



ENVS NEWS



**Environmental Science
Undergraduate Program**

SPRING 2025

Happy spring !

Welcome to our newsletter covering recent news from the Environmental Sciences (ENVS) program at Georgia Tech.

This spring, we are celebrating many things:

- 56 current ENVS majors!
- Ten ENVS majors graduating this spring!
- ENVS student spotlight: Ashley Zheng
- Faculty spotlight: Dr. Liana Boop
- Fall Alumni Panel and Winter Social
- Course highlight: Georgia Climate Project
- Environmental Field Methods sampling trip to Savannah
- Student group highlight: Energy Club
- Weekly newsletter of jobs, internships, summer programs, & campus activities ... and much more!

Thank you for your role in ENVS' success !

Your ENVS co-directors,

Jennifer Glass (right)
Samantha Wilson (left)
Linda Green (middle)



eas.gatech.edu/envs

WE SEE YOU

Dear students,

We know these are highly uncertain times, particularly for students in environmental sciences.

We will do everything possible to help you.

We have your backs.

Please come to us to discuss concerns anytime.

We are here for you.

**Dr Glass, Dr Wilson,
and Dr Green
(emails on last page)**

CONGRATS ENVS GRADUATES!

**Cecilia
Guterman**

**Madeline
Nolen**

**Ashley
Zheng**

**Mireya
Ramirez**

**Will
Trimble**

**Lily
Perry**

**Jonathan
Marsh**

**Alicia
Borel**

**Jenny
Samuel**

**Kate
Albertus**



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Tell us about yourself!

I'm a fourth year at Georgia Tech, and I grew up in Northern Virginia right outside of DC. Along with my major, I'm pursuing a sustainable cities minor. I got interested in environmental science from spending time outdoors when I was pretty young and really loved learning about different plants and animals, and the sustainable cities minor really ties in connections between people and nature. I enjoy photography, pottery, volleyball, and outdoor activities such as diving, kayaking, or hiking.

Why did you transfer into ENVS?

I transferred into ENVS from Biology because I thought it encompassed more things that I was interested in, and I enjoy the interdisciplinary nature of the subject. My favorite parts of the program are getting to learn about how so many different aspects of life relate to sustainability and our environment. By adding on a sustainability minor, I can combine city planning and development concepts with my major and apply R and ArcGIS to things I'm interested in.

Have you participated in any student research or internships?

I participated in research on campus in the SEEL and SEPL labs, learning about socioeconomic connections to climate change and modeling prehistoric species movements through R. This past summer I interned at an energy and utilities company, gaining a background on nature and sustainability programs within the industry. I learned about corporate emissions accounting and their biodiversity initiatives, aimed at reaching specific sustainability goals.

What do you envision for your future career?

In the future, I hope to keep learning about sustainable development in industry. I want to continue helping people and the planet. I also hope to be able to work internationally and go to grad school.

ASHLEY ZHENG

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

What inspired you to choose a career related to sustainability?

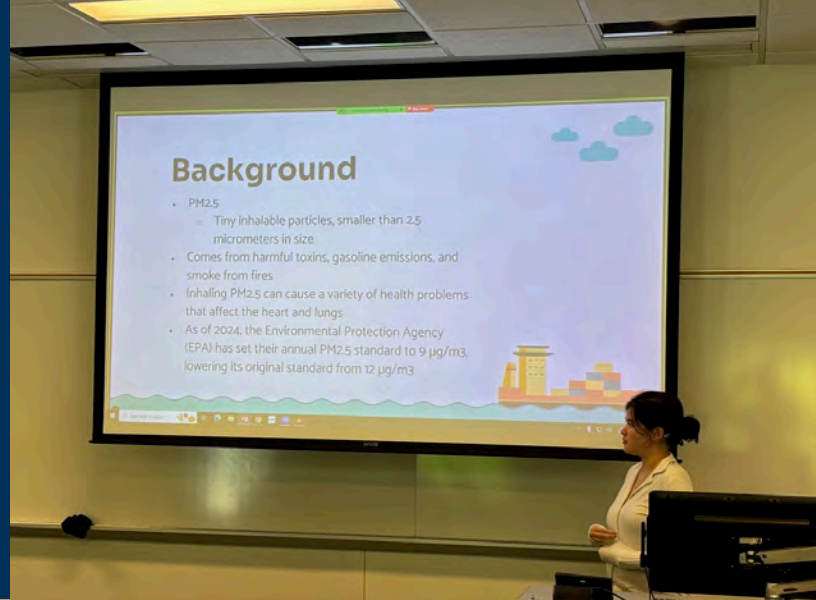
I have a profound sense of responsibility in advocating for the Earth because I (strive to) understand the challenges posed to it by humanity. When I design new course content and interact with students, I want to empower them to learn deeply about environmental issues instead of turning a blind eye to them. Topics cannot be studied in vacuum: to understand the magnitude of a single environmental issue we must study how a component fits into a larger system. Georgia Tech has many talented minds and I believe that they will solve some of our environmental issues. However, I also think that many issues that we currently face cannot be solved by the same patterns of thought that created them. We cannot consume or produce our way out of some issues; we must change our behaviors. I'm excited to see what solutions Georgia Tech students put in to practice after they graduate!

What is your favorite part of being a faculty member at Georgia Tech?

I'm the lab coordinator for EAS 1600: Introduction to Environmental Science; I make sure the lab runs smoothly. I set up the course on Canvas and develop new content. I'm undertaking various new projects, like recording videos of the Kendeda Building, which I add pre-lab quiz questions to. I think it's important for students to see tangible examples of course content, and the Kendeda Building is a fantastic project to highlight environmental science concepts. I also work with the teaching assistants and provide the resources that they need to have a great interaction with students in lab. I'm thrilled to have joined Georgia Tech! I'm so grateful for the warm welcome that I have received from students, faculty, and staff. I strive to create a place for everyone to "fit in" and that's exactly how I feel here at Georgia Tech! I'm deeply fulfilled from coaching the teaching assistants team; they have so much care for students and talent delivering the content. When I am in the lab interacting directly with undergraduate students, I'm moved by their passion to tackle today's environmental problems.

DR. LIANA BOOP

COURSE HIGHLIGHT: GA CLIMATE PROJECT



In Fall 2024, EAS debuted a new project-based course, "Georgia Climate Project" (GCP) supported by a GT Undergraduate Sustainability Education award and taught by Dr. Zachary Handlos.

The 10 students conducted research or internship projects with mentors in the Georgia Climate Project, a multi-institution organization tackling science, solutions, and networking in climate resilience and sustainability. In addition to EAS faculty, mentors were affiliated with Coastal Equity and Resilience Hub, the University of Georgia Institute for Disaster Management, Health Policy & Management, and GT Sustainability Next.

The students completed a technical paper summarizing their accomplishments, gave a formal presentation in a conference-style setting, and shared key information about their project to stakeholders across Georgia via metaimpact.com.

Students have been offered the opportunity to present their posters during GT Sustainable Development Goals week, and EAS will support continuation of student projects. We hope to offer this class again next year!



Student projects included:

- studying the urban heat island effect on campus
- tracking particulate matter concentrations near port-side areas of Savannah versus inland regions
- comparing GT's Climate Action Plan to the city of Atlanta and other cities across Georgia
- contributing to the GT Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS)
- literature review of climate adaptation and mitigation studies in tropical latitudes

FALL ALUMNI PANEL



On November 7, 19 students attended an EAS alumni panel featuring EAS alumni Namrata Kolla ('16, Project Manager, Allen Institute for AI), David D'Onofrio ('04, Environmental Protection Specialist, Federal Highway Administration), and Kathleen McCanless ('09, Assistant Attorney General, State of Georgia, Environmental & Natural Resources). The alumni shared how they are using their Georgia Tech degrees in the public and private sectors. Students discussed with panelists how to tackle big environmental problems in future career paths, and learned strategies for applying for internship and job opportunities.



On November 22, we celebrated the holidays and Fall 2024 graduates with a winter social !

ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD METHODS SAVANNAH FIELD TRIP I



FEBRUARY

2025



ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD METHODS SAVANNAH FIELD TRIP II



STUDENT GROUP SPOTLIGHT

Energy Club @ Georgia Tech is a professional organization dedicated to promoting energy education, innovation, and sustainability. Our mission is to advance discussions on pressing energy challenges, engage diverse sectors to drive impactful solutions, and inspire a passion for energy among students. Through workshops, speaker events, and networking opportunities, we empower members to explore cutting-edge technologies and policy trends shaping the future of the energy industry. Join us to connect with like-minded individuals and become a part of the movement towards a sustainable energy future!



ENERGY CLUB
@GEORGIA TECH



Instagram: @gt_energyclub

Linktree*: https://linktr.ee/gt_energyclub

Website: <https://energyclub.gatech.edu>

Email: energyclub@gatech.edu

Leadership:

President: Tejaswi Manoj

VP of Communications: Braden Queen

VP of Events: Victoria Pozzi

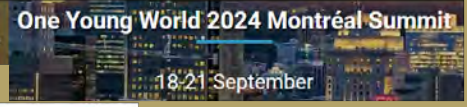
VP of Operations: Radhika Sharma

Conference Chair: Sam Woolsey

Treasurer: Max Zhang

***join our slack and calendar!**

WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENVVS!

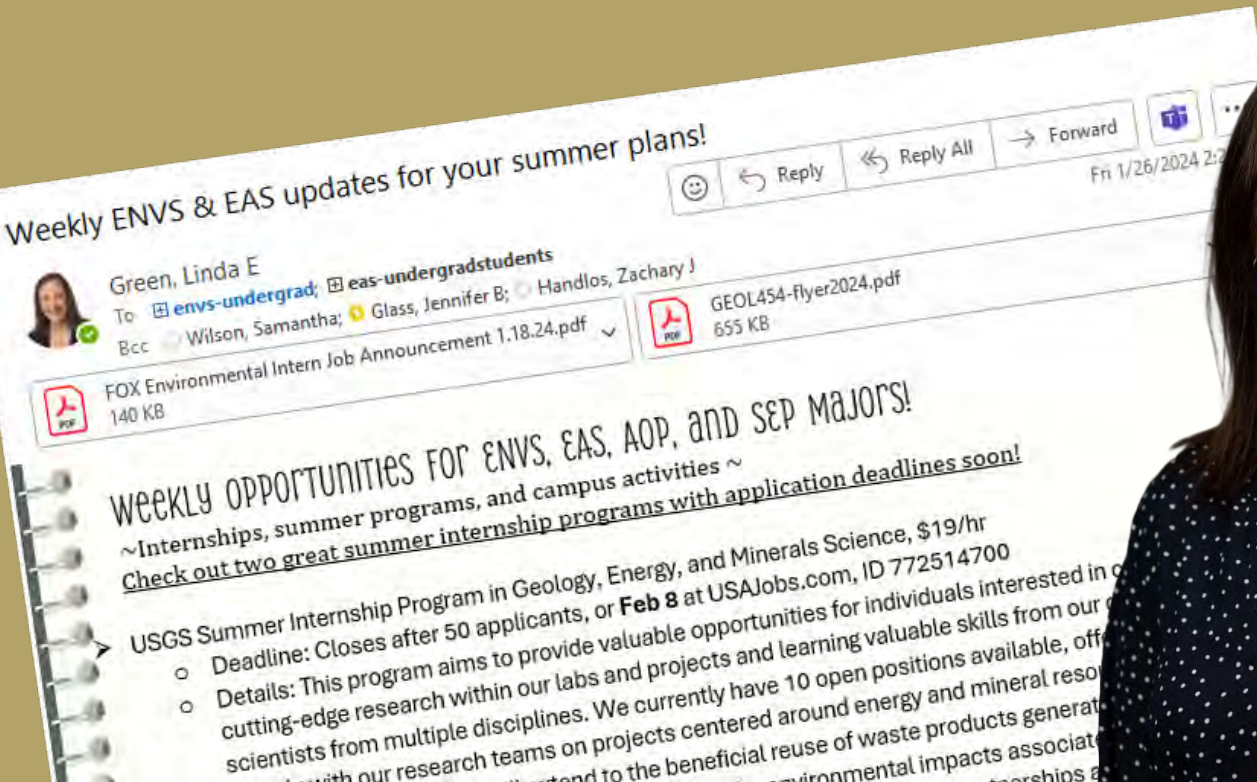


Every week, Dr. Linda Green shares a weekly email to ENVVS (and EAS, SEP, and AOP) majors with recent job postings, internship details, summer programs, and campus events.

“We hope to help highlight exciting opportunities while making it easier for students to keep track of what might interest them,” shared Dr. Green.

The newsletter has also been a place to help connect students interested in uniting around sustainability efforts on campus. Several ENVVS majors are working with sustainability campus orgs to build awareness and broaden impact.

Alumni with internship or job possibilities can share to linda.green@gatech.edu to be added to the distribution.



ALUMNI INTERVIEW WEB PAGE

eas.gatech.edu/undergrad/alumni

School of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Alumni

Where are our undergrads and grads now?

Click on a name to learn more our alumni!



Bridget Adkins
B.S. EAS 2000
AP Chemistry Reader, The College Board



Jordan Beckler
B.S. EAS 2006; Ph.D. EAS 2013
Associate Research Professor, Florida Atlantic
Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute



James Belanger
B.S. EAS 2007; Ph.D. EAS 2012
Head of Weather, Engelhart Commodities Trading
Partners



Laura Belanger
B.S. EAS 2007; M.S. EAS 2008
Senior Service Hydrologist, National Weather
Service



Jerry Bowling
B.S. EAS 1996; Ph.D. U Alabama 2004
Geophysicist, ConocoPhillips



Curtis Brideau
B.S. EAS 2009
Software Test Engineer, Barrios Technology



Stacy Carolin
B.S. EAS 2008; Ph.D. EAS 2014
Research Associate, University of Cambridge



Hunter Classen
B.S. EAS 2011; Ph.D. U South Florida 2018
Hydrogeologist, ASRus



Colleen Coyle
B.S. EAS 2008
On-Air Freelance Meteorologist, The Weather
Channel



David D'Amico



Anthony Fize



Patricia Edwards



Terry Latham
B.S. EAS 2006; Ph.D. EAS 2012
Government Relations Manager, Ingevity



Melissa Le Ferre Coggin
B.S. EAS 2013
Weather Producer, The Weather Channel



Camilla (Xinyi) Liu
B.S. EAS 2019; Ph.D. U Chicago in progress
Co-Founder/CEO, Voyagers Outdoor LLC



Kathleen McCanless
B.S. EAS 2009; M.S. U Alabama 2015; J.D.
Villanova University 2019
Assistant Attorney General, State of Georgia



Brandon Miller
B.S. EAS 2006; M.S. EAS 2008
Supervising Producer, Meteorologist & Climate
Crisis Beat Leader, CNN



Samantha Motz
B.S. EAS 2022
Hydrogeology PhD Student at UC Santa Cruz



Jordan Murdoch
B.S. EAS 2022
Weather and Environmental Science Officer, US Air
Force



Daniel Nielsen
B.S. EAS 2014; M.S. U Maryland 2016
Senior Meteorologist, Bonneville Power
Administration



Melissa Nord
B.S. EAS 2013
Meteorologist, 11Alive



Shannon (Cohen) O'Dell
B.S. EAS 2008
Senior Consultant, Trinity Consultants



Carson Oshinski
B.S. EAS 2005; J.D. Georgia State 2015
Associate, Desmarais LLP



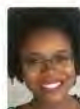
Julie Paul
B.S. EAS 2007; M.S. EAS 2008
Energy Efficiency Program Manager, Georgia
Power



S. J. (Silas) Ralston
B.S. EAS 2014; M.S. UNLV 2018
Mars Research Scientist, Jacobs JETSII contract



Zeeshan Rasheed
B.S. EAS 2016; M.B.A. Boston U 2021
Project Manager, Spark Foundry



Lauren (Merritt) Reeves
B.S. EAS 2015; M.S. EAS 2016
Meteorologist, Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Read
inter-
views
with
career
advice
from
60 EAS
alumni!

On the
website,
click the
alum
name to
read
their
inter-
view



Jimmy Eisenbeck
B.S. EAS 2002; MS MIT 2007
Technical Staff, MIT Lincoln Laboratory



Joe Estep
B.S. EAS 1998; M.S. EAS 2014
Geophysicist, Chevron



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General Manager, Westlands Water District



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Scientist/Engineer II, Linc Research, Inc



Brandon Foskey
B.S. EAS 2008; M.S. Mercer 2012
Assistant Director of Research Safety, University
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Commander (DR) Marc 'Vito' Fryman
B.S. EAS 1996; M Eng Naval Postgraduate School
2012
Instructor, Delta Airlines



Christine Gammans
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Seismo-Acoustic Research Technologist, Los
Alamos National Laboratory



Kaitlin (Gardner) Depping
B.S. EAS 2016
Manager, Environmental Programs and Systems,
Norfolk Southern



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Executive Director, The SAF Coalition



Nicholas Hitt
B.S. EAS 2016; Ph.D. Victoria University of
Wellington 2020
Principal Data Analyst - Climate and Environment



Andrew Horan
B.S. EAS 2009; M.S. U Florida 2012
International Affairs Project Manager, National
Weather Service



Damian Horton
B.S. EAS 2019
Staff Engineer/Geologist/Environmental
Specialist, United Consulting Group



Caitlin Kaiser
B.S. EAS 2023
Digital Meteorologist, The Weather Company



Namrata Kolla
B.S. EAS 2016; M.P.P. U Washington 2017
Project Lead, SkyLight, Allen Institute for AI (AI2)



Will Lanston
B.S. EAS 2013
Meteorologist, Georgia Emergency Management
Agency (GEMA)



Jenessa Rowland
B.S. EAS 2014
Environmental Compliance Specialist, Georgia
Environmental Protection Division- Air Protection
Branch



Caitlin (Martin) Santinelli
B.S. EAS 2008
Environmental Scientist, Jacobs



Elizabeth Scheible
B.S. EAS 1997; Masters in Public Policy, Harvard,
1999; MPH, JHU 2010
Chief, Research Division, California Air Resources
Board



Gregory Schultz
B.S. EAS 1998; Ph.D. EAS 2002
Chief Technology Officer, White River
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Melanie Snow
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Illinois Chicago 2022
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Chicago



Samuel Snow
B.S. EAS 2009; Ph.D. EAS 2014
Associate Professor, Louisiana State University



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B.S. EAS 2017; M.S. Penn State 2019
Sustainability Manager, Wesco



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Solar Resource Modeling Analyst, NextEra
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Kelly Stiegel
B.S. EAS 2012; M.D. Baylor 2016
Orthopedic surgeon, Sumner Regional Medical
Center



Sara Tonks
B.S. EAS 1997; M.S. EAS 2020
Weather Producer/Meteorologist, CNN



R. Jessica Turner
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Jenn Varlan
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Matthew Widlansky
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Associate Director, University of Hawaii Sea Level
Center



Megha Young
B.S. EAS 2009; M.C.R.P. 2005
Senior Transportation Planner, Gresham Smith

& more!

CHECK OUT OUR "LITTLE FREE LIBRARY"

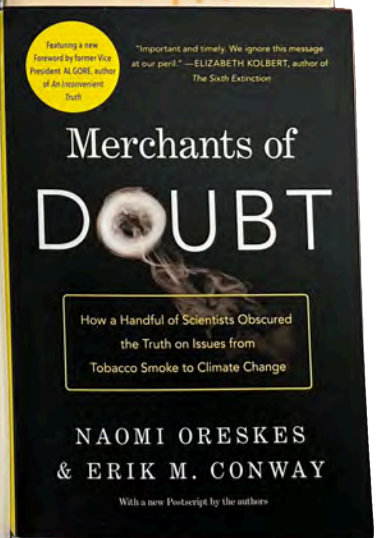
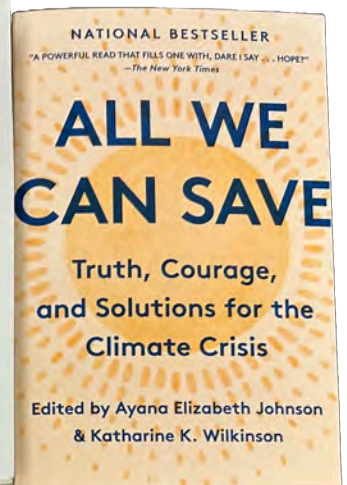
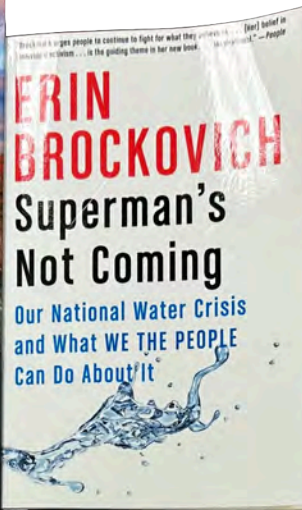
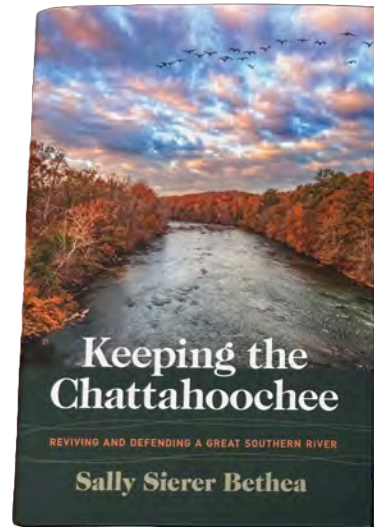


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EAS mail room

Books for
undergraduates

A range of
books on
environmental
topics ... take a
book or leave a
book.. more
books coming
soon!

Funded by
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**QUESTIONS?
COMMENTS?
SUGGESTIONS?**



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**Dr. Linda Green
ENVS Experiential Learning Director
linda.green@gatech.edu**

Looking for internships?

**Check weekly email from Dr Green & LinkedIn:
<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8537487/>**

Giving to ENVS:

<https://eas.gatech.edu/alumni/giving>