



Nelson Institute for
Environmental Studies
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

THE COMMONS

For alumni and friends of the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison

*Research by SAGE scientist
Tyler Lark receives national coverage*



**The
Guardian**

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GEOGRAPHIC

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Research by SAGE scientist *Tyler Lark receives national coverage*

By Bekah McBride

Nelson Institute [Center for Sustainability and the Global Environment \(SAGE\)](#) scientist [Tyler Lark](#) is sharing his research into grassland ecosystems through a variety of publications and presentations.

Lark, who leads research on U.S. agricultural land-use change and its impacts on our nation's land and water resources, has spent a great deal of time studying grassland loss and its impact on ecosystems. This research was recently featured in an [article](#) in *National Geographic*.

The research, which was conducted by Lark and his colleagues [Seth Spawn](#), [Holly Gibbs](#), and [Matt Bougie](#) in the Nelson Institute's

Center for Sustainability and the Global Environment is "helping bring light to the issue of grassland losses in the United States and ways we can help mitigate the impacts of land conversion on wildlife, biodiversity, and

climate change," Lark shared.

Lark is also quoted in the article "[Pulse of the Heartland](#)" which was recently published in [National Wildlife magazine](#). The article also highlights grasslands and their importance in sustaining wildlife and storing carbon.

Additionally, Lark is quoted in [The Guardian's](#) feature on the United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP 15) talks. These talks will determine how governments will halt the loss of nature. In the article entitled, "The five biggest threats to our natural world ... and how we can stop them," Lark outlines his research into land use and grassland and how this is impacting the loss of nature.

Lark also participated in National Clean Energy Week in September. The Wisconsin Energy Institute and Great Lakes Bioenergy Research Center hosted a panel discussion of how bioenergy can benefit society and Lark participated in the panel, offering perspectives on the interactions among bioenergy, land use, and the environment. More information and a recording of the full event with a public Q&A session can be viewed [online](#).



“We’re still losing 1 million acres of grasslands each year in the U.S., ... To make matters worse, the converted land was some of the highest-quality wildlife habitat in the country, even though it’s quite marginal for growing food.”

– Tyler Lark





Nelson Institute dissertator named President of the College of Menominee Nation

By Bekah McBride

Nelson Institute graduate student and University of Wisconsin-Madison alumnus, Chris Caldwell has been named the third President of the College of Menominee Nation.

Caldwell, who is an enrolled member of the Menominee Tribe of Wisconsin, has been serving as the Interim President since February 2020 and previously served as the director of the College of Menominee Nation [Sustainable Development Institute \(SDI\)](#). While in these roles, Caldwell has not only identified ways to partner with the Nelson Institute and UW-Madison, but he has also been a student at the Nelson Institute.

I've attended graduate school, mentored students, and had experiences that I hope to share with the next generation, as we continue to support resilient and vital Tribal nations and Indigenous peoples.

—Chris Caldwell

"My focus has been on understanding how climate change impacts our language revitalization efforts," Caldwell said of his doctoral work in the Nelson Institute [Environment and Resources \(ER\)](#) graduate program. "Climate change is altering nature and our Menominee language was developed based on these relationships with nature, so we need to understand how changes will impact our language."

While Caldwell has completed all his required courses, he will continue to work on his dissertation while in his role as President. He hopes to complete his PhD by October 2022. Caldwell previously completed an associate degree in Sustainable Development at the College of Menominee Nation, a bachelor's degree in Natural Resources from UW-Madison, and a master's degree in Environmental Science and Policy from UW-Green Bay.

Caldwell said much of the inspiration for his graduate work at the Nelson Institute is the result of his time as the director of SDI. In this role, Caldwell worked with Indigenous scholars, students, community members, and practitioners on educa-

tion and outreach efforts related to sustainability. Caldwell said that his graduate work and his new role as the President of the College of Menominee Nation are both important opportunities to elevate the work of SDI and to share what he has learned throughout his academic and professional career.



Top: At the investment ceremony on Friday, October 22, 2021, Chris Caldwell (left) and Board Chairman Gary Frechette with the presidential medallion on the table in the center.
Lower: The Caldwell family, College of Menominee Nation President Chris Caldwell (center) and wife Toni Caldwell with daughters Trinity Caldwell (left) and Brooke Caldwell (right).
Photographer: Clarissa Louis

"I've attended graduate school, mentored students, and had experiences that I hope to share with the next generation, as we continue to support resilient and vital Tribal nations and Indigenous peoples," said Caldwell. "It was always a goal of mine to teach at the college and now I have an opportunity to lead and share based on what I've learned from others." Caldwell was formally invested in a ceremony on Friday, October 22.



Wetmore Landing, Marquette, Michigan. Photo credit: GLISA

Great Lakes Integrated Sciences and Assessments federal funding extended to support climate adaptation research

By Bekah McBride

The University of Wisconsin-Madison will continue its role as a regional leader in climate change research thanks in part to an extension in funding that will support UW-Madison as it joins the [Great Lakes Integrated Sciences and Assessments](#) (GLISA). This funding from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

will allow UW-Madison to join its GLISA partners at the University of Michigan, Michigan State University, and the College of Menominee Nation's Sustainable Development Institute as they continue their research into climate change variability risks in the Great Lakes region.

Over the past several years, GLISA has completed a variety of research and outreach projects that have helped to

improve climate change adaptation and mitigation. For example, GLISA team members developed the 2021 Great Lakes Climate Modeling Workshop, where experts reviewed the existing Great Lakes regional climate modeling efforts, shared preliminary results from recent work and models in Canada and the US, identified gaps and areas of greatest uncertainty, and developed rec-

ommendations for future work. GLISA members also formed the Great Lakes Ensemble, which includes state-of-the-art dynamically downscaled climate projections for the Great Lakes region that make it easier for stakeholders to make science-based decisions. Members also developed a nationally relevant hazard mitigation planning portal, mobilized the use of regional projections, and enhanced the capacity of public health practitioners to utilize health law to address climate change.

"It is an honor for UW-Madison to become an official member of this GLISA team," said GLISA co-principal investigator and Nelson Institute Center for Climatic Research Associate Director, Michael Notaro.

He also shared that over the past eleven years, GLISA has partnered with over 150 academic, municipal, tribal, and nongovernmental entities on climate change research and outreach efforts. Going forward, GLISA members plan to continue that work with the next five years being dedicated to the acceleration and scale-up of climate knowledge that will inform sustainable and equitable adaptation action. Notaro noted that they will be focusing on four main goals with an emphasis on cities, tribes, and agriculture.

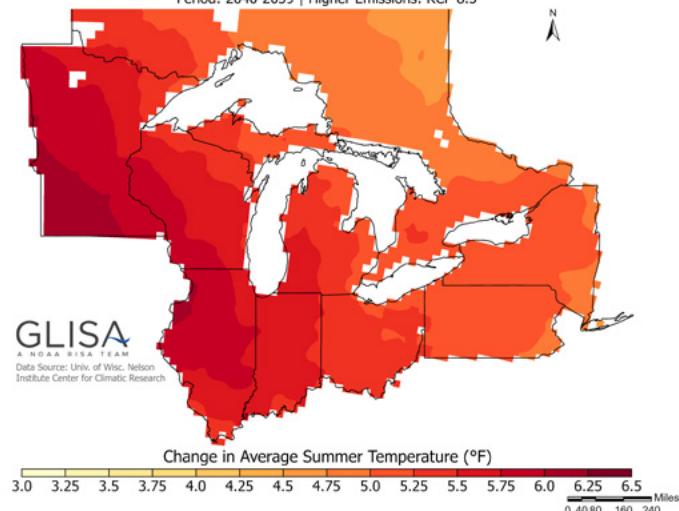
The four main goals include the exploration of action-driven foundational research that focuses on new and emerging issues in the Great Lakes region to bet-

– Michael Notaro

“It is an honor for UW-Madison to become an official member of this GLISA team.”

Projected Change in Average Summer Temperature by Mid-Century

Period: 2040-2059 | Higher Emissions: RCP 8.5



Regional maps produced by the Great Lakes Integrated Sciences and Assessments (glisa.umich.edu) using data from the University of Wisconsin Nelson Institute Center for Climatic Research.

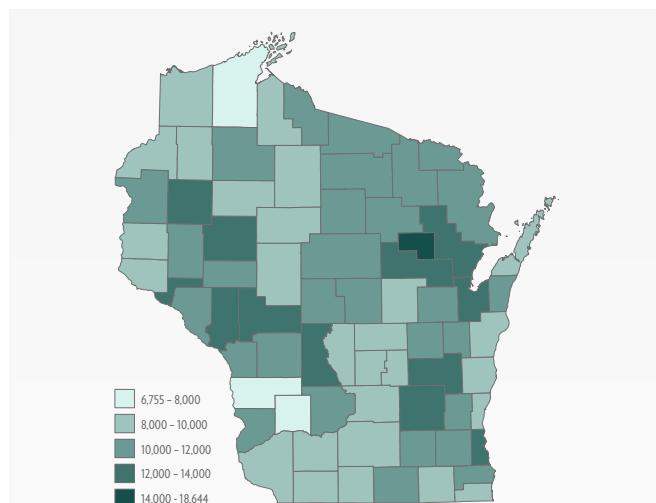
ter understand, assess, and co-produce actionable adaptation knowledge. The team will also will actively build upon their decade of experience co-producing knowledge to scale-up existing engagement, tools, and approaches. Additionally, they plan to actively broaden participation in research, engagement, and training, especially tending to issues of Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI), while also designing and implementing an integrated and adaptive external evaluation program for the five years of GLISA's Phase III.

"The funding for UW will allow for the development of the next generation of high-resolution climate change projections for the Great Lakes region using a recently developed 3-km regional climate model, the NASA-Unified Weather Research and Forecasting (NU-WRF) mode," Notaro said. "The coupling to a 3D lake model allows for improved simulations of lake temperatures, lake ice cover, interactions with the atmosphere, and regional climate. These simulations will be critical components of the Great Lakes Ensemble for guiding regional stakeholders and decision-makers."



The GLISA team leads include:

Dr. Maria Carmen Lemos (PI, University of Michigan), Dr. Jeffrey Andresen (Co-PI, Michigan State University), Dr. Matthew Gammans (Co-PI, Michigan State University), Thomas Kenote (Co-PI, College of Menominee Nation), Dr. Michael Notaro (Co-PI, University of Wisconsin-Madison), and Dr. Richard Rood (Co-PI University of Michigan), along with GLISA program manager, Dr. Jenna Jorns (University of Michigan). Drs. Carmen Lemos and Andresen will serve as GLISA co-directors. Kenote will lead a project investigating tensions and impacts of tribal relationships with water resources via a student exchange program.



Nelson Institute releases latest Issue Brief on COVID-19 and the Environment

The Nelson Institute Issue Brief summarizes and conveys up-to-date scholarship on key issues of environmental concern. The latest edition of the Nelson Institute Issue Brief focuses on the ways human health and the natural environment are deeply intertwined, and how the COVID-19 global pandemic reveals these connections. Specifically, this edition highlights research from across the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus, with articles detailing the impact that reduced human activity during periods of quarantine had on wildlife and air pollution. The final entry details how diseases like COVID-19 have been transmitted from wildlife to humans, and how increased human activity amplifies the chances of transmission in the future.

[Read more](#)

Wisconsin Rapids and UniverCity Year

partner to promote diversity through art

By Bekah McBride

Wisconsin Rapids. Photo credit: City of Wisconsin Rapids

PROMOTING COMMUNITY VIBRANCY AND REVITALIZATION THROUGH THE EXPANSION OF ARTS AND CULTURAL EXPERIENCES IS THE GOAL OF A RECENT PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN WISCONSIN RAPIDS AND THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON UNIVERCITY YEAR PROGRAM.



At the intersection of art, business, and the Wisconsin Idea, this partnership, which also includes assistance from the [Bolz Center for Arts Administration](#), aims to redefine rural public art policies and promote diversity all while facilitating learning opportunities for students and the community.

The partnership was forged thanks to the UniverCity Year program, which brings faculty, students, and members of Wisconsin communities together to address local challenges through engagement, university research, and state-of-the-art problem-solving approaches. In this case, UniverCity Year helped to facilitate a partnership between Wisconsin Rapids and students in the Wisconsin Business School's [Arts and Creative Enterprise Leadership](#) program. The program is housed in the Bolz Center for Arts Administration and blends business and arts-based training to prepare students to lead in the art, creative, and social sectors. Students in this program have the opportunity to take a course ti-

tled "Impact Consulting for Arts-Based Organizations and Communities I & II" during which students engage with a client to solve a real-world challenge.

Throughout the 2020 and 2021 school year, students in the course were partnered with community leaders in Wisconsin Rapids to develop three projects supporting public art and culture:

- ▶ Assessing the City of Wisconsin Rapids Policy Support for Public Art
- ▶ Designing a City of Wisconsin Rapids Arts Collaborative Initiative
- ▶ Celebrating Culture Summaries and Recommendations for Future Cultural Engagements in Wisconsin Rapids

"Wisconsin Rapids has, in the last couple of years, reinvested in the community. We've reconstructed our parks along the riverfront, we've redeveloped our downtown mall, we've redeveloped our aquatic center, and we're continuing to make improvements, but one thing that has been lacking is the addition of arts and culture which helps to define a sense of place," shared Wisconsin Rapids Director of Community Development, Kyle Kearns. "We have a lot of culture and history, and in partnering with UW-Madison, we were able to place a high priority on this

“We know for a fact, studies show, that including art and creativity as a part of their education is going to make them better businesspeople.”

– Angela Richardson

and from there it was about bringing stakeholders to the table and having them provide comments. Essentially from that we created these three projects and we've been happy with the outcome of what the students came up with.”

While a variety of students and community members were involved with each project, the course was led by John Surdyk, interim co-director at the Bolz Center for Arts Administration and Angela Richardson, a faculty associate and aesthetics and business project coordinator with the Bolz Center for Arts Administration.

“There is a great alignment between UniverCity Year and our program at the Bolz Center as we emphasize direct experience and are supporting entrepreneurship for students beyond the boundaries of the Business School,” shared Surdyk, noting that the partnership was a great fit as both programs promote the Wisconsin Idea that education should influence people’s lives beyond the boundaries of the classroom.



Angela Richardson

Richardson echoed that sentiment, adding that in addition to offering students opportunities to engage with community members and create change, the Bolz Center programming also supports the merging of business and art, two areas that are not always seen as related.

“We want to make sure our students don’t abandon art and that

part of themselves,” Richardson said. “We know for a fact, studies show, that including art and creativity as a part of education is going to make them better people and businesspeople.”

Richardson, who is trained in art says she enjoys working with the students at the Business School, helping them to merge the arts and business. While she says there can be a push and pull between the two subjects, she likes being the person who helps people to see how art and business meet and inform each other.



2021 graduating class of the MA in Arts and Creative Enterprise Leadership program.
 Top row L to R: Brian Nkemnji, Jessica Jane Witham, Adalia Hernandez Abrego, Lexi Janssen, Sophie Willer, Hannah Goldberg
 Center row L to R: Alexis O'Connell, Bailey Curtis, Ginger Ann, Deja Mason, Starr Welk-Schwartz, Elena Duran
 Bottom row L to R: Olivia Dahlquist, Brian Cowing, Leah Kolb, Emily Gorteski, Taeli Reistad, Tori Seaver

Aiding with the Arts and Creative Enterprise Leadership graduate program is one way that Richardson supports the merging of these two areas. The one-year graduate program includes courses such as the Impact Consulting for Arts-Based Organizations and Communities I & II course, which pairs business students with Wisconsin-based arts, culture, and related organizations. The students then work with the organization, in this case Wisconsin Rapids, on the development of placemaking initiatives, cultivation of new audiences for arts and culture experiences, and programs of strategic importance to arts and culture organizations. Through this work, students learn how to develop key relationships and strategies that promote community vibrancy, facilitate revitalization, and support organizational growth.

“The thing that is exciting to me about the impact consulting class is that the students become comfortable talking through what the project will entail upfront. Many consulting projects get derailed by people who have a vague idea or scope, so this learning process is really important, and our students are able to come out with a portfolio, in this case a situational analysis,” said Surdyk. “They’re also learning how to navigate really intense relationships with each other, what they bring to a team, how to manage their role in a team, and to think about themselves as consultants. This is one of the oldest programs of its kind and it has a

really distinguished presence and is known for its role in developing future art leaders. There aren't any in the nation that offer this spectrum of opportunities."

While the program supports its students and helps them to gain confidence in the field, the Bolz Center and the UniverCity Year program are both meant to develop community partnerships that create positive change within the communities. In this case, the change was expanding arts and cultural experiences in Wisconsin Rapids, just as the area was being impacted by COVID-19 and the loss of a papermill.

"The very start of the semester, we have our students meet with the clients and really hone in on the scope of work. They get specific and do a lot of research about who they are working with. They learn the context of what the city is dealing with. For example, last year Wisconsin Rapids suffered a great loss with the papermill closing, which the students needed to understand more about," Richardson said. "Last year was also such an extraordinary challenge because of COVID-19. In fact, we weren't able to do a site visit and get to see the community, so there was a high hope and expectation that students could connect using technology and they really did well."

In the coming months, UniverCity Year staff will continue to connect with Wisconsin Rapids regarding the next steps of implementation, but the hope is that the partnership and sense of community that has been built will last for many years to come.

"We think this partnership shows the versatility of the UniverCity Year program. We work with places of all population sizes about almost any topic they can think of. In this case, we think we responded to the needs identified by Wisconsin Rapids, connected them to an innovative campus partner at UW in the Business School, and students delivered a great set of reports with actionable items," said Managing Director of UniverCity Alliance, Gavin Luter. "Working with these partners makes me so grateful to be involved with UniverCity Year."

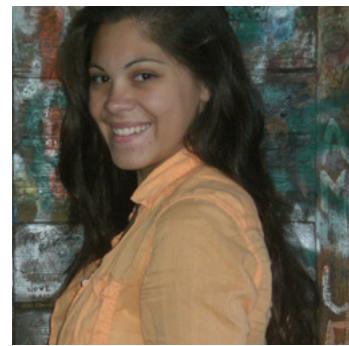
To learn more about each project and the ways students and the community worked together, we invite you to explore the following stories that outline each individual project.

Assessing the City of Wisconsin Rapids Policy Support for Public Art

By Bekah McBride

A rich arts and cultural scene offers the community something to gather around and enjoy while showcasing diversity and talent within the community; which is just one of the reasons that the City of Wisconsin Rapids partnered with the University of Wisconsin-Madison UniverCity Year program to expand arts and cultural offerings.

The partnership with Wisconsin Rapids is a three-year initiative focused on leveraging art for revitalization of place and community interests. As a part of the partnership, UniverCity Year connected Wisconsin Rapids community leaders with students in the Impact Consulting for Arts-Based Organizations and Communities I & II course, which is associated with the Wisconsin Business School's [Arts and Creative Enterprise Leadership](#) program. This program is housed in the Bolz Center for Arts Administration and blends business and arts-based training to prepare students to lead in the art, creative, and social sectors.



Top: Brian Cowing. Lower: Ginger Ann.

Several projects related to the arts were completed as a part of the course, including the project entitled, "Assessing the City of Wisconsin Rapids Policy Support for Public Art." This assessment was completed by students known as the Public Arts Consulting Team (PACT), which included Brian Cowing and Ginger Ann.

"We identified strategic ways for the municipality to leverage public art for the revitalization of place and community's interests. Our work aimed to advance current policies, recommend new policies, and incorporate business incentives that invigorate the creative economy of target areas within the city," shared Ann. "We centered our approach to support the city's planning efforts to further how gathering places can best serve Wisconsin Rapids' community and cultural scene."

As a part of the project Ann and her PACT members conducted a survey to learn more about local public perceptions and in-

terests. PACT also investigated regional municipalities to identify best practices and policies that the city of Wisconsin Rapids could implement or adapt for public art expansion.

“Each community has different types of arts and cultural capital unique to the people and place,” Ann said. “Personally, I enjoyed learning about the public art opportunities and challenges specific to the Wisconsin Rapids community – and how my eight plus years of experience within the public art sector could contribute towards knowledge-building for the city’s efforts.”

“The legwork is now done, so it will be easier to complete these projects and it will be a high priority to move this forward.”

– Kyle Kearns

In the end, Ann and Cowing shared their insights through a report submitted to Wisconsin Rapids leaders. Ultimately, it included a variety of recommendations centered around fostering community buy-in through strategic planning, establishing an ecosystem of public art opportunities, and streamlining public art operational needs from the municipal perspective.

Thanks to the partnership with Bolz and UCY, Wisconsin Rapids Director of Community Development, Kyle Kearns said the city now has a comprehensive inventory of the arts and is ready to move forward on these projects.

“We know where there are gaps and where we should place a focus,” said Kearns. “We did a survey of the community that will lead us to what types of projects we should be doing and ensure communication with the community.”

UniverCity Year partners with class to create a collaboration of art communities in Wisconsin Rapids

By Anica Graney

The City of Wisconsin Rapids recently underwent an assessment of branding, marketing, economic development, and the arts through a partnership with UniverCity Year and the Wisconsin Business School’s [Arts and Creative Enterprise Leadership](#) program course, Management and Human Resources 746/747: Im-

For example, Kearns said the city is considering a road reconstruction project and whether they should put grass in the median or do a request for proposal to artists and instead place art within the median, which Kearns said would save on grass maintenance and showcase our culture.

“The legwork is now done, so it will be easier to complete these projects and it will be a high priority to move this forward,” added Kearns.

The next step will be for Wisconsin Rapids and UniverCity Year to work together to review and implement these recommendations. While Ann and Cowing have graduated, Ann says that this project was an important part of her education and provided her with key insight into her professional capabilities.

“This experience provided a lens into what ‘Ginger - the consultant’, could be and do. I enjoy the work I do now and there are many aspects to consulting that can be applied to any work environment,” said Ann, who currently works as the Executive Director of the Illuminating Discovery Hub at the Wisconsin Institute for Discovery. “I see consulting as a new pathway to broaden my reach, and an opportunity to serve more stakeholders across the country within science-art fusion and informal learning. So, if you ever see consulting on my LinkedIn profile, you will know I’ve further leveraged this experience to expand my career scope. Thanks, Bolz and UniverCity [Year]!”

To review the full report, visit the [UniverCity Year](#) website.



Kyle Kearns. Photo credit: Wisconsin Rapids City Times

pact Consulting for Arts-Based Organizations and Communities.

[Designing a City of Wisconsin Rapids Arts Collaborative Initiative](#) is one of the projects that resulted from this partnership where six students worked with community members in

Wisconsin Rapids to enhance art and culture opportunities. At the end of the class, a report was produced that outlined the importance of collaboration, data on Wisconsin Rapids, and three recommendations for the city to implement.

“We all wanted to work together to figure out how to increase patronage to arts offerings and make more community members aware of their opportunities.”

– Tim Young

As a part of the project, students worked with community leaders and polled the population to learn what was needed and how to effectively implement strategies to improve arts collaboration. “There were already some goals established and some that we got to come up with brand new,” said Jessica Jane Witham, one of the students who worked on the project for the Management and Human Resources 746/747 class. “We were given a lot of information and told which direction to point.” The rest was up to the students.

The students divided their research based on their own interests and examined demographics, current arts organizations, the local industry, and customer analytics of the Wisconsin Rapids community. “We put the definition of collaboration in the project to really reinforce why this is important, how it manifests, and what makes a successful collaboration,” said Witham. “We wanted to emphasize that all different organizations and non-profits can benefit from working together.

Executive Director of the Wisconsin Rapids Community Theater, Tim Young said he was very excited to work with the students and oth-



Wisconsin Rapids Community Theatre. Photo credit: Wisconsin Rapids Community Theatre Facebook page

er community organizations to develop a plan for collaboration. “We all wanted to work together to figure out how to increase patronage to arts offerings and make more community members aware of their opportunities,” said Young. He hopes that this report will help Wisconsin Rapids develop a stronger arts community and ultimately higher attendances at Community Theater shows.

“We got involved with the UniverCity project because we felt as though this was a community need,” said Andy Barnett, Wisconsin Rapids McMillan Library Director. The McMillan Library is fighting to come back after having to close its doors due to the COVID-19 pandemic and some recent renovations that took place over the summer.



McMillan Library, Wisconsin Rapids, WI. Photo credit: Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce

“We’re focused on being an outward facing library, so we’re very interested in being an active place in the community,” said Barnett. “That’s why we have a coffee house, a theater, and meeting rooms. We want people to come here, to hang out here and see their friends. We are one of the areas that are trying to build a community.”

Wisconsin Rapids, like many small communities, is challenged by a

lack of local media sources. The *Wisconsin Rapids Tribune* primarily includes content from the larger regional cities of Marshfield, Stevens Point, and Wausau. “You can’t find out what’s happening at the library, or the Boy’s and Girl’s Club, or the YMCA,” said Barnett. “When you have a lack of local information, it’s hard to build a sense of community.” One positive on this front is *The River City Times*, a weekly publication that has expanded from a buyer’s guide to include more content. “They are our active partners,” added Barnett.

The Arts Collaborative Initiative project created three different strategies designed to increase participation: a marketing collaboration between arts communities, a shared administrative/marketing position, and/or the creation of an arts network, all of which come with advantages and disadvantages that the report also lists.

Implementing the recommendations has been rough going as the city recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic, the library’s construction wraps up, and a new mayor settles into office. “On our end we need to start meeting and working together to implement the project,” said Barnett. “But I’m pleased with the project. They all did a good job, they listened, and they gave us a blueprint to work from.”

“This report gives us fact-based findings to be able to work with one another and develop strategies that will benefit us all,” added Young. “I do believe that the recommendations made will still be relevant by the time things get back to normal.”

Learn more about the UniverCity Year and Wisconsin Rapids projects [here](#).

UniverCity Year project to enhance cultural initiatives

By Rachel Carrier

During the 2020-21 school year, students from the one-year Wisconsin Business School’s [Arts and Creative Enterprise Leadership](#) program executed a meaningful consulting capstone project with the City of Wisconsin Rapids. In partnership with UniverCity Year (UCY), students collaborated to help develop a framework to help the city enhance cultural initiatives.

CREATION OF CULTURAL COALITION

Purpose

Collaborate with the South Wood County area community to better support and honor its unique cultural assets.



The Cultural Coalition Agrees to the Following Guidelines

- I. Meet once a month to sustain commitment and involvement.
- II. Establish meaningful and authentic relationships with the community’s varied cultural groups.
- III. Use networks and social capital to connect people to each other.
- IV. Commit resources (human, financial, organizational) to support and encourage community engagements.
- V. Work towards the goals in the Cultural engagement Plan

BOLZ CENTER FOR ARTS ADMINISTRATION | CULTURAL INITIATIVE TEAM

Six students worked together with the goal of supporting and elevating cultures within the Wisconsin Rapids community. The focus of the project is summarized by its title, [“Celebrating Culture Summaries and Recommendations for Future Cultural Engagements in Wisconsin Rapids.”](#)

Student Leah Kolb reflected on her experience working on the project, “Our goal was to figure out how arts and culture could be mobilized to center the voices and experiences of underrepresented communities in Wisconsin Rapids.”

The project corresponded to a core-curriculum class in the program titled “Impact Consulting for Arts-based Organizations and Communities.” The class modality is split between classroom learning and a leadership project. Students learned the fundamentals of consulting practices while working closely with an organization.

“The course focused on how to empower the organization or group that you are working with to take ownership of and implement the steps needed to effectuate change,” said Kolb.

Tori Seaver, another student working on the project, explained the structure of their semester.

“In the fall, we focused on building connections and having initial conversations with stakeholders in Wisconsin

Rapids," said Seaver. "The spring semester focused on the project itself, meeting with stakeholders weekly to develop and execute our plans."

Students and community stakeholders devised a plan to analyze cultural wants and needs within the Wisconsin Rapids community via surveys and focus groups, which included individuals and local organizations. This data helped them to develop recommendations centered on three priority areas: community connections and outreach, public education and youth engagement, and civic engagement and leadership development.

Based off survey data, project members found an overwhelming preference for a sustained initiative within the community.

"The community didn't just want a one-off event for a specific cultural group," said Kolb. "The data made it clear that the people of Wisconsin Rapids are interested in sustained engagement and have a desire for people of different cultures to share their experiences."

Project members suggested the creation of a cultural coalition made up of local government officials and community leaders. Coalition members are representative of the cultural communities within Wisconsin Rapids and focus on continuing cultural engagement within the community.

Executive Coordinator to the Mayor and coalition member, Emily Kent, worked closely with the students to execute the project.

"We want to make sure anyone and everyone feels welcome here and the report the students created sparked a lot of meaningful work," said Kent. "This coalition would not have happened without the students work."

I saw the students learning from a different community than their own and saw how they were able to adjust their expectations and appropriately address our needs. It was great to learn from them and have their voice and experiences guide and teach us here in

Wisconsin Rapids." Kent reflected.

Coalition member and Community Benefits Coordinator at Marshfield Clinic Health Systems Pa Yiar Kang grew up in Wisconsin Rapids and is excited to see cultural progress in her hometown community.

“Being a part of the Hmong community, I was excited to hear about the students coming here to work with us and make change somewhere meaningful to me.”

– Pa Kang

"Being a part of the HMong community, I was excited to hear about the students coming here to work with us and make change somewhere meaningful to me." Kang said. "It's been so great to work with the coalition and better the Wisconsin Rapids community."

Although the students' work has come to an end with the project, Wisconsin Rapids continues to use their findings to instill cultural initiatives within the community.

Learn more about the UniverCity Year and Wisconsin Rapids projects [here](#).



From the desk of Andrea Hicks



Andrea Hicks

A monthly column from Andrea Hicks, Director of Sustainability Education and Research, assistant professor, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, and the Hanson Family Fellow in Sustainability

Young people today are worried about the climate change-ravaged world that they will inherit. This is abundantly clear in a number of ways, from movements such as Fridays for the Future, a grassroots effort where young people protest on Fridays

about climate change, to the level of concern that we see among our own Office of Sustainability Interns. They are acutely aware of the consequences of inaction and empty promises. Empowering students to discuss climate change and act in a well-informed, science-grounded manner is part of our mission here at the Office of Sustainability.

It's also important to highlight inspirational examples of sustainability action in our broader Madison community, so this month I'd like to shine a spotlight on two local Girl Scout Troops. Often Girl Scouts are known for the cookies they sell; in the area of sustainability, we anticipate that they might do service projects such as collecting aluminum cans and plastic bottles for recycling. Yet, the Girl Scouts, with their focus on empowering girls to be future leaders through

foundational skill areas such as STEM, outdoors, life skills, and entrepreneurship, represent a wide range of interests. Girl Scout Troops 1477 and 1952, led by Julia Pooler, took a sophisticated approach to sustainability, creating a remarkable video that focuses on concrete and its embodied carbon dioxide emissions. We use about 90 million metric tons of concrete each year in the US, making this a significant issue to address. Here is a great [article](#) on the development of the video. You can watch this video [here](#).

As part of their work, the girls were interested in meeting with faculty and staff who work in these areas. Rex Loker, a facility architect here at UW-Madison and staff member at the Office of Sustainability, took the girls on a tour of campus and provided insight as to what working as a sustainability-minded architect is like at a major research university. I, too, had the opportunity to meet with the girls and to talk about some of our LEED buildings on campus, and what being an engineering professor is like. Representation is important, and when only 17 percent of US engineering faculty are women, and only 15 percent of US engineers in total, it's critical to show girls what they can do with their careers while making a difference. And of course, we ended our adventure with ice cream from the Babcock Dairy Store.

CAMPUS COMES TOGETHER FOR SUSTAINABILITY CONVERSATION

In mid-September the Office of Sustainability (OoS) hosted the first-ever workshop to discuss sustainability within the framework of the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies. Participants and stakeholders from across campus came together to examine how to advance sustainability throughout all academic programs, as well as the future role of sustainability on the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus. Attendees learned about the first [Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System \(STARS\)](#) report as a framework to think about sustainability and resiliency on an institu-

tional level. "This workshop was the beginning of engaging with our campus colleagues on practical measures that will forward this important initiative for UW-Madison, said Andrea Hicks. "There is a great deal of interest... I still have individuals who couldn't make the workshop, contacting me to contribute their ideas." In the months ahead, OoS staff and key stakeholders will review the workshop feedback and determine a path to continue this campus conversation.



CCR professor and student
publish paper on correlation
**between climate change
and crop yield**

By Bekah McBride

According to a new study from the University of Wisconsin-Madison Nelson Institute Center for Climatic Research (CCR), crop yields are being impacted by exposure to surface ozone, atmospheric aerosols, and heat stress.

Soybean field. Photo credit: Paulo Baqueta

The study, which was conducted by Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences (AOS) Chair and Nelson Institute Reid Bryson Professor of Climate, People, and Environment Ankur Desai, in partnership with UW-Madison alumnus Xiang Liu, was recently published by the American Geophysical Union (AGU) in *Earth Future's*. The paper entitled, "Significant Reductions in Crop Yields from Air Pollution and Heat Stress in the United States" uses a statistical model to showcase the ways in which air quality has impacted maize and soybean yields in the United States.

The findings indicate that exposure to air pollutants and extreme temperature has led to a decline in agricultural output, but that regulations that reduce emissions can lead to a net positive benefit for crop yields. In fact, while poor air quality continues to have a negative impact on crop yields, this research indicates that emission regulations put in place since the 1980s have helped to slow further reductions in crop yields.

While these findings are impactful and provide a new, unique look at the effect of poor air quality, the story behind this research is equally unique as the work is the result of an undergraduate student project.

Co-author Liu was a student in Desai's bioclimatology class, which is cross listed as a Nelson Institute and AOS class. In the class, students seek to answer a question about climate and the environment using freely available scientific data. For Liu, climate change and its connection to crops was of particular interest.

"I was impressed with his project," Desai said of Liu. "So, when he later approached me looking for summer research opportunities, I thought we could take his paper from class and move forward with it. He had wanted to look at the deleterious impact air pollution has on crops. So, we reviewed the literature to see what was missing and what we learned quickly is that there has been a lot of studies on the effects of air pollution, but there haven't really been any papers on putting everything together to understand the interactive effects between air pollution, a warming climate, and crop yields."

After determining the focus of their research, Liu began looking through the data, studying every county in the United States that grows corn or soybeans and noting the impact of ozone pollution, aerosol pollution, and heat stress effects on yields.

"We all know that the ecosystem is pretty vulnerable to global warming resulting from carbon dioxide emissions, however, another key aspect of fossil fuel emission are air pollutants, and it is still unknown whether air pollution causes damage to food production," said Liu. "Thus, we want to specifically quantify how many food yields were reduced by air pollution and heat stress."

Liu, who was a junior studying environmental engineering at the time of the project, is now working on a master's degree at Nanjing University in the field of atmospheric science.

"I was a visiting student from the China University of Mining and Technology, and so glad to have this excellent experience as a student at UW-Madison," Liu shared. "First, it told me how to independently conduct a research project, which is very important for my future career. I also learned that research always needs suggestions from other perspectives, for example, from mentors and colleagues, one cannot consider and handle all situations. Last, I found the professors are always very happy to listen to students' problems and thoughts."

While this study is now complete, both Liu and Desai hope there will be an opportunity to expand on this research to better understand the impacts of air pollution on crop yields globally. In the meantime, however, they hope that this research will showcase the many benefits of reducing air pollution and the role air quality plays not just in human health, but in the health of the food system.

"Air quality policy has helped to save about one fifth of historical crop yields, which is surprising and implies that other countries can have a co-benefit in reducing air pollution levels," Liu said. "I am also hoping future efforts in tackling climate change would be another effective way to secure food production due to a decrease in warming."

Desai added, "As we continue to clean the air, we have what we typically call a co-benefit of reducing air pollution. Not only do we improve human health, but we also help to mitigate the future impact of climate change on agriculture."

We all know that the ecosystem is pretty vulnerable to global warming resulting from carbon dioxide emissions, however, another key aspect of fossil fuel emission are air pollutants, and it is still unknown whether air pollution causes damage to food production.

-Xiang Liu

Nelson Institute affiliate

Morgan Edwards investigates the impact of climate-tech startups

By Bekah McBride

Understanding the role that venture capitalist investors play in funding climate-tech startups is just one of the goals of a new, two-year research project being led by Nelson Institute affiliate, and La Follette School of Public Affairs assistant professor, Morgan Edwards.



Morgan Edwards

Funded by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation and in partnership with Kavita Surana of the University of Maryland School of Public Policy,

"We know that some of the technologies that we need to reach net zero emissions targets don't yet exist, or exist at scale, so directing funding to new technologies is critical. Increasingly venture capital investors are playing a bigger role in investing in climate-tech startups. But we don't have a lot of information on their effects," Edwards said. "Intuition suggests that corporations might be appropriate partners for startups because they have the knowledge and supply chains that some of these startups lack, but we don't really know what corporations are investing in or the outcomes, so that's what we're hoping this project will address."

In addition to better understanding what is motivating venture capitalist investors to invest in climate-tech startups and how those partnerships are taking place, Edwards will also be studying how the development of these technologies relates to emission reductions.

"The kinds of modeling tools we use when thinking about climate problems aren't really tailored to investors," Edwards said. "So, a big question investors are asking is, if this technology were successful what would it

mean in terms of emission reduction and systemic outcomes? We want to develop the tools to help answer that question."

– Morgan Edwards

Edwards will investigate not only how corporations and investors support climate-tech startups, but also how the technologies they develop impact emission reduction.

"Increasingly venture capitalist investors are playing a bigger role in investing in climate-tech startups."

Paul Robbins contributes to video on *Intended Consequences*

In April 2021 Nelson Institute Dean Paul Robbins joined a group of biologists, conservationists, and thought leaders in supporting Intended Consequences, a [statement](#), a special issue of *Conservation Science and Practice*, and framework for confidently tackling the world's most urgent conservation problems.

Intended Consequences is the culmination of a workshop led by the non-profit organization [Revive and Restore](#), where leaders discussed the need to utilize innovative methods of biotechnology to intentionally restore genetic diversity.

revive & restore

genetic rescue for endangered and extinct species

In addition to the workshop and special issues, Robbins also joined Revive and Restore co-founder and executive director, Ryan Phelan in [penning an editorial](#) for *Scientific American* that focuses on the concept of Intended Consequences.

Recently, Robbins continued that partnership, sharing a [short video](#) on the Revive and Restore website describing ways we can get communities and institutions to embrace Intended Consequences. Additionally, Phelan hosted a [TEDTalk](#) on the subject.

Photo image from "Gone," by Isabella Kirkland.

Two Nelson Institute students awarded as Global Health Institute Planetary Scholars

By Rachel Carrier

The Global Health Institute (GHI) Planetary Scholars program has chosen a cohort of five students as scholarship recipients for the '21-'22 school year, two of which are Nelson Institute students. The cohort is working to help develop and provide input about the planetary health landscape of the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The program aims to create a community of diverse involvement within planetary health through the cohort of scholarship recipients and their respective advisors. The cohort looks to find connections between global health and human health, and how to enact positive change based on these relationships. The scholarships will be administered by the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies. Events related to the scholarship program will be organized by the Global Health Institute.

The awarded scholars are pursuing various research at the intersection of human and global health. Planetary scholar and third year [Environment and Resources](#) PhD student Nick Mailloux reflected on his decision to apply to the planetary scholar program.

"The idea of planetary health always made sense to me; the idea that human systems and natural systems interact in complex and counterbalancing ways," he said. "The crux of climate change is that these systems are out of balance. Human activities are causing damage to the environment that in turn comes back to harm humans."

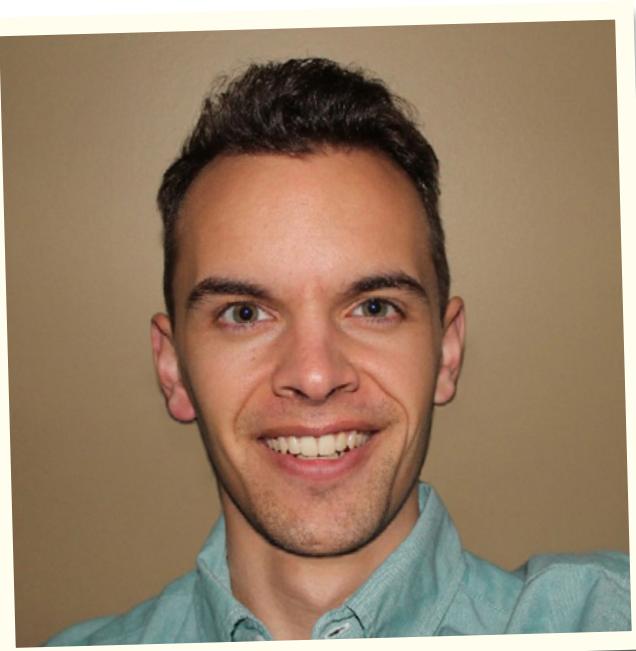
'There's an opportunity with this cohort to learn about their research interests, which are well outside my area of expertise.'

- Nick Mailloux

Mailloux's research is focused on quantifying the air quality health benefits of energy system decarbonization in the United States. He looks at the effect of making shifts from fossil fuel energy sources like coal, oil, and natural gas to cleaner sources, and what that would mean in terms of human lives saved.

His research was inspired from his time working at the Union of Concerned Scientists in Washington, D.C. where he advocated for the advancement of climate and clean energy policies.

**Union of
Concerned Scientists**
Science for a healthy planet and safer world



Nick Mailloux

"I became increasingly aware of the health benefits of climate mitigation and saw them as a powerful motivator for action," Mailloux explained.



Ciaran Gallagher

Planetary scholar Ciaran Gallagher shared her research and involvement. Her focus lies at the crossroads of climate change, air pollution, and environmental justice. Gallagher's policy focused research aims to reveal if transitioning away from dirty sources of energy like coal and oil is providing cleaner air for the people who are most impacted by harmful emissions.

For Gallagher, the planetary health program perfectly melded her interest in the environment and government policy.

"I'm motivated because I really enjoy the outdoors and want to protect the environment, but I also have a people centered version of environmental justice and policy," said Gallagher. "I want to turn away from the conservation focus and key in on how humans are part of the natural world and how we can coexist with other living beings."

"I'm excited to learn from and with the other scholars who have research topics a bit further outside of my intellectual comfort zone."

- Ciaran Gallagher

Mailloux and Gallagher are both excited to work with their cohort and learn more about their peers' research topics.

"There's an opportunity with this cohort to learn about their research interests, which are well outside my area of expertise," said Mailloux. "I'm already learning that our interests and research topics are not as unrelated as I might have thought."

"I'm excited to learn from and with the other scholars who have research topics a bit further outside of my intellectual comfort zone," Gallagher expressed.

Learn more about the [GHI Planetary Scholars Program](#).



Photo credit: Volodymyr Shевчук

Fighting against fast fashion

undergraduate student puts sustainability certificate to work



Katie Hayes

By Anica Graney

From combatting fast fashion to preventing food waste, undergraduate student Katie Hayes has put her sustainability certificate and consumer behavior major to work.

While growing up in Minnesota, Hayes said her elementary school is what first sparked her interest in sustainability and the environment. "We had a garden program and greenhouses, and it was definitely focused on the environment."

Hayes said she chose to go to the University of Wisconsin-Madison because of her family. "My older brother went to the University of Minnesota, so I wanted to go to the rival, I guess," laughed Hayes. "But as soon as I arrived, I fell in love with the campus."

Like many college students, Hayes went into college with many interests and decided what to pursue after taking some classes her freshman year. "I ended up taking a couple environmental classes just as a one-off," said Hayes. "They sounded interesting, so I took some that focused more on social thinking, and I really liked those. I liked how the classes were really relaxed and everyone there was passionate about the environment, and we got to talk about it."

The sustainability certificate is a 12-credit course load that teaches students how to identify, critically analyze, and propose solutions to the environmental, social, and economic dimensions of sustainability.

Hayes also became passionate about entrepreneurship and design strategy, earning certificates in both fields, and now enjoys focusing on a combined interest that incorporates both of her passions. "Since coming to UW-Madison and learning more about the fashion track, it has really sparked my interest in sustainable fashion."

Hayes took her studies into the real world by incorporating what she learned into her hobbies. "In my personal life I really like learning about sustainable brands, the supply chain, and reading articles or watching documentaries about fashion retailers." Hayes also joined Re-wear It Wisconsin, a new club that promotes sustainable fashion on campus, and is the vice-president of the Student Retail Association.

I think it's very manageable and applicable to almost every major, especially with the growing concern for the environment and climate struggle."

- Katie Hayes



Hayes while at the National Retail Federation Foundation Student Program 2020. Photo credit: Katie Hayes

Hayes said she even noticed a more sustainable approach to topics within her consumer behavior, entrepreneur, and design strategy courses. “I know a lot of students in my programs also have that sustainable interest,” said Hayes. “I think a lot of people do at this age, and I think learning about it and holding companies along with themselves responsible is incredibly important.”

Hayes found that one of her favorite classes, People, Land and Food, was also applicable to a position she held at Hy-Vee as a merchandising intern. “It was really interesting because I got to reflect on my internship about limiting food waste and sustainable practices,” said Hayes. “I got to see firsthand how much food waste really comes from a grocery store, so that class was really interesting to learn about that larger issue.”

Along with an internship with Hy-Vee, Hayes also interned with the off-price retailer Ross Dress for Less where she learned more about supply-chain aspect of retail. “[Ross Dress for Less] mostly purchases over-production runs from other places. So, in a sense, it’s a little more sustainable because they are not running production as heavily, they’re just issuing that second life from over-ran clothes.”

Most recently, Hayes began an internship at a financial tech company called Sezzle that engineered the buy-now, pay later shopping tool. As a certified B-Corp that concentrates on social and environmental performance, Hayes said Sezzle “is very focused on the environment and even has a Slack channel dedicated to sustainable news.”

While she works remotely, Hayes mainly assists with behind-the-scenes integration on the merchant side. “I’m constantly in contact with actual retailers, answering questions and making sure they’re getting integrated with Sezzle software,” said Hayes.

Hayes plans on graduating December of 2021 with her undergraduate degrees and three certificates. “I plan to hopefully stick around Madison and continue working some remote-jobs,” said Hayes. “End goal, I’d love move to New York and work at some sustainable fashion

brand. That would be the dream.”

Hayes encourages anyone interested to pursue a sustainability certificate. “I think it’s very manageable and applicable to almost every major, especially with the



Hayes while in New York where she hopes to one day live and work. Photo credit: Katie Hayes

growing concern for the environment and climate struggle,” said Hayes. “I think it’s something that can benefit every single major and I couldn’t recommend it more. All the classes have been fun and all the professors have been really knowledgeable and so nice to work with.”

Learn more about the [sustainability certificate](#) and how you can [support the program](#).

— *Support* — NELSON

Interested in supporting the Nelson Institute? There are many ways to contribute to the Nelson Institute – participating in our events, mentoring our students, providing connections to your personal networks, and making financial gifts. All of these are necessary and important to us and we invite you to invest in our community in the way that makes the most sense to you. [Learn more about all of the great academic programs, research centers, and public programs we offer.](#)

Gifts in any amount are needed and appreciated!

GIVING TUESDAY

November 30



Together we give.

Thanks for helping Nelson **FILL THE HILL!**

We are tickled pink! Thanks to Badgers and friends everywhere, Fill the Hill 2021 was a smashing success. In just a little more than one day, the university received more than 2,230 gifts totaling more than \$436,500 (and a lot of fabulous flamingo selfies! Check them out on social media using #UWFlamingos).

Within the Nelson Institute Community, 17 of our friends contributed \$2,455.90 toward Fill the Hill 2021, including \$2,125.90 to the Environmental Futures Fund.

Thank you for your generous investment in the Nelson Institute— we are enormously grateful!

**FILL
THE —
HILL
2021**

Graduate student trip returns this fall

A decades long tradition for Nelson Institute graduate students returned in early October. Sixteen students from across three of the Institute's graduate programs participated in an orientation field trip to the Aldo Leopold Foundation (ALF) and International Crane Foundation (ICF) in Baraboo, Wis.

Historically the trip served as both a community building experience for new students and an opportunity to introduce attendees to areas of environmental significance and interest around the state. Several previous attendees had never been to Wisconsin!

We extend a special thanks to ALF and ICF staff for hosting the Nelson group with recognition of Nelson alumni Curt Meine, (Land Resources MS '83, PhD '88), Rich Beilfuss (Water Resources Management, MS '90, Land Resources PhD '02, and [2020 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient](#)), Barry Hartup (Land Resources MS '89), and Buddy Huffaker.



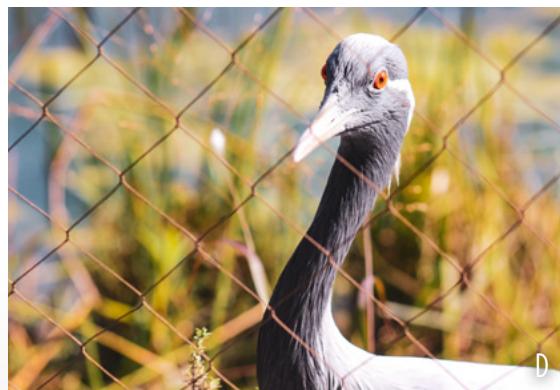
A



B



C



D



E

A) Students on Aldo Leopold hiking trails. Photo credit: Alessandra Rella B) Group in front of the historic Leopold shack. Photo credit: Jim Miller C) Whooping crane at the International Crane Foundation. Photo credit: Ben Becker D) Demoiselle Crane. Photo credit: Ben Becker E) Students studying plant life. Photo credit: Alessandra Rella

Speed networking event accelerates **NELSON CONNECTIONS**



THANK YOU to the 19 Nelson Institute alums that joined the Community Environmental Scholars Program (CESP) students for two evenings of virtual speed networking on Wednesday and Thursday, October 20 and 21! This annual

fall event is an opportunity for students to network with alumni in a fast-paced environment. The event helps students to increase their confidence and connect with alumni who offer advice about next steps in the career planning process.

Thank you to these alums who participated this year:

Josh Clements
Greg Friese
Katrina Gilbank
Glenda Gonzalez
Meghan Kautzer

Kelly Kearns
Hannah Larson
Michael Miller
Betsy Parker
Angela Rivera Rautmann

Hannah Schiesl
Nathan Schulfer
Renata Solan
Mike Strigel
Aszya Summers

Nina Trautmann Chaopricha
Christa Trushinsky
Sarah Unz
Randy Wade

If you are interested in participating next year, email [Emily Reynolds](#), assistant director, alumni relations to sign up!

We invite you to stay connected by updating your contact information by joining [Badger Bridge](#) or making simple updates [here](#).

Fall 2021 **CHE Environmental Colloquia**

The [Center for Culture, History, and Environment](#) (CHE) invites you to attend the Fall 2021 CHE Environmental Colloquia series on Wednesdays from noon-1 p.m. CT. Mark your calendar for these events:



Values, Beliefs, and Identities: What Shapes Attitudes Toward Genetically Modified Crops in Mexico?

A presentation by the CHE research working group “Survey of Attitudes Toward GMOs and Agriculture in Mexico,” which is led by David Greenwood-Sanchez and includes group members Bradford Barham, Claudia Irene Calderon, and Anika Rice

Wednesday, November 17, 2021

[Register Today](#)

On Measurement: Apparatus and Variable in the Ecology of Race- Zakiyyah Iman Jackson

In Jacques Derrida's *Of Spirit*, the late philosopher provocatively asks, “Is a metaphysics of race more or less serious than a naturalism or biologism of race?” Jackson's lecture will offer a meditation on the material consequences of the metaphysics of race for “the body” by asking another question, “Is ‘the body’ metaphysical?” Jackson will argue that it is and provide an analysis of what metaphysics does to materiality, nature, and biology as well as our conceptualization of these terms.

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

[Register Today](#)

Weston Series

The [Weston Roundtable Series](#) is designed to promote a robust understanding of sustainability science, engineering, and policy through weekly lectures co-sponsored by the Center for Sustainability and the Global Environment (SAGE), the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, and the Office of Sustainability. Lectures are held in Room 1153 Mechanical Engineering, 1415 Engineering Dr. Mark your calendar for these events on Thursdays from 4:15-5:15 p.m. CT

Thursday, November 18

Geologic Storage of CO₂ and its Role in Meeting Decarbonization Scenarios
Chris Zahasky, Assistant Professor, Department of Geoscience, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Thursday, December 2

Growing Challenges for U.S. Agriculture
Chris Kucharik, Professor, Department of Agronomy, University of Wisconsin-Madison



Weston Roundtable Series

Thursday, December 9

Effectiveness and Equity of Climate Policies Targeting Natural Gas Systems
Morgan Edwards, Assistant Professor, La Follette School of Public Affairs, University of Wisconsin-Madison

[Past lecture recordings are available for viewing.](#)

CPEP Series

Each semester the [Climate, People, and the Environment Program \(CPEP\)](#) hosts a weekly seminar featuring lectures by visiting speakers as well as presentations by CPEP faculty, scientists, and students. CPEP seminar presentations are held in conjunction with the Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences (AOS) and are open to the public. Lectures are held in Room 811, AOS, 1225 W. Dayton Ave. Mark your calendar for these events on Tuesdays from 4-5 p.m. CT

Tuesday, November 16

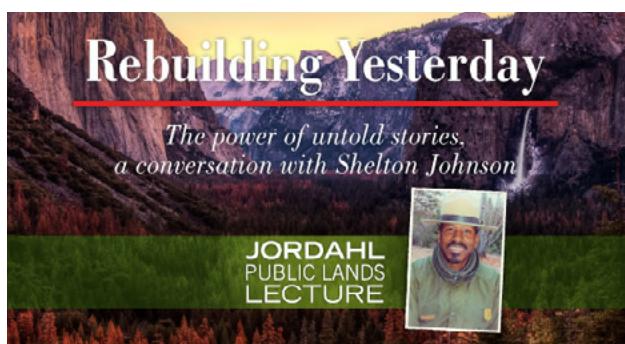
Effects of Heterogeneous Lakeside Development on Ecological Communities in Large, Deep, Oligotrophic Lakes
Michael F Meyer, Research Geographer and Mendenhall Post Doc Fellow at USGS

Tuesday, December 7

Tropical paleoclimate and isotopic reconstructions
Bronwen Konecky, Assistant Professor, Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, Washington University

[Past lecture recordings are available for viewing.](#)

Jordahl Public Lands Lecture **video available**



Thank you to the individuals who joined the Jordahl Public Lands Lecture featuring Yosemite National Park Ranger, Shelton Johnson. The hybrid event drew 40 people in person to the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus and nearly 150 tuned in live virtually to hear Park Ranger Johnson discuss the stories we tell and how those stories are critical to better diversity, equity, and inclusion in our national parks.

Together, Ranger Johnson and James Edward Mills, Moderator and Nelson Institute Community Partnership Liaison, led the audience on an engaging exploration of the ways in which untold stories challenge perceptions of history and how that reconfigures our vision of the present. A video made available after the event has realized over a hundred views and is available [here](#). Learn more about Nelson Institute [signature public events](#) and how you can support future Jordahl Public Lands lectures.



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