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April 7, 2020

GLOBAL CHANGE CENTER

AT VIRGINIA TECH



ANNOUNCEMENTS

A message from the director...

GCC Community,

I hope that everyone is healthy and adjusting to physical distancing. I find myself wavering between moments of happiness while I experience extended precious time with my family, and periods of despair as I watch the direct and indirect implications of this tragedy unfold. All of us are processing the situation in different ways, and many of us are grieving. I found this brief article thought-provoking as I try to process my own emotions: [That Discomfort You're Feeling is Grief.](#)

I continue to find comfort when I think of our GCC community. I have sincerely enjoyed the virtual discussions that I have shared with many of you, and I welcome the opportunity to have a lot more of these in the future. We should all be proud of how many people within our community have adjusted their research and teaching expectations and stepped-up to the plate when our students and colleagues need us the most. Please keep it up! Many of you have also used our new "Community" section of the newsletter to generate your own

acts of generosity to support our broader NRV community. Please remember to share ideas and opportunities with us so that we can continue to spread the word. I look forward to hearing more inspiring stories about how we rise to this challenge as a community.

As we navigate this situation together, I urge you to keep reminding yourself of all the positive things we can still celebrate right now. For example, you will see below that it has been a remarkable week for our GCC faculty and IGC fellows. Dr. Ignacio Moore will be the 2020 recipient of the Alumni Award for his exceptional contributions to international research. IGC IGEP Fellows Jessica Hernandez and Brenen Wynd both received hefty College of Science roundtable awards. And, three of our IGC IGEP fellows received NSF Graduate Research Fellowships and another two fellows received honorable mentions. Please join me in celebrating these accomplishments, and extending congrats to our students, their mentors, and to Dr. Meryl Mims who once again created an exciting learning environment (her NSF GRFP course) that helped many of our students realize their potential. Clearly, we have much to look forward to in the months and years ahead.

Stay safe,
Bill Hopkins, GCC Director

Reminder: IGC Fellowship applications due April 15, 2020

To be eligible to apply for this fellowship, students should have been enrolled in the IGC IGEP for at least 12 months, have not previously received an IGC fellowship award, and be in good academic standing with their mentor(s), home department, and the Virginia Tech Graduate School.

Visit [our website](#) for application details or email jcoker@vt.edu with questions.

Watch Derek Hennen's dissertation defense, today at 10am!

"Natural history, taxonomy, and phylogenetic of Appalachian flat-backed millipedes (Diplopoda: Polydesmida)"

Live streamed and opportunities for questions here: <https://youtu.be/-kXCIUww20>

Natural history, taxonomy, and phylogenetics of Appalachian flat-backed millipedes (Diplopoda: Polydesmida)

Derek Hennen
Dissertation Defense, 10 AM, 7 April 2020
Department of Entomology, Virginia Tech
Link: <https://youtu.be/-kXCIUww20>



IGC fellows receive VT College of Science Roundtable Awards

[Jess Hernandez](#) (Moore lab) was awarded a \$10,000 award and [Brenen Wynd](#) (Nesbitt lab) was runner-up for a \$5,000 award.

Congratulations Jess and Brenen!



5 IGC Fellows receive NSF GRFP Awards & Recognition

Congratulations to Nicholas Bone, Korin Jones, and Amber Wendler who have received NSF Graduate Research Fellowships! Kudos to Chloe Moore and Heather Wander who received Honorable Mention Recognition.

[Read more](#)

www.globalchange.vt.edu



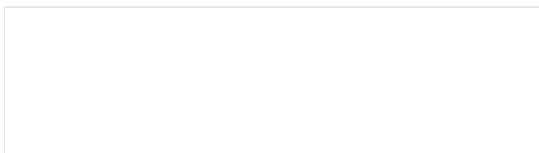
Ignacio Moore receives VT Alumni Award for Excellence in ...

Congratulations to Ignacio Moore, professor of Biological Sciences, who has been selected as a recipient of this year's VT Alumni Award for Excellence in International Research. This honor recognizes individuals whose research and scholarship...

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FACULTY & FELLOW SPOTLIGHT





Dr. Alasdair Cohen - Population Health Sciences

Dr. Cohen conducts research on drinking water (contamination, treatment, and supply) and environmental health in low-income rural communities, with a focus on developing safe water programs. He has over ten years of international experience and...

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Stephen DeVilbiss - Plant & Environmental Sciences

A native of Milwaukee, WI, Stephen obtained his Bachelors of Science at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse in environmental biology. During that time, he worked as a GIS intern for the United States Geological Survey monitoring how land cover...

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COMMUNITY

Looking for a tasty meal or drink? Support these local small businesses who offer curbside pickup and delivery

Each week, we'll try to highlight different establishments!

- [622 North](#) - growler fillips, bottled drinks, and a full menu to choose from and a free TP roll included! Call 540-951-1022, ext 4 to order.
- [Blacksburg Bagels](#) - order bread & bagels to be delivered to your door, or picked up at the farmers' market/Annie Kays. You can also donate and they'll deliver to local food pantries.
- [Cafe Mekong](#) - tasty Vietnamese, Laotian, and Thai cuisine, call 540-953-2838 to order.
- [Gaucho's Brazilian Grille](#) - grilled meats, veggies, and Brazilian drinks and appetizers.
- [Sugar Magnolia](#) - milkshakes, chocolates, or even a to-go ice cream sundae bar, call 540-739-3724 to order.





12 ways to donate your \$1,200 stimulus check to help fight the coronavirus

As part of the landmark \$2 trillion economic stimulus plan signed into law last week by President Trump, millions of Americans will receive direct payments from the federal government to help them stay afloat during the crisis, but if you don't need the money and want to help...

[Read more](#)

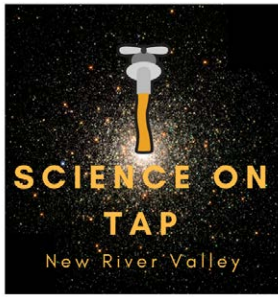
www.forbes.com

Local needs: current ways to volunteer and donate

- Elderly residents at Warm Hearth Village in Blacksburg would love a card from you or your children! Two of their facilities are on lockdown with no visitors, so they are asking for cards that can be distributed across their campus. Send correspondence to: Karr Activity Center, 2603 Warm Hearth Dr, Blacksburg, VA 24060, ATTN: Life Enrichment Department.
- [Gillie's](#) restaurant and Bollo's bakery and cafe made the difficult decision to close temporarily. To survive these trying financial times and reopen in the future, they are asking the community for help. Please visit their GoFundMe sites ([Gillie's](#) / [Bollo's](#)) to donate.
- Montgomery County Schools are seeking volunteers to help pack and distribute free lunches and chromebooks to students. Fill out this [online form](#) to volunteer.
- Check out this comprehensive [NRV Business Guide](#) with updates from your favorite local businesses, including new hours of operation and directions for remote purchasing/delivery.
- [Millstone Kitchen](#) is partnering with [HazelBea Catering](#) to provide meals to neighbors in need through the NRV Diaper Pantry and Radford-Fairlawn Daily Bread. Check out the [program](#) to donate--just \$10 provides one meal.
- Less than 500 VT students have stayed remained in campus housing, and some need help during this crisis. Please consider making a contribution the [Student Emergency Fund](#) administered by the VP for Student Affairs.

Science on Tap with GCC affiliate Linsey Marr

While it wasn't in its typical form, the NRV Science on Tap series is moving forward with remote educational opportunities! Grab your own beverage and watch recent Q & A session with GCC affiliate [Linsey Marr](#) and Kaisen Lin, which focused on the novel coronavirus, its spread, and how it survives on surfaces and in the air.



[Check it out here!](#)

NEWSWORTHY



Social distancing works - just ask lobsters, ants and...

By GCC affiliate Dana Hawley: Social distancing to combat COVID-19 is profoundly impacting society, leaving many people wondering whether it will actually work. As disease ecologists, we know that nature has an answer. Animals as diverse as...

[Read more](#)
theconversation.com



How to help restaurants, hospitals and people during the ...

For the most up-to-date news and information about the coronavirus pandemic, visit the WHO website. You're quarantined at home, but your community still needs help. An urgent shortage of N95 face masks in hospitals, stock in blood banks and...

[Read more](#)
www.cnet.com



Covid-19 Changed How the World Does Science, Together

Never before, scientists say, have so many of the world's researchers focused so urgently on a single topic. Nearly all other research has ground to a halt. Using flag-draped memes and military terminology, the Trump administration and its...

[Read more](#)
www.nytimes.com



A Must For Millions, Zoom Has A Dark Side - And An FBI...

With schools closed and millions of people working from home, Zoom has become wildly popular. But that newfound popularity is bringing new scrutiny. The FBI is warning schools, in particular, to be careful...

[Read more](#)
www.npr.org

**Do you have an opportunity or announcement you'd like to share with the
GCC community? [Send us an email!](#)**

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