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April 13, 2021

# GLOBAL CHANGE CENTER

AT VIRGINIA TECH



## ANNOUNCEMENTS



GCC Founding Member Amy Pruden Honored as University

## Distinguished Professor

Congratulations to GCC affiliate Amy Pruden, the W. Thomas Rice Professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering! She has been named University Distinguished Professor, a rank conferred by the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors at its March...

[Read more](#)  
vtnews.vt.edu

## Congratulations, Dr. Ben Ahlswede!

IGC Fellow [Ben Ahlswede](#) successfully defended his Ph.D. dissertation last Friday, April 9th. His defense seminar was titled "Evaluating the influence of establishing pine forests and switchgrass fields on local and global climate".

Ben's next venture will be a post-doc position with the University of Illinois at Chicago and Argonne National Laboratory.

***Congratulations Ben!!***



## Invasive Species Science, Policy & Mgmt. Seminar - A collaborative approach to invasive species control through the Non-Native Aquatics Community of Practice (CoP)

Next Monday's (**April 19th from 10-11:30 am**) Invasive Species Science, Policy & Management Seminar session will feature Dr. Matt Grabau, a Science Coordinator with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. Drop-in attendance is welcome! Please reach out to GCC affiliate [Todd Schenk](#) for meeting info and if you wish to be added to the Canvas page to access preparatory readings and other seminar materials.

## Course of Interest, Fall 2021: Environmental Health, PHS 5014

Taught by GCC faculty [Ryan Calder](#), this course may satisfy the Global Change Breadth elective requirement for the IGC IGEP.

In environmental health, questions addressed include:

- How have prevailing theories about the links between humans and nature evolved?
- What scientific developments have helped us to see and understand these risks?
- What are today's biggest environmental risks?
- How do we decide which risks to mitigate?

[More information](#)



## Faculty position in wildlife disease ecology

Tenure-track faculty position at the assistant or associate

professor level, depending on qualifications, with the Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute and the Department of Rangeland and Wildlife Sciences, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Texas A&M University-Kingsville.

[More information](#)

CAESAR KLEBERG  
**WILDLIFE**  
RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE

## FACULTY & FELLOW SPOTLIGHT



### **Dr. Ryan Calder - Population Health Sciences**

Dr. Calder's research focuses on developing tools for decision support in the setting of natural resource development and environmental management, particularly with respect to minimizing impacts on human health. Environmental systems feature...

[Read more](#)

[www.globalchange.vt.edu](http://www.globalchange.vt.edu)



### **Joshua Mouser - Fish & Wildlife Conservation**

Joshua Mouser was recently awarded the Jimmie Pigg Scholarship at the Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society annual meeting! Awarded to support student travel to American Fisheries society meetings to present their research...

[Read more](#)

[www.globalchange.vt.edu](http://www.globalchange.vt.edu)

## AROUND CAMPUS

### **CNRE Lunch & Learn: GCC affiliate Ashley Dayer, Fish & Wildlife Conservation**

#### ***To Feed or Not to Feed Wild Birds***

**Thursday, April 15 at 12:00 pm**

More information & Register in advance [here](#)



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**CeZAP Seminar: Brandon Jutras, Virginia Tech CALS**

***Exploring the biology and pathogenesis of *Borrelia burgdorferi*, the Lyme disease spirochete***

**Tuesday, April 13 at 12:00 pm**

Zoom link [here](#)

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**SESYNC Webinar: Hosted by the Integrated Assessment Society, The National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center, and the journal *Socio-Environmental Systems Modeling***

***Understanding the Grand Challenges of Socio-Environmental Modeling***

**Wednesday, April 14 at 3:00 pm**

Register [here](#)

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**ENTO Seminar: Natalie Clay, Louisiana Tech**

*Hosted by GCC faculty Sally Entrekin*

***Salted soil and salty leaves: Impacts of NaCl on detritivores in riparia***

**Thursday, April 15 at 3:00 pm**

Register in advance [here](#)

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**EEB Seminar: Patricia Lopes, Chapman University**

*Hosted by GCC faculty Dana Hawley*

**Thursday, April 15 at 3:30 pm**

Contact [Dana Hawley](#) for meeting info

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**VTLSS Seminar: Greg Ebel, Colorado State University**

## ***Micro RNA metabolism and function***

**Friday, April 16 at 12:00 pm**

Zoom link [here](#)

## **Human-Water Systems Monthly Seminar: Morgan Levy, University of California, Irvine, and Landon Marston, CEE at Virginia Tech**

***Theme: Water use and infrastructure***

**Friday, April 16 at 1:00 pm**

Contact [Julianne Quinn](#) for meeting info

## **CEE EWR Seminar: Simoni Triantafyllidou, U.S. EPA**

***Drinking Water Research at the US EPA's Office of Research and Development***

**Friday, April 16 at 2:30 pm**

Register in advance [here](#)



Photo credit: Dean Collins / IAEA

*Inaugural STEP Keynote Seminar*

## **Climate Change, Conservation, and Communities: Taking Science to Action**

***Featuring: Lynn Scarlett***

Chief External Affairs Officer at The Nature Conservancy and former Deputy Secretary and Chief Operating Officer of the U.S. Department of the Interior

**Tuesday, April 27, 2021**

**4:00-5:30 p.m.**

**Zoom Webinar**

Please register at: <https://bit.ly/3rVfvu7>



The seminar will also include an introduction to the STEP program's new graduate certificate, brief responses from invited faculty, and time for Q&A. For more information on this event or the new STEP graduate certificate program, please visit [www.step.vt.edu](http://www.step.vt.edu) or contact program director Todd Schenk at [tschenk@vt.edu](mailto:tschenk@vt.edu)

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# COMMUNITY



### **Volunteers Needed: NR Health District vaccination clinic**

For the foreseeable future, the New River Health District (NRHD) needs volunteers to help with weekly vaccination clinics on Tues, Wed, & Thurs. There are two shifts per day: 8a-12p and 11:30a-3:30p. Volunteers may get vaccinated during 1st shift...

[Read more](#)  
vtnews.vt.edu

### **Why diversity matters in wildlife, part of the 2021 Wildlife Webinar Series presented by the Oregon Chapter of The Wildlife Society**

**Thursday, April 22**  
**6:00 pm EST (3:00 pm PDT)**

On Earth Day 2021, we offer a new take on why human diversity, not just biodiversity, matters in our profession. Join us for a primer on the history of racism and exclusion in North American wildlife management, as well as in Oregon. A moderated panel discussion will follow the presentation, with opportunities for ORTWS members to hear directly from wildlifers of color about their experiences in the profession. The discussion will center on raising awareness and paths forward for increasing diversity in wildlife.



[More info & register here](#)

# Reflections on Diversity, Equity & Inclusion from the VT Community

An outdoor, community-engaged art project

We aim to collect ideas, messages, and goals from the Virginia Tech community regarding diversity, equity and inclusion.

Between the Monday, April 12- Wednesday, April 14, come out and record your thoughts on our chalkboard structure. We hope to gather as many perspectives and voices as possible!



SCAN ME

For more information, please visit <https://cutt.ly/jcp1bsZ> or scan to view the Facebook event page



GRADUATE SCHOOL VIRGINIA TECH

## Covid-Conscious Reminders



Stay socially distant from others around you

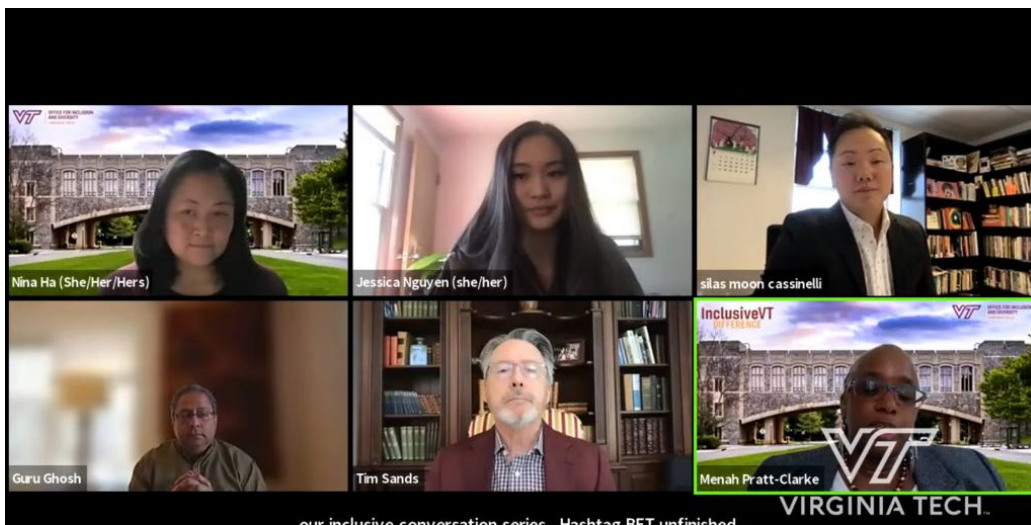


Use provided hand sanitizer and disposable gloves (throw them away afterwards!)



Mask up

[More info](#)



## Watch Unfinished Conversations APIDA/Asian Internat'l Issues

VT President Tim Sands and Menah Pratt-Clarke, vice president for strategic affairs and diversity, held a virtual town hall on April 5th to discuss APIDA (Asian/Pacific Islander/Desi American) and Asian International concerns, primarily ones that ...

[Read more](#)  
vtnews.vt.edu

# NEWSWORTHY



### **Katharine Hayhoe Rallies Fellow Moms to Save the Planet**

Katharine Hayhoe, who is joining the Nature Conservancy, opens up about how being a mom and Christian impacts her work to protect the environment. The renowned Texas Tech climate change researcher and mother is certain of this: a mother's love can...

[Read more](#)  
people.com

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

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