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May 11, 2021

GLOBAL CHANGE CENTER

AT VIRGINIA TECH



ANNOUNCEMENTS



IGC GSO establishes new Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee

It's not news to state that from the COVID-19 pandemic, to heightened awareness and outrage over racial injustices in the US – the past 20 months have been challenging and transformative for all of us. Yet, a group of Interfaces of Global Change Fellows adapted to the virtual reality of

fall semester 2020 by frequently coming together to discuss persistent social and socioenvironmental challenges.

[Read more](#)

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FACULTY & FELLOW SPOTLIGHT



Dr. Eric Smith - Statistics

Dr. Smith's interests include multivariate analysis, multivariate graphics, biological sampling and modeling, ecotoxicology, data analytics, and visualization. He teaches courses in Biological Statistics, Biometry, Consulting, Data Mining, and Multivariate Methods. His courses focus on extracting information from large data sets, and on analyzing and solving problems through fast algorithms, accurate models, evolving statistical methodology, and quantification of uncertainty.

[Read more](#)

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Irving Forde Upshur - Biochemistry

Forde's PhD work focuses on the ecological interactions between invasive mosquito species and local flora, particularly the highly attractive Goldenrod (*Solidago spp.*) flower, under the advisement of Dr. Chloé Lahondère. Prior to his PhD work, Forde obtained his Bachelor's degree in biochemistry at Virginia Tech, and subsequently earned his Master's degree in biochemistry in the Lahondère Lab.

[Read more](#)

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AROUND CAMPUS

Congrats Hokie Grads!!

**Enjoy VT Commencement this week
& stay safe!**



CNRE Lunch & Learn: Jamie King, VT Arborist

This Is Home, Exploring the Trees of Virginia Tech

Tuesday, May 20 at 12:00 pm EST

Register to attend [here](#)

NASEM Climate Conversations: Solar Geoengineering



Thursday, May 20

3:00 pm EST

Solar geoengineering refers to a set of possible strategies to help reduce global warming by increasing the amount of solar radiation reflected away from Earth. Frank Sesno (George Washington University) will moderate a conversation with Marcia McNutt (National Academy of Sciences) and Chris Field (Stanford University) about how and whether solar geoengineering could fit into broader efforts to address climate change, the role of research in helping inform decisions about implementation, and the complex global ethics and governance issues associated with solar geoengineering.

More info and register [here](#)

COMMUNITY

MAY 20, 2021 | 8:00-9:00 PM ET

ACTING LOCALLY TO ADVANCE EQUITY



KRISTIN WARREN, PhD
ASSOCIATE ENGINEER
RAND CORPORATION



ARTI GARG, PhD
ESAL FOUNDER & CHAIR
HAYWARD, CALIF. CITY COMMISSIONER



DAVID MYLES, MD
ROCKVILLE, MD. CITY COUNCIL MEMBER

WEBINAR: Learn how three scientists and engineers are making their communities more equitable and how you can too!

RSVP: esal.us/local-equity-event

Engineers & Scientists Acting Locally (ESAL) to host virtual panel on how people with backgrounds in STEM can advance equity initiatives in their local communities

Thursday May 20, at 8 PM EDT

Individuals with scientific backgrounds can provide a unique expertise and perspective when governmental policies are being developed and implemented, but often encounter challenges to engaging. Attendees will hear from three scientists and engineers who have successfully navigated these pathways and are helping to make their communities more equitable by serving on boards and commissions, on city council, and by providing external subject matter expertise. By attending this event, scientists and engineers will learn how to surmount obstacles to engagement and get involved in community-based equity initiatives. We will discuss opportunities for engagement -ranging from volunteer to paid career paths- as well as best practices and lessons learned.

[More info & register here](#)



Academic mental health resources from *Nature*

Thanks to GCC affiliate Leandro Castello for sharing!

Work–life balance: Break or burn out

Taking time off from work is crucial for avoiding stress and depression, and their potential consequences.

[Read the article here](#)

Pandemic burnout is rampant in academia

Providing some tips and ideas for managing stress during the this busy time of the semester!

[Read the article here](#)

NEWSWORTHY



GCC affiliate Emmanuel Frimpong contributes to NYT article "Plant a Love of Nature in Your Kids"

This Earth Day, show kids they can find refuge in the outdoors. Around 1954, when 8-year-old Stanley Temple began tagging along on Audubon Society field trips near Washington, D.C., he befriended a quiet, dark-haired woman who introduced herself...

[Read more](#)

www.nytimes.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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