped transform the Danube River from an environmental threat to an asset.

Please join the Office of Science and Technology Austria and the Northern Virginia Regional Commission for a webinar on March 29, 2022, from 12:00 PM – 1:15 PM (ET). A panel of Austrian and U.S. scientists, researchers, and local technical experts will share their work to promote climate-resilient planning on the Danube and Potomac rivers — and potential lessons to be exchanged between the two concerning climate resiliency.

Watershed Resiliency Planning:
Lessons from the Danube

A panel of Austrian and U.S. scientists, researchers, and local technical experts will share their work to promote climate-resilient planning on the Danube and Potomac rivers — and potential lessons to be exchanged between the two concerning climate resiliency.

Join us on March 29, 2022
12:00 PM — 1:15 PM (Eastern Time)
via Zoom

Climate Justice: Pasts/Presents/Futures
Friday, April 1, 2022, 2pm - 3:30pm ET

How does the changing climate reshape our understanding of the relationship between past and future? What conflicts emerge from these changes? What kinds of collective projects respond to them? What is the role of the humanities and interpretive social sciences in all of this?

On-going Histories of colonization, enslavement, economic exploitation, and geographically uneven development shape and inform current struggles over fossil fuel infrastructure, global climate finance, and climate adaptation. The Center for Humanities Research, the Institute for a Sustainable Earth, and the School of Integrative Studies are bringing together the following scholars to discuss these challenges:

- Olufemi O. Taiwo (Philosophy, Georgetown University)
- Jamie Haverkamp (Anthropology, James Madison University)
- Kai Bosworth (School of World Studies, Virginia Commonwealth University)

Panelists will draw on their recent and forthcoming books to explore the temporalities of climate (in)justice, in which they theorize reparations as a project of worldmaking in a time of climate crisis; the way that environmental populism challenges the climate movement’s history of elitism
while reproducing hierarchies of race, class, and nation; and how decolonial approaches to collaborative climate adaptation can overcome the friction between unequal parties to enable “adaptation otherwise.” Together, they will explore how history shapes what can be done in the present to bring about more just climate futures.
Film and Panel Discussion: Guardians of the Forest

Wednesday, April 13, 2022, 6pm - 8pm ET via om

Guardians of the Forest is an award-winning documentary film that tells the inspiring story of the Maijuna Indigenous group of the Peruvian Amazon as they fight for their biologically rich ancestral lands and cultural survival. The Maijuna culture is sustained and nourished by their heavily forested ancestral territory, which is increasingly threatened by outsiders. After introducing and screening the film, this event will culminate in a question-and-answer session with Maijuna leaders and the film's producer and director. This documentary film will be of broad interest to attendees as it touches on rainforest conservation, Indigenous rights and lifeways, community empowerment, human rights, and environmental justice, among other critical topics.

To register for free, please visit:
https://gmu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tUMpdeGgpzwvGtKMHRRKtibmh1c3nmv1loX6

Event Sponsors: School of Integrative Studies, Institute for a Sustainable Earth, Environmental Science and Policy Department, Smithsonian Mason School of Conservation, Global Affairs
Upcoming Mason Events
The Bicentennial of the U.S.-Colombia Relationship: Continued Opportunities for Partnership and Growth

Featuring:
Juan Carlos Pinzón, Ambassador of Colombia to the United States

Colombia and the United States established diplomatic relations on June 19, 1822. As recognized by the United States Department of State, the U.S. and Colombia share a commitment to promoting security, prosperity, and democratic governance in Colombia and across the Western Hemisphere.

Join TraCCC and CSPS for an in-person event, with the Colombian Ambassador to the U.S., Juan Carlos Pinzón, to commemorate the bicentennial of diplomatic relations between the U.S. and Colombia. Ambassador Juan Carlos Pinzón will speak about the countries’ binational relationship, partnership, and political challenges that both countries face. These remarks will be followed by discussion with experts Dr. Camilo Pardo-Herrera and Professor Ellen Laipson, and Q&A featuring the Ambassador focused on the defense of democracy, migration, climate change, corruption, conflict and more.

Discussants:
- Professor Ellen Laipson: Director, Center for Security Policy Studies
- Dr. Camilo Pardo-Herrera: Fellow, Terrorism, Transnational Crime and Corruption Center

DATE: March 29, 2022
TIME: 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Van Metre Hall, Auditorium,
RSVP: Click here or email traccc@gmu.edu
INFO: Masks required throughout
Let's face it. In our free market economy, “success” in business typically is measured in dollar terms with business owners focusing on how profits and shareholder value can be maximized. In an era of increased awareness of the social and environmental impact of business ventures, however, perhaps other “values” are equally important. Does the business have a role to play in creating meaningful social change? Should businesses care about people and the planet in addition to profits? The United Nations and many CEOs and business leaders think the answer to these questions is a resounding YES! If you have an interest in exploring social
entrepreneurship and its relevance to you and business, please join the Mason Enterprise Center for this workshop!

Objectives: Together, we will explore:
• What social entrepreneurship means and what a triple bottom line is;
• What skills, qualities, or experiences social entrepreneurs can develop to become more effective;
• Why business should care about the UN Sustainable Development Goals;
• What are examples of social enterprises that create innovative responses to social and economic needs.

Center for Resilient and Sustainable Communities

Lunch and Learn Series

The Center for Resilient and Sustainable Communities (C-RASC) is organizing a Lunch and Learn Series aimed at bringing people together from across Mason and beyond in an informal atmosphere to enhance knowledge, build collaborations, and drive research development. So, grab your lunch and join C-RASC for a range of presentations on resilient and sustainable related topics of interest. They are designed as Brown Bag Presentations with scholars internal to Mason and webinar presentations with scholars and collaborators external to Mason.

Spring Semester Schedule:

March 30 at 12:00 PM ET
Registration

Dr. Amir Golalipour, Federal Highway Administration “Progress Toward More Resilient Transportation Infrastructure”

April 13 at 12:00 PM ET
Registration

Dr. Rebecca Sutter, George Mason University “Cross-Sector Collaboration with the Public Health Department”
April 20 at 12:00 PM ET
Registration

Dr. Brie Haupt, Virginia Commonwealth University “Cross-Sector Collaboration with the Public Health Department”

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**From Great Ideas to Global Impact: A Talk with Andrew Byrnes**

**Wednesday, May 4, 2022, 2pm - 3:15pm ET**

**Registration**

Join Mason’s Center for Intellectual Property x Innovation Policy (C-IP2) and Business for a Better World Center (B4BW) for a discussion on translating ideas into impact with Andrew Byrnes. Technology executive, attorney, and investor Andrew Byrnes will discuss the path from developing innovative ideas to achieving broad impact, including key legal issues and business imperatives.

Leveraging experiences from his decades-long career in the private and public sectors working alongside innovators and entrepreneurs, Byrnes will offer insights on leadership, building high-functioning teams, engaging policymakers, and other critical stakeholders, and navigating existing and emerging regulatory regimes and challenges. There is no cost to attend, but **preregistration** is required.

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**In the News**


- [Building a crypto economy that works for everyone](https://gmbusinessnews.com/building-a-crypto-economy-that-works-for-everyone), School of Business News, March 23, 2022.
Funding Opportunities

Dear Colleague Letter: Design for Sustainability in Computing

This recently issued Dear Colleague Letter (NSF 2022-60) Design for Sustainability in Computing encourages the submission of novel and high impact proposals that advance sustainability in all aspects of computing to the CISE Core programs (NSF 21-616). The DCL invites transformative, cross-disciplinary and potentially clean slate approaches to enable sustainability across all levels of the entire computing stack from hardware to networking to software applications. Proposals should consider diverse notions of sustainability and propose suitable metrics for quantifying impact. Traditional energy efficiency and power savings methods alone are not in scope for this DCL. Computing techniques for sustainability in other fields are not in scope for this DCL. This DCL seeks ambitious and forward-thinking proposals on Design for Sustainability in Computing along multiple dimensions that go beyond energy efficiency.

This DCL neither constitutes a new competition nor a new program. Rather, interested proposers should prepare and submit proposals in accordance with the instructions in the CISE Core program solicitation (NSF 21-616) and the NSF Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG). Additionally, to call attention to responsiveness to this DCL, the Project Summary should include "SustainabilityDCL" in the keyword list. Proposals submitted to this DCL will count towards the proposal limits imposed in the CISE Core program solicitation.

ORAU-Directed Research and Development (ODRD) Program Call for Proposals

Directed Research and Development (ODRD) program is a research and development program that supports collaborations between Oak Ridge Associated Universities researchers and faculty at member universities. George Mason University is a member of Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU) and this funding opportunity is only open to the ORAU members. Led by ORAU subject matter experts and leveraging the talents and expertise of member universities, ODRD projects strengthen and expand the scientific and technical capabilities of both parties.

The FY23 research areas are Climate and Environment, Health Equity, and Future of the STEM Workforce. Proposals are due in June 2022, and must be submitted by ORAU staff. Awards are made in August. Projects run October 1 – September 30.
Virginia Sea Grant Funding Opportunity: $1M for collaborative research on water adaptation and resilience-enhancing innovations

This call seeks university capacity to partner with the private sector, collaborate on R&D, assess both the impact the innovation had on improving adaptation and resilience of a coastal waterfront property and validate the full extent of the business products’ performance, and potentially work directly with the company on product development. The SIQs should speak to both the university’s interests and experience in collaborative research (e.g., research partnerships with the private, public or non-profit sectors, product development) and the capacity (human resources, facilities, programs and expertise, policies, etc.) to conduct the specific research on flood management, protection of buildings and properties, and water quality maintenance in a coastal rural context. Learn more about this opportunity here.

- **Funding source**: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- **Anticipated funding amount**: $1,000,000
- **Deadline**: Statement of Interests & Qualifications: March 31, 2022

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Department of Energy Funding Opportunity: Deploying Solar with Wildlife and Ecosystem Services Benefits (SolWEB)

This funding opportunity will award $10 million for innovative solutions and strategies that maximize benefits and minimize impacts to wildlife and ecosystems from solar energy infrastructure. DOE is interested in projects that will produce results with broad relevance to solar stakeholders by establishing methods, technologies, models, best management practices, or resources that facilitate ground-mounted photovoltaic energy generation, including utility-scale and community solar, or concentrating solar-thermal power that is compatible with surrounding wildlife. DOE is also interested in assessing and optimizing ecosystem benefits that solar energy facilities can provide, such as soil formation, pollination of food crops, and carbon sequestration. These research activities will help reduce barriers, costs, and timelines for the deployment of large-scale solar energy necessary to meet the Biden Administration’s goals for achieving a decarbonized electricity sector by 2035. Learn more about this opportunity here.

- **Funding source**: U.S. Department of Energy and other funding sources
- **Anticipated funding amount**: $10,000,000
- **Deadline**: April 11, 2022

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Environmental Health Sciences Core Centers

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) invites grant applications for Environmental Health Sciences Core Centers (EHS CC). As intellectual hubs for environmental health science research, the EHS CC is expected to be the thought leaders for the field and advance the goals of the NIEHS Strategic Plan. The Core Centers provide critical research infrastructure, shared facilities, services and/or resources, to groups of investigators conducting environmental health sciences research. An EHS CC enables researchers to conduct their independently-funded
individual and/or collaborative research projects more efficiently and/or more effectively. The overall goal of an EHS CC is to identify and capitalize on emerging issues that advance improving the understanding of the relationships among environmental exposures, human biology, and disease. The EHS CC supports community engagement and translational research as key approaches to improving public health.

- **Funding source**: National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
- **Anticipated funding amount**: Up to $3,400,000
- **Deadline**: April 14, 2022

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### NSF Civic Innovation Challenge

The Civic Innovation Challenge (CIVIC) is a research and action competition that accelerates the transition to practice of foundational research and emerging technologies into communities through civic-engaged research. By addressing priorities at the local scale that are relevant across the US, CIVIC is laying the foundation for a broader and more fluid exchange of research and technology capabilities and civic priorities through joint partnerships involving civic stakeholders and the research community. CIVIC funds projects that pilot state-of-the-art solutions over 12 months, following a six-month planning phase, and have the potential for lasting impact in the partnering community as well as the potential to be scaled and implemented in other communities.

- **Funding source**: National Science Foundation
- **Anticipated funding amount**: Stage 1 Planning Grants up to $50,000, Stage 2 Full Awards up to $1,000,000
- **Deadline**: Stage 1: May 5, 2022, Stage 2: February 1, 2023.

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### Partnerships for Innovation

The Partnerships for Innovation (PFI) Program within the Division of Industrial Innovation and Partnerships (IIP) offers researchers from all disciplines of science and engineering funded by NSF the opportunity to perform translational research and technology development, catalyze partnerships and accelerate the transition of discoveries from the laboratory to the marketplace for societal benefit.

- **Funding source**: National Science Foundation
- **Anticipated funding amount**: Up to $550,000
- **Deadline**: July 13, 2022

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### NSF Critical Aspects of Sustainability (CAS): Innovative Solutions to Climate Change

This Dear Colleague Letter (DCL) encourages the science and engineering communities to develop forward-thinking research that will demonstrably aid in the Nation’s goal of reaching net-zero greenhouse gas emissions and developing approaches for adapting to the change that is already occurring. CAS: Innovative Solutions to Climate Change is a call to action that
encourages the submission of certain types of proposals to appropriate existing NSF core programs to lay the foundation for disciplinary and interdisciplinary research and to answer fundamental questions related to novel approaches and solutions to climate change.

- **Funding source**: National Science Foundation
- **Anticipated funding amount**: Up to $100,000

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### Student Opportunities

#### Spring Resiliency Academy

The Spring 2022 Resilience Academy is a free opportunity for students to learn about resiliency efforts at the local, state, and federal levels. Students can register as a "Special Guest" with the codes below for no cost. Attendees have the option of registering for all sessions at once or they can select individual sessions from the series.

**Event Details:**

- **April 7th** - Session 2: Community Action: Tools for Resiliency Planning  
  [Register for Session 2](#)  
  Students can use code: **RA2022SGS2** to get free registration for Session 2 - Community Action: Tools for Resiliency Planning

- **May 12th** - Session 3: Ecosystem Services: Green Infrastructure Utilized  
  [Register for Session 3](#)  
  Students can use code: **RA2022S3SG** to get free registration for Session 3 - Ecosystem Services: Green Infrastructure Utilized

- **June 9th** - Session 4: Infrastructure & Buildings: Transportation Progress Report  
  [Register for Session 4](#)  
  Students can use code: **RA2022SGS4** to get free registration for Session 4 - Infrastructure & Buildings: Transportation Progress Report

[Register for all sessions here](#). Students can use code: **RA2022S5SG** to get free registration for all sessions.

Cost: $25/session or $75 for all sessions; **Students and Resilient Virginia Members are free**
RESILIENT VIRGINIA

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APRIL 7
Community Action:
Tools for Resiliency Planning

MAY 12
Ecosystem Services:
Green Infrastructure Utilized

JUNE 9
Infrastructure & Buildings:
Transportation Progress Report
College Scholarships for Conservation and the Environment

Deadline: April 1, 2022

Application

The Educational Foundation of the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts annually offers four $1,000 scholarships to graduating high school seniors or college freshmen for college study. The scholarships support studies related to natural resource conservation. Applications must arrive at the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District (NVSWCD) office by April 1, 2022.
Environmental Justice Video Challenge
Deadline: April 1, 2022

The EPA and its co-sponsors are sponsoring the Challenge, aimed to enhance communities' capacity to address environmental inequalities. In Phase 1, students will submit a video that demonstrates innovative approaches to identify and characterize an environmental justice issue(s) in a community using data and publicly available tools. Challenge winners will receive up to $20,000, as well as other benefits. Details on Phase 2 of the challenge will be shared at a later date.

For any questions, contact: EJVideoChallenge@epa.gov

CREF Compost Research Scholarship
Deadline: April 15, 2022

The Compost Research & Education Foundation (CREF) is offering scholarships to undergraduate through PhD students, studying at a college or university in the US, interested in doing a compost-related research project. The scholarship is for $4,000, and also includes an invitation to present research findings at a US Composting Council Annual Conference during a CREF research session.

The goal of this scholarship is to bring assistance to students doing compost-related research and to spark interest in future careers in the composting industry.

Learn more about the scholarship requirements and to apply: HERE

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.
4400 University Drive, MS 6D5
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