

Sustainability Related or Focused Research 2015
American University

As self reported by faculty through a survey. For more information contact Hannah Debelius (debelius@american.edu)

College	Academic Department	Faculty Name	Topic/Title	Description
College of Arts and Sciences	Anthropology	Anne Claus	Conservation in Japab	I research environmental conservation in Japan and community-supported fisheries (CSFs) and seafood buying clubs that have an environmental sustainability component to them.
College of Arts and Sciences	Anthropology	David Vine	US Military and Sustainability	The political, social, cultural, economic, environmental, budgetary, and other impacts of US military bases overseas.
College of Arts and Sciences	Biology	Catherine Shaeff	Marine Biology	Analyses of population health, primarily in a marine environment
College of Arts and Sciences	Chemistry	Douglas Fox	Green Products	measuring physical, chemical, and thermal properties of alternative (or "green") solutions and polymer nanocomposites using natural product additives. My current project uses carbohydrates and lignocellulosic materials, such as cellulose nanocrystals and chitosan, in polymer nanocomposites to improve mechanical properties and/or reduce flammability.
College of Arts and Sciences	Chemistry	Monika Konaklieva	Microbial Resistance	exploring different approaches for delaying of microbial resistance. Current projects include computer-aided design and synthesis of novel beta-lactams as well as development of synthetic methodology for preparation of other "non-conventional" candidates as beta-lactamase and Human Leukocyte Elastase inhibitors.
College of Arts and Sciences	Economics	Boris Gershman	Economics	Economics and Sustainability
College of Arts and Sciences	Economics	Jon Wisman	Economic Issues and Sustainability	I have published a couple of article in professional journals that address economic issues and sustainability. Sustainability has also entered the positions I've set forth in blog posts for HuffingtonPost.
College of Arts and Sciences	Economics	Mahmud Yesuf	Food security	climate change adaptation and food security in low income countries
College of Arts and Sciences	Economics	Maria Sagrario Floro	Development and the Environment	Envisioning the Economy for Future Generations (for Stanford University Press) - book proposal stage. Gender, Globalization and Development: Economics as if all people mattered. (published book)., Environmental Degradation and Care Economy (book chapter, in preparation).
College of Arts and Sciences	Education, Teaching & Health*	Amelia Tseng	Sociolinguistics	Sociolinguistics of multilingualism and immigration: language diversity and minority language maintenance/loss in contexts of migration and mobility; linguistic discrimination and social equity.
College of Arts and Sciences	Education, Teaching &	Robert Karch	health	public health and the environment
College of Arts and Sciences	Education, Teaching & Health*	Sarah Irvine Belson	Education and Equity	educational opportunity for children with disabilities and teacher education policy. Her focus on applied interventions for children at risk attends to two major areas of research, namely special education technology and teacher education policy and practice
College of Arts and Sciences	Environmental Science	Albert Cheh	Liquid Amonia Pretreatment of Biomass	For biomass to be processed into cellulosic ethanol it must be broken apart into expose cellulose, which is then broken apart by enzymes to yield glucose that is converted to ethanol by yeast. We are developing a biomass treatment process with liquid ammonia that expedites the exposure of cellulose and converts it into a form that is much more easily broken into glucose. Carbon dioxide is recycled from the atmosphere by plants used to make biofuel
College of Arts and Sciences	Environmental Science	Kiho Kim	Ecology	understanding the role of diseases in marine ecosystems and the synergistic effects of environmental factors, such as nutrient pollution and climate change, in the degradation of coral reefs
College of Arts and Sciences	Environmental Science	Stephen McAvoy	Pollution	Pollution Mitigation: Research involves the effectiveness of green roofs/surfaces for reducing pollution in runoff.
College of Arts and Sciences	Mathematics and Statistics	Jay Simon	Energy/GIS	A Value-Focused Approach to Energy Transformation in the United States Department of Defense, The Fuel Multiplier in Multi-Stage Supply Chains, Complexity and Self-Sustainment in Disaster Response Supply Chains
College of Arts and Sciences	Mathematics and Statistics	Stephen Casey	Energy Efficiency	One of the key features in my signal processing algorithms is energy efficiency. I have developed several algorithms that address several signal and image processing problems and provide solutions that are: 1.) mathematically correct, and 2.) computationally and therefore more enegy efficient than the competing solutions. This energy efficiency is one of key points of the research.
College of Arts and Sciences	Philosophy and Religion	Evan Barry	Religion and the Environment	My research examines the intersection of religion and the environment, investigating the role played by religious traditions in shaping the way that modern societies conceptualize and respond to environmental issues, and charting the ways that religious organizations engage politically around climate change and other sustainability issues.
College of Arts and Sciences	Psychology	Brian Yates	Psychology	Sustainability of the Treatment Program Operations
College of Arts and Sciences	Women, Gender & Sexuality Studies	Cara Okapny	Women and the Media	explore sustainability issues in media targeting women. (environmental humanities/feminist eco-criticism)
College of Arts and Sciences	Women, Gender & Sexuality Studies	Siobhan McGuirk	US Asylum	My research is focused on the US asylum system. The aim of my research is to improve the situation faced by asylum seekers in the US, who are often forced into poverty and face myriad injustices (including incarceration, lack of access to legal advice or representation, prevention from accessing healthcare services etc.) This research is designed to contribute towards efforts to create a more just and equitable society for all people living in the United States.
College of Arts and Sciences	World Languages & Culture	Consuelo Hernandez	Latin America	My research on Latin American Cultural Studies relates to key principles of sustainability such as social equity, and addresses a sustainability challenge such as poverty, and political exclusion. My research leads toward creating consciousness to create equity and inclusion.
College of Arts and Sciences	World Languages &	Xiaoli Zhang	China	The Internet Language in Chinese
Kogod School of Business	Business Administration	David Bartlett	Global Econ	Global economic governance in the post-Great Recession period, including global initiatives related to sustainability
Kogod School of Business	Business Administration	Gwanhoo Lee	Tech and Sustainability	Smart and connected businesses: IoT (Internet of Things) driven business transformation - A part of my research is to address how IoT can reduce waste and increase energy efficiency through smart and connected devices.
Kogod School of Business	Business Administration	Richard Linowes	Leadership	Leadership for Sustainability
Kogod School of Business	Business Administration and Languages/Culture	Ayman Omar	Global Supply	my research streams focuses on implementing sustainable initiatives in global supply chains. I recently published a paper on this from and am currently working with researchers across the US and Europe on a follow up paper looking at a wider set of global supply chains. Attached is my most recent publication in the Journal of Supply Chain Management.
Kogod School of Business	Business Administration and Languages/Culture	Ghiyath Nakshbendi	Water and Development	Assessment of water providers' financial models in the GCC countries

				Our study examines the real effects of financial analysts by focusing on corporate social performance. We find that analyst coverage is positively associated with CSP. Using exogenous shocks to analyst coverage caused by brokerage house mergers, we further find a positive causal effect of analyst coverage on CSP. Our cross-sectional variation tests find that the enhancing effect of analysts on CSP is more pronounced in firms with lower visibility. In addition, our tests do not support the notion that analysts increase CSP by mitigating managerial agency problems or by reducing information asymmetries. In summary, unlike prior studies that focus on the information channel through which financial analysts affect corporate investments related to shareholder interests only, our study analyzes corporate policies related to a broad range of interests and find that higher analyst coverage enhances CSP by increasing the visibility of such activities.
Kogod School of Business	Finance & Accounting	Yijiang Zhao	Analyst Coverage and Corporate Social Performance	
Kogod School of Business	Marketing	Cristel Russel	Green Products	green products and in the domain of secondary market (used goods)
Kogod School of Business	Marketing	Sonya Grier	Marketing	interdisciplinary research on topics related to target marketing, race in the marketplace, the social impact of commercial marketing, and social marketing
Kogod School of Business	Sustainability Management	Chris O'brien	Renewable Energy	Renewable energy in higher education. I am currently working on a study and report with the U of New Hampshire Sustainability Institute to evaluate the uptake of renewables in higher ed and to identify the opportunities for how higher ed can adopt more renewables sooner
Kogod School of Business	Sustainability Management	Dominick Issi	management	sustainability management
Kogod School of Business	Sustainability Management	Maria Figueroa-Armijos	Economics and the Environment	regional economic policy, regional innovation, environmental entrepreneurship, entrepreneurial finance, crowdfunding, and the rural economy
Kogod School of Business	Sustainability Management	Mark Starik	Sustainability Research	Synthesizing Environmental and socio-economic sustainability models: a multi-level approach for advancing integrated sustainability research and practice
School of Communication	Communication Studies	Emma Puglisi	Public Relations	Public relations, the environment, and non profits
School of Communication	Communication Studies	Sarah Menke-Fish	Monarch Butterflies	The work that I do regarding the Monarch Butterfly Habitats and the Migration Pattern of the Monarch Butterfly to Mexico includes sustainability as defined below
School of Communication	Film and Media Arts	Bill Gentile	Environmental Film	projects including cleaning up the Potomac River and food re-cycling. In the Nicaragua Honors course, students studied the environmental impact of the planned transoceanic canal
School of Communication	Film and Media Arts	Larry Engel	Agriculture	Water and agricultural issues related to the DC region; environmental issues in the region and Latin America.
School of Communication	Film and Media Arts	Leena Jayaswal	Climate Change	I am currently working with artist/filmmaker Monica Bose to create a feature documentary, "Storytelling with Saris: Rising Up to Climate Change." The documentary will focus on how art and activism meet in Katakhal, Bangladesh.
School of Communication	Film and Media Arts	Patricia Aufderheide	Social Issues	copyright/fair use, social issue documentary, public media and public engagement
School of Communication	Interdisciplinary Studies	Benjamin Stokes	media	sustainability and media/game design
School of Communication	Journalism	Charles Lewis	Journalism	environmental and science issues in Journalism
School of Communication	Public Communication	Wendy Melillo	Advertising	I wrote a book about public service advertising campaigns. On campaign focused on how to address the environmental problems of pollution and littering. Another campaign seeks to prevent forest fires. I use these campaigns as case studies in my course work.
School of Communication	Visual Media	Baylen Linnekin	Sustainable Food	Biting the Hands that Feed Us, centers on sustainability and food
School of Communication	Visual Media	David Ramos	Geojournalism	Geojournalism tools: Creating tools and web publishing systems that help journalists and environmental advocates bring together local stories and spatial data. Interpreting landscape change: Combining maps, publications, and in-person experiences in order to broaden public knowledge of landscape change and urban planning issues, focusing on hydrology and historical geography in Washington, D.C.
School of International Service	Comparative & Regional Studies	Pekkoon Heng	Climate Change in SE Asia	Climate change, environmental degradation and human insecurity in Southeast Asia
School of International Service	Comparative & Regional Studies	Ruslan Garipov	Indigenous rights	My research is about indigenous peoples' rights: international legal issues and comparison of these rights in the US and Russia. I focus on self-determination rights, land rights and cooperation between extractive industries and indigenous people.
School of International Service	Comparative & Regional Studies	Supriya Karudapuram	China and India	Cooperative communication between China and India: The overpowering emphasis on economic cooperation to the neglect of environmental cooperation is a glaring limitation of contemporary discourses about cooperation between the 2 countries.
School of International Service	Ethics, Peace, and Global Affairs	Jonathan Fox	Institutional sustainability	citizen participation, transparency and accountability, with a focus on institutional change and how social and environmental institutions work
School of International Service	Ethics, Peace, and Global Affairs	Philip Gamaghelyan	Human Rights	Human right and development
School of International Service	Global Environmental Politics	Claire Brunel	Environmental Politics	links between environmental policies and international competitiveness.
School of International Service	Global Environmental Politics	Garrett Graddy-Lovelace	Agriculture	Sustainable agriculture, agroecology, social justice, agrarian politics, land use policy
School of International Service	Global Environmental Politics	Judith Shapiro	China	China's environmental challenges
School of International Service	Global Environmental Politics	Ken Conca	Human Rights	Environmental reform at the United Nations ,Human right to a safe and healthy environment , Climate change, water policy and disaster risk , Environmental challenges in war-torn societies
School of International Service	Global Environmental Politics	Paul Wapner	Climate Change	Reimagining Climate Change (Routledge 2016). - how societies can live through this historical moment of environmental intensification in ways that enhance human dignity, compassion, and justice, and come to respect and nurture the more-than-human world
School of International Service	Global Environmental Politics	Scott Freeman	International Aid and Conservation	bureaucracies of international aid projects, and how bureaucratic and financial procedures in international development undermine conservation interventions
School of International Service	Global Environmental Politics	Sikinah Jinnah	Global Environmental Politics	global environmental politics and institutions, trade environment politics,
School of International Service	Global Environmental Politics	Simon Nicholson	Global Policy	Global environmental governance; politics of climate engineering
School of International Service	Interdisciplinary Studies	Eve Bratman	Development	Sustainable development politics and environmental governance. Her major projects focus on the links between environmental policy, infrastructure, agriculture, and human rights in the Brazilian Amazon.
School of International Service	International Communication	Ali Erol	Queer Theory	Queer Ethos and Sustainable Undoings: Queer Space, Time, and Affect in #occupygezi and Beyond. My work is concerned with understanding queer performances, counterpublics, and spaces not by themselves, but in their totality and interdependence. This interdependence, which I call <i>queer ethos</i> captures not only the spatial, temporal, and affectual dimensions of queer existence in the here and the now, but also sketches the ways in which queers imagine a future space with different structure of feeling. Queer existences in the here and now are embedded in heteronormative times, spaces, and structures of feeling—and my work does not overlook this fact and treat queer existences in a vacuum.

School of International Service	International Development	Andrew Berg	Inequality and Growth	determinants of inequality across countries and time and the relationship between income distribution and the sustainability of economic growth.
School of International Service	International Development	Emma Fawcett	Tourism	tourism and sustainable development in the Caribbean, exploring how tourism destinations impact local communities along social, environmental and economic dimensions.
School of International Service	International Development	Lauren Carruth	Global Health	Global Health
School of International Service	International Development	Malini Ranganathan	Wetlands	Environmental justice and Urban Wetland Development: this project focuses on the sustainability and political contestations surrounding wetland development
School of International Service	International Development	Marion Dixon	Agriculture	"The making of the corporate agri-food system in Egypt" -- a book manuscript on the growth of an agri-food industry and its social and ecological impacts in Egypt
School of International Service	International Development	Robin Broad	Mining	Responsible Mining Policy, Globalization and Development RESPONSIBLE MINING POLICY, GLOBALIZATION & DEVELOPMENT
School of International Service	International Development	Sarah Cleeland Knight	Globalization	international political economy. She is interested in identifying the winners and losers from globalization and tracking how those groups influence foreign economic policy (trade, exchange rates, and sanctions).
School of International Service	International Development	Vidyamali Samarasinghe	Gender and Globalization	gender in developing countries, with a particular emphasis on South Asia and South East Asia. In her publications she has focused on different aspects of female sex trafficking, women's work in tea plantations, impact of globalization on women's work, impact of conflict on women, women and politics and feminist methodology
School of International Service	International Peace & Conflict Resolution	Hrach Gregorian	Peacebuilding	Local empowerment in peacebuilding (what is often referred to in the field as "hybridity").
School of International Service	International Peace & Conflict Resolution	Tobias Greif	Global Sustainability	Intercultural understanding and the middle east - sustainability
School of International Service	International Politics & International Economic Relations	Daniel Esser	Politics and Resilience	Recent critical scholarship on resilience from the vantage point of political ecology has reintroduced the politics of agency as a potentially decisive variable in the context of collective mitigation and adaptation. However, unlike such types of agency in the aftermath of natural disasters or in response to more gradual environmental changes, the substance and determinants of resilience amid organized violence have remained understudied phenomena. Empirical findings compiled by this project thus far demonstrate that collective agency is possible even under the most adverse circumstances, but that resilience amid extreme violence is also quintessentially the practice of micro-politics.
School of International Service	International Politics & International Economic Relations	Jeefery Weilgus	Environmental Economics	Environmental Economics
School of International Service	International Service	Miles Kahler	Global Politics	international politics and international political economy, including international monetary cooperation, global governance, and regional institutions.
School of International Service	Social Enterprise	Daniel Gerstein	Tech and Health	Tech and National Security: Technology policy and social implications, proliferation issues and arms control, national and homeland security, export controls and research and development policy, Bioterror: Public health, national and homeland security, ecological challenges
School of Professional and Extended Studies	Global Environmental Politics	Heather Heckel	Conservation	Strategies for achieving successful environmental conservation.
School of Professional and Extended Studies	Global Environmental Politics	Susan Erenrich	Social Change	Sustainability and social change
School of Public Affairs	Government	Daniel Fiorino	Environmental Policy	Conceptual Innovations in Environmental Policy, The Political Economy of Green Growth, A Pilot State Eco-Efficiency Index
School of Public Affairs	Government	Diane Singerman	Inequality	research on spatial inequality and public service provision in the Greater Cairo Region which examines public service provision, poverty, and urban development.
School of Public Affairs	Government	Erdal Tekin	Pollution and Health	(i) The Impact of Natural Gas Infrastructure on Air Pollution and Infant Mortality (ii) Might Not Be a Tomorrow: Anticipated Early Death and Youth Crime (iii) Understanding the Cycle: Childhood Maltreatment and Future Crime (iv) The Value of Socialized Medicine: The Impact of Universal Primary Healthcare Provision on Birth and Mortality Rates in Turkey (v) Child Care Subsidy Policy: What It Can and Cannot Accomplish
School of Public Affairs	Government	Jocelyn Johnston	Food and Health	Implementation of Affordable Care Act - examines the effectiveness of implementation and contracting in state ACA outreach and enrollment services; these services support ACA's goal of the extension of health insurance., Food Safety - examines the impact of FDA contracts with states for food safety inspections on the integrity of food safety regulation., Prisons/Jails and Representation - examines the relationship between inmate/staff demography and prison incidents, including a comparison across public and private corrections facilities.
School of Public Affairs	Interdisciplinary Studies	Daniel Fiorino	Environmental Policy	environmental policy, energy and climate change, environmental sustainability, and public management.
School of Public Affairs	Interdisciplinary Studies	Jeremy Shiffman	Global Health	the politics of health policy and administration in poor countries.
School of Public Affairs	Interdisciplinary Studies	Nick Kahn	Race	Measuring racial disparities in foster care placement.
School of Public Affairs	Justice Law & Society	Laura Langbein	China Policy	Performance Management, High Powered Incentives, and Environmental Policies in China
School of Public Affairs	Justice Law & Society	Richard Bennet	Sociel Equity	Crime and Security in the Caribbean
Washington College of Law	Law	Ethan Burger	Cyber-conflict	Cyber-conflict (cyber-crime or cyber-war) and sustainability
Washington College of Law	Law	Ezra Rosser	Navajo Econ Development	Navajo economic development and land use. I am currently working on matters related to Navajo economic development and land use, including special attention to issues involving natural resource exploitation.
Washington College of Law	Law	Kenneth Markowitz	Environmental Compliance	Making environmental laws work through improved compliance and enforcement. Our work bridges the relationship between compliance, rule of law, good governance and sustainable development.
Washington College of Law	Law	Ralph DiPietro	Insurance	Insurance is something that substantially affects our society and its various sectors. For instance, when there is a great damage caused by pollution by industry and claims of substantial amounts are at stake, various insurance products come in and a) help pay for the damage and b) potentially save an employer from going out of business. Additionally, health insurance is a topic that our class explores as it affects who receives coverage, the cost of the medical service, and the quality of that medical service. Finally, insurance is a highly state regulated industry because it places a large sophisticated party (the insurance company) versus an individual who more often than not is not sophisticated and needs protection from the state government or the legal system.
Washington College of Law	Law	Robert Lawrence	Cap and Trade	incorporating environmental limits into regulatory programs, and identifying regulatory mechanisms that achieve or enforce true sustainability
Washington College of Law	Law	Stephen Shapiro	Construction and Design	Incorporate sustainability topics in design, development, and construction of commercial buildings

Washington College of Law	Law	William Snape	International Environmental Law	International Environmental Law and the Arctic
Washington College of Law	Law	Winfield Wilson	Environmental Law	specializing in environmental, natural resources, and labor issues.