



Institute for a
Sustainable Earth

March 20

Welcome to the Inaugural ISE Newsletter! We are glad you are joining us in our efforts 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. We will be using this Newsletter to share information, opportunities, and highlight the great work being done by ISE faculty, staff and students. We welcome your contributions to this newsletter and the website (<https://ise.gmu.edu/>). Please e-mail us at mise@gmu.edu.

As you know, we launched the ISE at an event on Monday, February 25, 2019. If you were unable to attend the event, you can view Aurali Dade's slides [here](#). If you missed the charrette in November 2018 you can view the recommendations [here](#). We hope you will find the information in this newsletter helpful, but if at any time you wish to be removed simply email us. We look forward to our work together in pursuit of a more just, prosperous, and sustainable world.

Upcoming Mason Events

Dialogue and Difference Project: Exploring Human Rights, Sustainable Development, Economic Power, and Influence

Organized by the School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution
Mar 19, 2019 from 7:30 pm – 9:15 pm
Research Hall, Room 163

The Dialogue and Difference Project aims to promote cultural, political, and social understanding through the process of community dialogue participation. This event includes a panel discussion followed by interactive group discussions. Panelists for this event include: Eric Maribojoc, Executive Director, Center for Real Estate Entrepreneurship; Chris Kennedy, Associate Professor, Environmental Science and Policy; and Sam Salem, Professor and Department Chair, Civil, Environmental, and Infrastructure Engineering. For more information, click [here](#).

Curriculum Impact Workshop

Organized by Mason Undergraduate Education (in collaboration with Graduate Education, the Stearns Center, Global Education, OSCAR, University Libraries, and others)
April 5, 2019 from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Dewberry Hall

This workshop will cover details about the Curriculum Impact Grants (CIG) and Mason Impact, encourage attendees to envision transformational programs, and provide teams the time and guidance to build a CIG proposal. Everyone is welcome to attend: individuals who are looking to learn more about Mason Impact and want to talk with others about partnerships, teams who are exploring the opportunities for curricular development, and groups who are preparing their proposals. For more information, and to register, click [here](#).

Earth Day Forum: Panel Discussion on Climate Science and Policy

Organized by the Center for Ocean-Land-Atmosphere Studies

April 22, 2019 @ 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Johnson Center Cinema, 4477 Aquia Creek Lane

Join Mason faculty and student panelists and engage in an interactive discussion of Climate science and policy. Panelists have diverse backgrounds and will be approaching the topic from a variety of views. The purpose of the forum is to lay out the latest science on global warming, the most current information on American public opinion on the topic, and the latest ideas of what can be done about it. For more information, click [here](#).

An Evening with Ed Maibach: What Do Americans Think About Climate Change, and What—If Anything—Do They Want to Do About It?

Organized by the City of Fairfax

Apr 24, 2019 from 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Old Town Hall

3999 University Drive

Fairfax, Virginia 22030

For more information, click [here](#).

Congratulations! Recent Funding Announcements (Listed in order as data is released by OSP)

FY19 YSEALI Media Literacy Regional Workshop

US Department of State: \$11,423

10/1/2018-9/30/2019

PI: Leslie Dwyer, School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution

Musth Variation Among Asian Elephants (*elephas maximus*): Applications for Conservation

International Elephant Foundation: \$10,720

1/11/2019-12/31/2019

PI: Elizabeth Freeman, CHHS

The Subseasonal Experiment (Sub X) Continuation

NOAA: \$60,000

8/1/2018-7/31/2019

PI: Kathleen Pegion: COS

2019 Chesapeake Bay Bowl
Consortium for Ocean Leadership: \$9,000
11/1/2018-6/30/2019
PI: Seshaiyer, Padmanabhan, COS

Funding Opportunities

Kresge Foundation Climate Change, Health and Equity Initiative

The Kresge Foundation's Climate Change, Health and Equity Initiative seeks to mobilize equitable climate action from health care institutions, health practitioners and among community advocates in ways that reflect the needs and priorities of low-income, urban communities. A request for proposals (RFP) for the community-based strategy of the initiative is now open. The RFP focuses on the planning phase of a multi-year effort supporting community-based nonprofit organizations and their capacity to accelerate the implementation of policies and practices that advance climate resilience and reduce health risks equitably. Kresge will fund 12-15 one-year planning grants of up to \$100,000 each during the planning phase. The second phase of the initiative will provide multi-year project implementation grants. The application deadline is midnight, March 19, 2019. For more information, click [here](#).

National Science Foundation (NSF) Conference Proposals on Concepts for Advancing Sustainable Urban Systems Research Networks

NSF is calling for conference proposals on "Concepts for Advancing Sustainable Urban Systems (SUS) Research Networks." The deadline for submission of these proposals is 5:00 PM submitter's local time, March 22, 2019. These conference proposals may be submitted at any time up to and including the deadline. The conference proposals are to be submitted via FastLane to the Environmental Sustainability program ([PD 18-7643](#)) in the Chemical, Bioengineering, Environmental, and Transport System Division (CBET) of NSF's Directorate for Engineering (ENG). For more information, click [here](#).

Neglected Tropical Diseases Data Innovation Incubator, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Seeking innovative ideas for how to improve the quality, completeness, and timeliness of routine NTD data and ensure programmatic decision-making is based on the best available data. Such outcomes will help target interventions to all at-risk populations and achieve high intervention coverage and maximal impact on infection and morbidity. The application deadline is March 25, 2019. For more information, click [here](#).

The **Global Sustainability Scholars Program** is now accepting applications from graduate students from partnering Universities (CSU, CU Boulder, and GMU). In collaboration with Future Earth we have launched an exciting opportunity that we are calling a **GSS Fellow "PLUS."** This is an opportunity to become a GSS Fellow, which offers a paid 10 week professional experience, traveling abroad with GSS Scholars and surveying international research teams focused on urban sustainability in food, energy and water nexus **"PLUS"** after the summer experience, the Fellow will work with Future Earth up to 50% time for the following

9 months coordinating the Future Earth SUGI NEXUS projects. The application deadline is March 31st, 2019. For more information, click [here](#).

Emerging Technologies for New Solutions in Global Health Priority Areas, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Seeking proposals that apply an emerging technology – or a combination of emerging technologies – for new and potentially transformative solutions in global health priority areas. The goal of this challenge is to foster and support impact in global health through innovative uses of emerging technologies. Range: USD 100,000 with one opportunity to apply for a follow-up award of up to USD 1,000,000. The application deadline is April 10, 2019. For more information, click [here](#).

Resilience in Rapidly Changing Arctic Systems (CRA Arctic II)

This joint Belmont Forum CRA calls for co-developed and co-implemented proposals from integrated teams of natural and social scientists and stakeholders to address key areas of arctic resilience understanding and action. This collaboration of academic and non-academic knowledge systems constitutes a transdisciplinary approach that will advance not only understanding of the fundamentals of arctic resilience but also spur action, inform decision-making, and translate into solutions for resilience. The term "stakeholder" is used here in its broadest possible sense, allowing for co-development of projects with partners from, but not limited to, civil society, government, industry, NGOs, and Indigenous organizations. The application deadline is June 14, 2019, 23:59 UTC. For more information, click [here](#).

Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (FFAR) Seeding Solutions Grants

FFAR's Seeding Solutions Grants are an open call for applicants to submit innovative and transformative research proposals that further any of six Challenge Areas and foster unique partnerships. Every year, FFAR funds at least one proposal in each Challenge Area, typically awarding each applicant between \$300,000 and \$1 million. Seeding Solutions applicants are required to complete a pre-proposal (pre-proposal submission deadline is April 19, 2019 at 5:00 pm Eastern Time), and grantees are required to provide matching funds from non-federal sources. Full applications are due on August 7, 2019 at 5:00 pm Eastern Time. For more information, click [here](#).

Geoinformatics (GI), Directorate for Geosciences/National Science Foundation

The Division of Earth Sciences (EAR) will consider proposals for the development of cyberinfrastructure (CI) for the Earth Sciences (Geoinformatics). EAR-supported geoinformatics opportunities will fit into three tracks: Catalytic track, Facility track, and Sustainability track. These tracks broadly support the lifecycle of geoinformatics resource development, from pilots (Catalytic) to broad implementation (Facility) to sunseting and long-term sustainability (Sustainability). The GI Catalytic Track will support pilot geoinformatics development efforts that are intended to serve Earth Sciences research. The GI Facility Track will support awards for implementation and operation of a cyberinfrastructure resource relied upon by one or more Earth Science communities to address science questions. The GI Sustainability Track will support development and implementation of sustainable funding models to preserve data and software products of value to Earth Science research. The application deadline is August 15, 2019. For more information, click [here](#).

Energy, Power, Control and Networks (EPCN)

The Energy, Power, Control, and Networks (EPCN) Program supports innovative research in modeling, optimization, learning, adaptation, and control of networked multi-agent systems, higher-level decision making, and dynamic resource allocation, as well as risk management in the presence of uncertainty, sub-system failures, and stochastic disturbances. EPCN also invests in novel machine learning algorithms and analysis, adaptive dynamic programming, brain-like networked architectures performing real-time learning, and neuromorphic engineering. EPCN's goal is to encourage research on emerging technologies and applications including energy, transportation, robotics, and biomedical devices & systems. EPCN also emphasizes electric power systems, including generation, transmission, storage, and integration of renewable energy sources into the grid; power electronics and drives; battery management systems; hybrid and electric vehicles; and understanding of the interplay of power systems with associated regulatory & economic structures and with consumer behavior. Proposals are accepted anytime. For more information, click [here](#).

Virtual Consortium for Translational/Transdisciplinary Environmental Research (ViCTER)

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) invites applications to foster and promote early-stage transdisciplinary collaborations and/or translational research efforts among fundamental (technology and mechanism oriented), clinical (patient-oriented) and population-based researchers in the environmental health field. The newly established collaborative teams will come together in common interest to investigate potential linkages between human health and one or more environmental stressor(s). The ViCTER program is intended to support innovative high-risk, high-reward cross-disciplinary and/or translational research projects that are more difficult to achieve in a typical R01 application. Collaboration among investigators at different institutions through a virtual consortium arrangement are encouraged. This FOA will use the NIH Research Project (R01) award mechanism. Proposals are accepted anytime. For more information, click [here](#).

Other Upcoming Events

Bridging the Gap between Human and Animal Health

Organized by the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research
Wednesday, March 27, 2019, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
150 Slayton Ave., Danville, VA 24540

This one-day conference aims to bring forth innovative bioscience and technology to the farms, providing a toolkit of essential tools and proactive solutions to increase efficiency and yields - creating healthier plant crops, animals and bringing full circle to the health of the human. For more information, click [here](#).

New Economy and Social Innovation (NESI) Global Forum

April 24 – 26, 2019
Malaga, Spain

The New Economy and Social Innovation (NESI) Global Forum is a global gathering of people and organizations involved in the development of the new economy that focuses on people and planet. This year's NESI gathering will explore how to achieve the U.N. SDGs through local action and social innovation. For more information, click [here](#).

Global Festival of Action for Sustainable Development

Organized by the UN SDG Action Campaign
May 2-4, 2019
Bonn, Germany

The Global Festival of Action for Sustainable Development is the world's most inspiring SDG event to celebrate, empower, and connect the global community driving action for the Sustainable Development Goals. Organized by the UN SDG Action Campaign with the support of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and the German Federal Foreign Office, the Festival brings together the global community taking action to make the Sustainable Development Goals a reality. It will recognize and celebrate the innovators, conveners and breakthrough actors who are transforming lives and generating practical solutions to some of the world's most intractable problems. For more information, click [here](#).

6th International Conference Energy & Meteorology

Organized by the World Energy & Meteorology Council and the Technical University of Denmark
Jun 24-27, 2019
Copenhagen, Denmark

The core theme of this year's conference is "exploiting the latest weather and climate technology to tackle the energy transition." This unique platform offers the opportunity to learn how meteorological and climate information can help the energy industry develop more resilient and cleaner energy systems that will help to mitigate the effects of climate change and global warming. For more information, click [here](#).

Universities and Climate Change: Understanding and Managing the Extreme Impacts of Climate Change

Organized by University of Warsaw, Poland; Manchester Metropolitan University, UK; Hamburg University of Applied Sciences, Research and Transfer Centre "Sustainable Development and Climate Change Management;" International Climate Change Information and Research Programme (ICCIRP); and the City of Warsaw, Poland
July 4-5, 2019
Warsaw, Poland

Many universities across the world perform state-of-the-art research on matters related to climate change, both with respect to mitigation and adaptation. Yet, as shown by the 21st Conference of the Parties of the UN Convention on Climate Change (COP 21) held in Paris in 2015, there is much room for improvement in the role played by universities in the negotiations and in influencing decision-making on a matter of such a global importance. For more information, click [here](#).