

2021-22 Global Change Fellows Announcement

Sponsored by the DOI Southeast Climate Adaptation Science Center (SE CASC) and NC State University, the Global Change Fellows program is designed to provide financial, scientific, and professional-development support for graduate students currently enrolled at NCSU, or incoming graduate students recruited by faculty, who are interested in interdisciplinary research related to climate and global change, and especially those students who seek to do work that informs or directly addresses challenges associated with global change.

We believe in making climate adaptation science more just and inclusive of voices and interests that have been underrepresented in this field of work, and we are particularly interested in whether your student nominee has these experiences or research interests. Diverse viewpoints, experiences, and perspectives better our lives and are essential to NC State's mission. Diversity of thought and representation also leads to better decision-making and more effective adaptation strategies. In the faculty nomination letter and/or the student interest statement, please indicate if the nominee:

- a) has experience living and working in communities likely to be disproportionately affected by climatic change*
- b) has plans to conduct research that explicitly aims to tackle any of the many facets of injustice associated with climate change and adaptation*
- c) aims to engage underrepresented communities in public outreach associated with their research.*

These are not requirements of the Global Change Fellows nomination process but will be important considerations as we review other measures of merit and experience in our effort to select a diverse cohort.

Financial Support. We expect to fund 12 students for the academic year 2021-22. Full stipends (in the form of Research Assistantships) will vary between \$24,975 - \$30,160 depending on college affiliation plus tuition and health insurance for the period August 1, 2021 – July 31, 2022. Support **after this Fellowship year of funding is the responsibility of the student's advisor and/or graduate program**, and faculty must show evidence of a fully funded graduate program for nominated students. Students will be responsible for paying student fees. Some additional funds will be available for student travel and professional development opportunities including science communication training.

Scientific and Professional Development. Recipients will join a diverse, multidisciplinary community of graduate students and faculty with interests in global environmental change. Global Change Fellows **will be required** to participate in:

1. An expenses-paid one-week-long summer Climate Adaptation Science Field Intensive to be held off-campus shortly before fall 2021 classes begin focused on principles of SE CASC mission and climate adaptation challenges and strategies of resource managers.
2. Regularly scheduled seminars every other week
3. Implementing at least two seminars as part of the [SE CASC Global Change Seminar Series](#) for fall and spring 2021-22.
4. Students will complete a [Researcher Spotlight](#) highlighting their research and experience in the program.
5. Other professional development opportunities throughout the year.

Faculty Involvement. Only faculty who are Faculty Affiliates of the SE CASC are eligible to serve as a mentor of a Global Change Fellow. SE CASC Faculty Affiliates include the original co-PIs of the SE CASC Cooperative Agreement and those NCSU faculty invited to join as Affiliates. Faculty mentors are expected to have demonstrated: 1) interest and experience in science, communication, and decision-making related to global change; 2) ability to recruit, retain, and graduate qualified students; and 3) scholarly activity in the global change arena (including research, publications, engagement). Faculty mentors are expected to *actively* participate in the planning and implementation of the graduate fellowship program by participating in monthly seminars, mentoring graduate students, encouraging their participation in Fellowship activities, and guiding Fellowship projects in cooperation with other faculty and SE CASC leadership and partners.

Nomination Process. *Because of the funding structure of the Global Change Fellows program, half of the awards are dedicated for incoming graduate students.* SE CASC Faculty Affiliates may submit more than one student nomination but will be awarded only one fellowship should they be selected. Use the attached form and submit via [Google Form](#) by **February 7, 2021**. All students should also complete a statement of interest, to be included in the nomination package. *Incomplete application packages will not receive full consideration.* Recipients will be announced by the **end of February 2021**. Questions about this program should be directed to SE CASC University Director Derek Aday (ddaday@ncsu.edu) or Aranzazu Lascurain (alascur@ncsu.edu).

For more information:

Global Change Fellows: secasc.ncsu.edu/home/about/people/global-change-fellows

Southeast Climate Adaptation Science Center: secasc.ncsu.edu