

William & Mary



WMGIC

GLOBAL INNOVATION CHALLENGE

Global Innovation Challenge

WMGIC VII Welcome Letter

Dear WMGIC VII Participants,

Welcome to the seventh annual Global Innovation Challenge (WMGIC), a premier international and sustainable development case competition hosted at William & Mary. The initial idea for WMGIC began in 2016 when Sarah Martin '17 and Samyu Jothishankar '17 pitched their proposal to AidData and ITPIR, now known as the Global Research Institute (GRI). Their goal was to establish a space for students to create innovative, sustainable solutions to global issues while challenging traditional methods of international development. Since then, the WMGIC team has remained dedicated to providing undergraduate students with an unparalleled opportunity to practice innovation, network with experts and peers, and develop the skills necessary for a successful career in the international sector.

In this seventh year of WMGIC, we are excited to host our first hybrid event. In doing so, we hope to combine the international scope of our previous virtual competitions with the community-based model championed by WMGIC's founders. This year, our 110 competing undergraduate students represent 21 universities from 7 countries around the world. Of these teams, 9 will be competing on William & Mary's campus while 21 will be competing virtually across the globe. We are delighted to welcome you all to WMGIC VII – please enjoy this unique opportunity to collaborate with industry professionals, compete with other talented students, and reimagine solutions to pressing global challenges!

Lastly, we would like to thank you all for choosing to participate in the WMGIC flagship competition this year. We also want to extend a warm thank you to our core sponsors and supporters on and off campus: the Institute for Integrative Conservation, the William & Mary Whole of Government Center of Excellence, and our wonderful judges and mentors. This competition is only made possible by their gracious support.

Best Regards,
Reese O'Brien
Event Director

Table of Contents

About WMGIC Pg. 1

Information for Teams Pg. 4

Judging Criteria Pg. 12

WMGIC VII Judges & Mentors Pg. 16

WMGIC VII Sponsors Pg. 29



Who We Are:

The William & Mary Global Innovation Challenge (WMGIC) is a student-led organization that hosts premier case competitions. These events champion interdisciplinary collaboration, amplify the voices of the next generation of leaders, and mobilize young adults to tackle global issues. Through creative approaches, student participants develop solutions with real world applicability and impact.

Our Mission:

WMGIC promotes interdisciplinary collaboration and applied learning opportunities among students, policymakers, practitioners, and researchers by bringing innovative and sustainable perspectives to solve complex global issues.



WMGIC VII Participating Universities



WILLIAM & MARY
CHARTERED 1693



**HACETTEPE
ÜNİVERSİTESİ**



The University of
Nottingham



UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO



THE UNIVERSITY
of **EDINBURGH**



Kenyon College



上智大学
SOPHIA UNIVERSITY



WMGIC VII Keynote Speaker

Ann Vaughan



Senior Advisor for Climate Change United States Agency for International Development

Ann Vaughan joined the Biden-Harris Administration in February, 2021 and works in USAID's Bureau for the Resilience and Food Security (RFS) as a Senior Advisor for Climate Change. Ann co-leads the implementation of the President's Emergency Plan for Adaptation and Resilience (PREPARE), a whole of government initiative that aims to support more than half a billion people in developing countries to adapt to and manage the impacts of climate change by 2030. Prior to joining USAID, Ann worked at Mercy Corps, served as a field officer for USAID in Kandahar, Afghanistan, as a Congressional staffer working on foreign aid appropriations and as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Nicaragua. She has her Masters in International Development Studies from George Washington University and has an Undergraduate degree from William and Mary.

Information for Teams

This list contains a summary of the most important links for teams to have access to during the competition. We recommend that you refer to this page first when searching for links.

- Click [here](#) for the **Opening Ceremony** Zoom link
- Click [here](#) for the **WMGIC VII** general schedule
- Click [here](#) for the **Mentoring Schedules**
 - includes Zoom links to access mentoring sessions
- Click [here](#) for the **Judging Schedules**
 - includes Zoom links to access judging sessions
- Click [here](#) for the **Closing Ceremony** Zoom link
 - *Watch Party in ISC 1127 for W&M in-person teams
- Website: <https://www.wmgic.org/>

WMGIC VII COMPETITION

April 7-8, 2023

Note: All times in EDT (GMT-4)

Friday, April 7th

Time	Event	Description	Resources
5:30-6:30 P.M.	Opening Ceremony	<i>Introductions by the WMGIC Staff, address by Keynote Speaker, and competition directions.</i>	Zoom Link HERE
6:30-7:20 P.M.	Case Reading Period	<i>At the conclusion of our opening ceremony, we will release the case via Slack. If your team has any questions, please feel free to attend office hours with our Research Team, who wrote the case.</i>	The Case will be released via Slack and email, and will also be available at wmgic.org .
7:20-10:00 P.M.	Mentoring Session Period	<i>All teams are required to attend Mentoring sessions with industry professionals. Please refer to the mentoring schedule to access your assigned meeting times/locations.</i>	Click HERE for WMGIC VII Mentoring Schedules
8:00-9:00 P.M. 10:00 - 11:00 P.M.	Case Team Office Hours	<i>This is a unique opportunity for teams to approach our research team with any questions regarding this year's case topic.</i>	8:00-9:00 PM: Click HERE 10:00-11:00: Click HERE
11:59 P.M.	Short Project Description Due	<i>All teams must submit a short description of their proposed solution to the case by 11:59 P.M. EST on Friday, April 7th.</i>	Click HERE to submit your Short Project Description

WMGIC VII COMPETITION

April 7-8, 2023

Note: All times in EDT (GMT-4)

Saturday, April 8th

Time	Event	Description	Resources
8:20 - 11:00 A.M.	Mentoring Session Period	<i>All teams are required to attend Mentoring sessions with industry professionals. Please refer to the mentoring schedule to access your assigned meeting times/locations.</i>	Click HERE for WMGIC VII Mentoring Schedules
11:59 A.M.	Team Presentations Due	<i>Slide decks for each team's presentation must be submitted by 11:59 A.M. on Saturday, April 8th.</i>	Click HERE to submit your slide deck
12:00 - 3:00 P.M.	Presentations	<i>Teams will present their solutions to the case to a panel of judges.</i>	Click HERE for WMGIC VII Judging Schedules
4:00 - 5:00 P.M.	Closing Ceremony	<i>Winning teams will be announced during the Closing Ceremony and asked to present a short pitch on their proposal.</i>	Zoom Link HERE *Note: In-person teams are invited to attend the Closing Ceremony Watch Party in ISC 1127.

Rules and Parameters:

- Teams must design a plan of action a) in terms of the existing capacity of the organization you choose to represent, and b) with the goal of project implementation within a calendar year, noting that projects should be maintainable, if not scalable, beyond the first year. Make sure during your presentation to detail the organization's mission, relevance to the question, and available resources. (Note: Business Consulting teams must conform to their answers to their chosen client organization's capabilities.)
- The case will contain background information, but additional preparatory research is permitted and recommended.
- Teams may not enlist the assistance of anyone on the WMGIC team, judging panel, faculty advisors, friends or from any contact whose ideas are not publicly available (i.e. published online), other than their assigned team mentors.
- Teams have from case release (6:20 pm Friday) to deadline (11:59 am Saturday) to work on their project and create all deliverables.

Deliverables:

1. All teams will:
 - a. Submit a **short project description** by 11:59 pm on Friday.
 - b. Submit their **slide decks** by 11:59 am on Saturday.
 - c. Present a 10 minute max PowerPoint **presentation** to the judges, including a bibliography and justification for their choice of challenge Saturday afternoon.
 - d. Participate in a 5 minute Q&A session with the judging panel.
2. Winning teams will:
 - a. Present a 3 minute pitch on their proposed solution to the case topic during the Closing Ceremony.

Click [HERE](#) to view Mentoring Schedules

For W&M **In-Person** Teams and Mentors:

1. Refer to the appropriate stream schedule above (either "In-Person Governance" or "In-Person Social Entrepreneurship")
2. Find your name on the schedule. For participants, your team name will be in the internal cells. For Mentors, your name will appear in the top row.
3. Each Mentor has been assigned an "office" on W&M's campus. The location of this office can be found beneath the Mentor's name. **Student teams are expected to visit the Mentor's office during their assigned mentoring sessions.** To find the start time of a mentoring session, refer to the leftmost column of the schedule.
4. Mentoring sessions last 20 minutes and are mandatory for all participants.

For **Virtual** Teams and Mentors:

1. Refer to the appropriate stream schedule above (either "Virtual Governance," "Virtual Social Entrepreneurship," or "Virtual Business Consulting")
2. Find your name on the schedule. For participants, your team name will be in the internal cells. For Mentors, your name will appear in the top row.
3. Each stream has been assigned a Zoom link, which will be opened and managed by the WMGIC staff. This Zoom link can be found beneath the Mentor's name. **Student teams and mentors are expected to join this Zoom during their assigned mentoring sessions.** To find the start time of a mentoring session, refer to the leftmost column of the schedule.
 - ****Note:** previous correspondences asked virtual teams to send a link to their personal Zooms. Since we did not receive Zoom links from every team in time, please disregard the original instructions and use the link in the above schedule instead.
4. Mentoring sessions last 15 minutes and are mandatory for all participants.

This weekend, you will have the chance to work with 2-3 mentors that are experts in their fields. Mentors are there to enhance your project, give you context into the real world, and utilize their expertise to help you. Being prepared for mentors and effectively utilizing their guidance and knowledge can help turn a good proposal into an exceptional one.

First, please take a look at the names of your mentors. Their positions and biographies are all on our website and in this Program, so take some time to look over this information so that you know their areas of expertise. You have a limited time with mentors, so you do not want to spend more time than necessary having the mentors giving you their background.

On the day of the competition, a few minutes before meeting your mentor, communicate with your teammates to form a list of questions that you may have, things that you are worried about, or how mentors can use their expertise to help you. It can also be helpful to ask mentors about how they can use their expertise to help you. We recommend that you spend no more than 5 minutes summarizing your approach. You should spend the bulk of your time asking questions and getting input on specific areas of your project.

If you are stuck on how to kickstart the conversation, the WMGIC team has come up with a list of potential questions to ask mentors:

- After listening to our idea, are we on the right track?
- We have a few ideas, can you help us narrow down which one we should focus on?
- We are stuck on [x], can you help us brainstorm a solution?
- How can we best tell our story and articulate why our idea is the best?
- What are some holes in our project or things we have not considered?
- Are there any parts of our project that are unrealistic in the real world?

If you believe that your time is better spent talking amongst your teammates internally or working on your deliverables, you can ask the mentor to listen in and have them interrupt when necessary.

Click [HERE](#) to view Judging Schedules

All teams, both in-person and virtual, will be presenting to a panel of judges **over Zoom** from 12-3 PM on Saturday. Links to the relevant Zoom rooms can be found in the Judging Schedule above.

On the first page of the judging doc:

- This page shows judging assignments (i.e., who the judges and WMGIC staff for each stream will be)

On the second page of the judging doc:

- This page shows the judging schedule
- First, find the column with your stream name in the top row. Zoom links are located directly below the stream name.
- Then, find your team name in the internal cells in your stream's column.
- Find the start time of your presentation slot in the leftmost column.
- Five minutes before the beginning of your presentation time slot, click on the appropriate link to join your stream's Zoom.
 - Each team will have ten minutes to present their proposal, immediately followed by five minutes of Q&A with the judges.
 - WMGIC staff will keep time and record the presentation.

Judging Criteria

Sustainability: Does this project have sufficient capabilities to either continue into the future or be ethically phased out? Does the project have performance metrics and evaluation incorporated into its plan? Does the model have the potential for future growth and adaptability?

Environmental Consideration: Does the project consider the environmental sustainability of its implementation and execution? How will the project impact the ecological conditions of the region in both the short and long term?

Fiscal Pragmatism: What is the cost-benefit analysis of the project? Does it responsibly make use of funding? Will projections show its economic viability? Does the project have any return value? How do costs project out beyond the first year?

Local Context: Are solutions consciously designed to understand local contexts? Are there efforts made to promote inclusivity and collaboration with area partners? Will there be accountable oversight of the projects and by whom? Does this project serve an existing local demand? Is there a local appeal?

Creativity: Do solutions show strategic thinking that utilizes local resources in inventive ways? To what extent is the solution differentiated from traditional approaches? What are the unique technologies that drive this approach?

Logistics: Is this a potentially effective solution to address the problem? Does the plan follow the rules and regulations of the competition (i.e., budget, scope, mostly within-stream)? (This can be thought of as a simple eligibility screening with a Yes/No binary)

Judging Rubric (Part 1)

	Excellent (5)	Above Average (4)	Average (3)	Poor (2)	Insufficient (1)
Sustainability	Excellent performance metrics and evaluation strategies. Model is clearly designed to allow for future growth and includes excellent strategies for adaptation.	Above average performance metrics and evaluation strategies. Model is designed to allow for future growth and adaptability, but only briefly considers how changes would be facilitated.	Basic performance metrics and evaluation strategies. Model considers future growth and adaptability at a simple level, but lacks concrete strategies on how to facilitate change.	Mentions some performance metrics and evaluation strategies. Model fails to address future growth and adaptability.	Fails to incorporate any performance metrics and evaluation strategies. Model does not address future growth and adaptability at all.
Environmental Considerations	Project considers the environment sustainability and both its short term and long term ecological effects on the region. It takes clear and effective steps to mitigate negative impacts and leverage its potential to create positive environmental change.	Project considers the environmental sustainability and both its short term and long term ecological effects on the region, but only at a basic level. It takes ineffective steps to mitigate negative impacts and leverage its potential to create positive environmental.	Project considers the environmental sustainability but only in either in short term or long term, but not both. It takes steps to either mitigate damage or promote positive change, but not both.	The project either fails to consider any short term or longer effects <u>or</u> take any steps towards mitigating negative impacts or promoting positive environmental change.	Project does not consider any short term or long term effects <u>nor</u> takes any steps towards mitigating negative impacts or promoting positive environmental change.
Fiscal Pragmatism	Project incorporates an excellent cost-benefit analysis, makes responsible use of funding, includes a budget that shows economic viability, has a high return value and clearly considers cost beyond the first year.	Project incorporates a good cost-benefit analysis, makes mostly responsible use of funding, includes a budget that shows economic value, has an acceptable return value, and considers cost beyond the first year.	Project incorporates a basic cost-benefit analysis but makes irresponsible use of funding and fails to definitively prove its economic viability. Has an uncertain return value. Costs beyond the first year are only vaguely addressed.	Project fails to incorporate a cost-benefit analysis, and only briefly mentions funding or a budget. Project is very unlikely to be economically viable and does not consider costs beyond the first year.	Project does not mention cost-benefit analysis, the budget, or economic viability. Proposal is put forward without any consideration of fiscal pragmatism in both the first year and beyond.

Judging Rubric (Part 2)

	Excellent (5)	Above Average (4)	Average (3)	Poor (2)	Insufficient (1)
Local Context	Project is consciously designed to understand local context, makes excellent efforts to promote inclusivity and collaboration with area partners and aims to service an existing local demand. Project includes an excellent plan for accountable oversight to include local stakeholders.	Project is designed with local contexts in mind, makes above average efforts to promote inclusivity and collaboration with area partners. Project may not serve an existing local demand but still attempts to include local stakeholders	Project acknowledges the importance of local context by including area partners at a basic level. However, local stakeholders have no voice in the project, and proposal fails to adequately promote inclusivity and collaboration to serve an existing local demand. Plans for accountable oversight exclude area partners.	Project briefly mentions local contexts and area partners but no effort is made to promote inclusivity and collaboration with them. Projects plan for accountable oversight is rudimentary.	Project does not consider local contexts at all, ignores the relevance of area partners, does not serve an existing local demand, and makes no effort to promote inclusivity and collaboration with local stakeholders. There is no plan for accountable oversight of the project.
Creativity	Project uses strategic thinking to utilize local resources in new and inventive ways. Solution is very different from traditional approaches and is driven by unique technologies and strategies.	Project is creative and is clearly different from traditional approaches. It utilizes local resources in inventive ways and uses unique technologies or strategies.	Project is somewhat creative, but mirrors proposals put forward by others. It utilizes local resources in ways that are strategic but not inventive. Solution includes new technologies or strategies, but does not stray from traditional uses.	Project very similar to traditional approaches. It may attempt to utilize local resources, but does so ineffectively and unimaginatively. Feeble attempts are made to include new technologies or strategies.	Project is not creative and virtually identical to traditional approaches. No unique strategies or technologies drive the project, and it fails to utilize local resources strategically.
Logistics	Proposed solution is an effective way to address the problem. The proposal follows the rules and regulations of the competition.				Proposed solution is an ineffective way to address the problem OR fails to follow the rules and regulations of the competition.

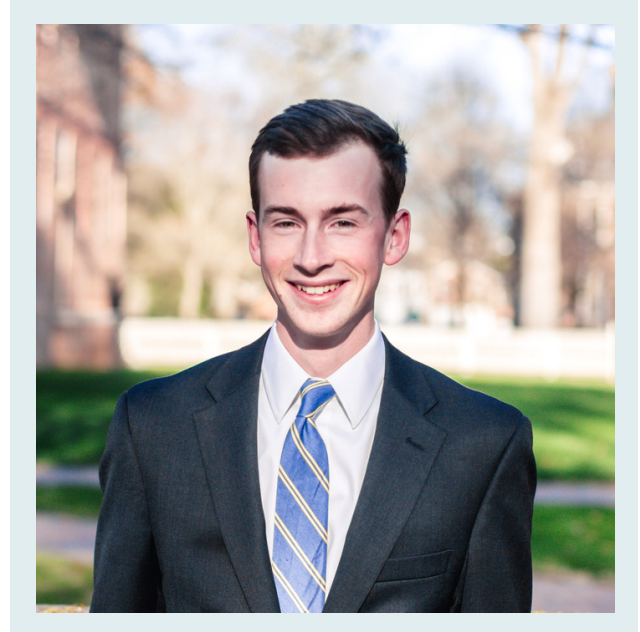
WMGIC VII Judges & Mentors

Anne Jackson
Noblis



Anne is a Sustainability and Building Performance Strategist in the Defense Mission Area at Noblis. She develops sustainability policy and leads strategic planning projects for the U.S. Department of Defense. She also develops new content supporting sustainable design and acquisition for the U.S. General Services Administration's Sustainable Facilities Tool. Before joining Noblis, Anne was Director of Sustainability and International Affairs at the American Public Works Association (APWA) where she focused on advocating for public works priorities to the federal governments in the U.S. and Canada, educating APWA members on the importance of federal government policies and programs, and integrating sustainability and resilience principles into APWA's public policy priorities. As Sustainability Officer for the Maryland Department of General Services, Anne implemented and managed the Department's Sustainability Program and reported on continuous performance improvement to StateStat, Governor Martin O'Malley's state government management accountability and efficiency program. As a Senior Associate for Perkins+Will, Anne managed design, architecture, and planning+strategies projects in the Corporate, Retail, and Higher Education Market Sectors, as well as the LEED certification of 14 construction and renovation projects.

Henry Crossman
Department of Defense



Henry Crossman graduated from William & Mary in 2019 with a B.A. in International Relations, where he was a student researcher for multiple projects at the Global Research Institute. He is currently pursuing an M.A. in Security Studies at Georgetown University with a concentration in terrorism and sub-state violence. He lives and works in the Washington, DC, area as a federal employee working on data analysis.

John Linantud

University of Houston-Downtown



John Linantud began teaching at the University of Houston-Downtown in 2002. His degrees include a B.A. from Catholic University in Washington, D.C. (1989), M.A. from George Washington University (1992) and a Ph.D. from Arizona State in Tempe, Arizona (2000). Linantud currently teaches: Federal Government; Texas Government; Introduction to World Politics; East and Southeast Asia; Developing World; Europe, Russia, and the United States; The Americas; Political Science Capstone; and Special Projects. Linantud has published academic articles in Contemporary Southeast Asia, Geopolitics, International Journal of Heritage Studies, International Social Science Review, and Journal of Political Science Education.

Catie Lott

United States Agency for International Development



Catie Lott began her professional career as a journalist, working for a variety of publications. Her primary areas of reporting were human interest stories, travel, and politics across the Horn of Africa. Dr. Lott's work as a journalist in Somalia led to her embarking on a second career in international development. After working as a consultant and professional with a range of non-governmental organizations, she joined the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) as a democracy and governance specialist. Dr. Lott has worked on development projects across the globe, from Africa to Latin America to Asia. As a senior manager for the Agency, Dr. Lott has served as deputy Mission Director in Tanzania and most recently as the USAID/Malawi Mission Director. Dr. Lott has recently returned to Washington, D.C., as the newly appointed USAID Innovation Director. In this position she oversees the Agency's cutting-edge innovation work, including prizes, challenges, and open innovation fund. She holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of California, Santa Barbara; Master of Arts from Syracuse University, New York; and Doctor of Philosophy from Maastricht University, Netherlands.

Azalia Valdés

International Youth Foundation



Azalia Divanhy Valdés Rodríguez is 26 years old and from Torreón, Coahuila which is in the north part of Mexico. Currently, she lives in Mexico City working as a program assistant for the Google team (conectadas and conectadas southeast) at IYF'S Mexico Country Office. Azalia holds a degree in International Affairs from the University of Guadalajara and has participated in the Interinstitutional Program for Strengthening of Research and Postgraduate Studies of the Pacific with the Autonomous University of Nuevo Leon and the University of Guanajuato. From a young age, she has been interested in youth agency and social entrepreneurship as well as programs focused on climate action and gender equality. Additionally, Azalia was a co-founder and collaborator of a youth and gender-focused initiative called “La Ola Púrpura” where the goal was to promote female artists and creators through digital and physical platforms. Azalia strongly believes in the potential of young people to lead social change and is committed to working towards a more sustainable and inclusive world.

August Wagner

NCBA CLUSA



August Wagner is an international program associate at NCBA CLUSA, a small to medium sized international development contractor that focuses primarily on U.S. government programs. He splits his time working in new business development and program management, which offers a pretty holistic view of their work on a day-to-day basis. Additionally, he is a former WMGIC winner and team member.

Elizabeth Miller DHInfrastructure



Liz Miller graduated from William & Mary in 2021 with a BA in International Relations and History. She is currently a senior analyst at DHInfrastructure where she works on projects in the energy and water sectors.

Riley Greenwood CHOICE Humanitarian



Riley joined the CHOICE Humanitarian team in August 2017. As Director of Social Innovation, his role focuses on identifying and implementing innovative solutions to the complex challenges of extreme poverty, spanning various sectors including economic development, agriculture, and energy. He graduated from the University of Utah with a Master of Statistics (Econometrics), an Honors BS in Economics, and a BA in International Studies. Riley is well-traveled, speaks Spanish fluently, and has spent significant time living throughout Latin America.

His time spent abroad opened his eyes and fueled his desire to do more to improve the lives of people across the globe.

He is a passionate believer in the CHOICE approach to international development and has dedicated his life to making as many sustainable impacts on others as possible. Riley is proud and grateful to be in a position to help fulfill CHOICE's mission to "support the efforts of people around the world to end extreme poverty and build self-reliant, resilient communities."

Riley is an avid NBA fan (go Jazz!) and spends his spare time with his wife Erin playing video games, watching movies, and enjoying music.

Sarah Jonson International Youth Foundation



As IYF's Technical Advisor for Youth Agency and Engagement, Sarah is responsible for providing strategic leadership for the organization and supporting existing projects and business development efforts in the areas of youth agency, leadership, civic education, and meaningful youth engagement. She is also charged with ensuring IYF designs and implements holistic, positive youth development programming that is socially inclusive and promotes greater equity for communities experiencing marginalization or disenfranchisement. A tall order, she translates and internalizes this role as having the honor and serious duty of holding IYF accountable for implementing programming by, for, and with young people. Sarah joined IYF in 2017 as a Program Coordinator, bringing her experience and passion for youth workforce development, technical and vocational education and training (TVET), and gender mainstreaming. She has since worked closely with teams and projects in Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Tanzania, and Mozambique. Sarah earned a Bachelor of Arts in business from William and Mary in 2011 and a Master of Arts in public and international affairs from Virginia Tech in 2016.

Yulia Buynova
Enel North America



Yulia Buynova graduated from Johns Hopkins University Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) with an M.A. concentrating in Energy, Resources, and Environment and International Economics. She currently serves as a Senior Innovation Analyst for Enel North America. Yulia served as a Graduate Intern for Opower Regulatory Affairs Team (Oracle Utilities) focusing on behavioral energy efficiency. Yulia has previously worked as a Technical Writer and Energy Analyst for the World Bank focusing on energy and infrastructure sector. She is also an Editor for SAIS Perspectives, an online student-run publication focusing on international development, climate, and sustainability. Yulia holds a B.A. in International Relations from William & Mary.

Vakur Sumer
Selcuk University



Assoc. Prof. Vakur Sumer has received his Ph.D. on International Relations, from Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey. He is a faculty member at the Department of International Relations, Selcuk University, Konya, Turkey. He has worked as a post-doctoral fellow at the Global Research Institute at University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, NC, USA, and as a visiting scholar at the Department of Environmental Science and Policy, University of California-Davis, CA, USA. Sumer was a researcher at Max Planck Institute in Heidelberg, Germany in 2012. He directed the Eurasian Research Institute (eurasian-research.org) between 2017 and 2022.

Nathan Colvin William & Mary



Lieutenant Colonel Nathan Colvin is an incoming Research Fellow in Public Policy at the College of William and Mary. He is Leonard P. Gollobin PhD Scholar in International Studies at Old Dominion University, focused on Eastern and Central Europe. As a Strategic Plans and Policy officer, he helped develop governance for the Army People Strategy. He also served as the Chief of Experimentation and Wargaming for the Army's Futures and Concepts Center. He has designed, planned, and executed projects across North America, Europe, and Asia. He holds an undergraduate degree in Geography: Environmental Science.

David Luchsinger National Park Service



Mr. Luchsinger served 37 years with the National Park Service, beginning at Fire Island National Seashore in New York as a seasonal laborer. He has held several positions in the Service, including Maintenance Mechanic, Concessions Analyst, Chief of Administration, Business Manager, several Deputy Superintendencies and Acting Superintendencies, and Superintendent of Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve and New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park. His last position was as Superintendent of the Statue of Liberty National Monument and Ellis Island. Known as the Park Service's "Disaster Guy," Luchsinger has been involved in recovery efforts after many catastrophic events including Flight 800 crash, the September 11, 2001 attack on the World Trade Center, and countless storms including hurricane Gloria, the Halloween Storm of 1991 (the Perfect Storm), Hurricane Katrina, and Superstorm Sandy. He oversaw over 100 million dollars in restoration projects during his tenure, and is the recipient of many National Park Service and private sector awards and honors, including the Ellis Island Medal of Honor.

Sarah Stafford William & Mary



Dr. Stafford is the Chair of the Economics Department and a Professor of Economics, Public Policy and Law at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia. Dr. Stafford earned a B.S. in Foreign Service from Georgetown University and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Economics from Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Stafford is the author of numerous peer-reviewed publications in economics, public policy and interdisciplinary journals as well as a number of articles in law reviews. She has received grants from a number of organizations including the Environmental Protection Agency's Science to Achieve Results Program, the National Science Foundation, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Resources for the Future. Her current research focuses on examining the impacts of sea level rise on individuals, local communities, and government and helping those entities prepare for and adapt to their changing environment.

Nicole Hutton Old Dominion University



Nicole Hutton, Ph.D. is the Assistant Director of Engagement for Old Dominion University's Institute for Coastal Adaptation and Resilience and an Associate Professor of Geography in the Department of Political Science and Geography. Her research explores human-environment interactions across hazard types and emergency management stages. Shriners Hospital for Children had a transformational impact on her early life that resonates in her research with nonprofits and vulnerable populations in hazardous settings. She uses iterative participatory mapping processes to engage stakeholders in community resilience building and risk reduction prioritization activities.

Samantha Chen

United States Agency for International Development



Samantha Chen is a Program Analyst in the Technology Division at United States Agency for International Development (USAID). As part of the Digital Strategy team, she focuses on implementation of USAID's Digital Strategy throughout the Agency, and works on providing support to Missions and Bureaus on understanding digital ecosystems and how to integrate digital into their programming. Prior to USAID, she worked in nonprofits and NGOs in the humanitarian field. She holds a Masters in Law and Diplomacy from The Fletcher School at Tufts University, and a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies and Japanese Studies from Emory University.

Don Larson

International Institute for
Development and Environmental Studies



Donald F. Larson is an independent researcher and founder of the International Institute for Development and Environmental Studies. Don also holds a courtesy faculty position at William and Mary's Global Research Institute. He earned his Ph.D. in agricultural and resource economics from the University of Maryland, and also holds degrees in economics from Virginia Tech and the College of William and Mary. Don's research focuses on rural development, natural resource management, food security, carbon markets, and trade. With colleagues he has authored or edited six books, and has published in a diverse range of scholarly journals, including the Journal of Development Economics. He has worked with governments on policy issues in Africa, Asia, Europe, the Caribbean, Latin America, and the South Pacific. Don was also part of a World Bank team that launched the first climate-finance fund, the Prototype Carbon Fund, in 1999.

Meredith Perry

United States Agency for International Development



Meredith Perry is a Senior Advisor for Open Innovation Competitions in USAID's Innovation, Technology and Research Hub. She identifies, formulates, and spearheads open innovation tools to source creative approaches to reducing global poverty and improving human well-being. Meredith has degrees from Claremont McKenna College and the University of California, Berkeley.

Ronnie James K Murungu International Youth Foundation



Ronnie serves as the esteemed Regional Director for Africa and the Middle East at IYF, bringing with him an impressive background in international development and humanitarian leadership. His experience spans over 25 years and encompasses work across Africa and the Middle East, showcasing his versatility and dedication to multi-sectoral social development. Throughout his career, he has been driven by a passion for empowering young people and championing their rights. In addition to his practical experience, he is a respected researcher and published author on various development themes. Ronnie values the power of networking and enjoys connecting with like-minded professionals. Please feel free to reach out to him primarily through LinkedIn to foster meaningful collaborations and discussions.

Thomas Smith
Garden of Eden



Tom Smith has spent his career in international development and diplomatic relations. He is currently working for the Garden of Eden Waste Water garden in Iraq. He has previously worked for Veterinarians International in Sri Lanka and served as the Vice President of the Binns of Williamsburg. He additionally served as Product Distribution and Value Perception Advisor, Japan Ministry of Economics and is a Worldwide Product Buyer and sourcing.

Roger Ford
Accenture



Roger Ford is managing director and global lead for Accenture Development Partnerships (ADP), an impact-centric consultancy within Accenture dedicated to helping international development organizations address the world's social, economic, and environmental challenges. He leads a global team of strategy, consulting, and technology professionals to deliver impact at scale - leveraging the innovation, technology, power, and scale of Accenture's ecosystem to build and strengthen institutional capacity, digitally empower development programs, and deliver sustainable outcomes through partnerships at the nexus of civil society, the private sector, and government. Under his leadership, ADP expanded across the globe, delivering over 1,700 programs for 100+ international development organizations in 90 countries. Previously to this, he served as managing director in Accenture's Global Energy Practice.

WMGIC VII Sponsors

WMGIC VII Sponsors



Gold Sponsor



WILLIAM & MARY
INSTITUTE FOR
INTEGRATIVE CONSERVATION

Bronze Sponsors



WILLIAM & MARY
STUDENT LEADERSHIP
DEVELOPMENT



WILLIAM & MARY
CAREER DEVELOPMENT &
PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT



INSTITUTE FOR INTEGRATIVE CONSERVATION

Cultivating an inclusive community of creative conservation leaders

The Institute for Integrative Conservation (IIC) leverages expertise from across disciplines, bridges knowledge systems, and collaborates with conservation partners and communities to develop integrative solutions to pressing conservation challenges.

We provide a multifaceted conservation education to W&M students, and we engage students in applied conservation research. This builds capacity of our conservation partners to achieve conservation outcomes, and nurtures W&M students to become the next generation of conservation leaders.

Scan the QR code below to join our mailing list and keep informed about program opportunities, new courses, events, and IIC news.



Conservation Education

We offer several avenues for Integrative Conservation study, including a major, a minor and select courses through which students explore conservation science, geospatial technologies, cultural perspectives, methods, and more.



Conservation Research

Our Conservation Research Program offers opportunities for students to work directly with conservation partners on conservation projects around the world.



Career Readiness

We connect students to a network of conservation practitioners, and help students build essential skills for conservation careers, including research design, public speaking, collaboration, and leadership.



Community

Be part of a diverse group of students, faculty, staff, and conservation partners working on biodiversity conservation. Join us at conservation speaking events, film screenings, and social events.



Connect with us

www.wm.edu/conservation



Contact Us

Global Innovation Challenge
Org #72 P.O. Box 8793
Williamsburg, VA 23187

www.wmgic.org



wmgic@wm.edu



[@wmgic](#)



Support WMGIC (Index 5074)

<https://bit.ly/SUPPORTWMGIC>

GLOBAL INNOVATION CHALLENGE
WMGIC VII PROGRAM