The Global School
Annual Report 2021-2022

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Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Worcester, Massachusetts

Building on a rich history of innovative undergraduate educational programs taught using project-based learning based in a network of over 50 project centers around the world, The Global School at WPI prepares students to contribute to solving complex global challenges through interdisciplinary teaching, learning, research, and action for a sustainable, just, and resilient world. Our interdisciplinary, project-based approach advances inclusive excellence, cross-cultural learning, and ethical partnerships to co-create resilient and innovative futures.
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Introduction

The Global School’s new Strategic Plan commits to promote interdisciplinary teaching and cross-cultural learning for greater diversity in STEM education; preparing responsible global leaders to think collaboratively about sustainable futures; advancing knowledge and community-based action for ethical engagement with global partners; and fostering project-based global learning to revolutionize STEM education and transform lives, which is the core of the WPI mission.

This Annual Report covers August 2021 – December 2022, the first year with Inaugural Dean Mimi Sheller here. It reviews our key achievements in: (1) the Global Projects Program, (2) the Department of Integrative and Global Studies, (3) Cross-Institutional Global School Collaborations, and (4) Building International Visibility and Partnerships. We first identify key institutional priorities for 2023:

Global School Strategic Priorities for 2023

a) Invite and convene the inaugural Global School Advisory Board consisting of national and international leaders in global education, global business, global challenges such as climate and sustainability, global STEM education, and global philanthropy.

b) Launch the Global Health Initiative along with the School of Arts and Sciences and our global partners: Hire a tenure track faculty member as we begin to create a new interdisciplinary MS in Global Health focused on areas such as data analytics, digital innovation, and accessible health technologies, with experiential learning at our global project centers. We will seek foundation support for building the WPI approach to tech-enabled Global Health.

c) Build on and extend WPI’s Africa Initiatives including the work of the Institute for Science and Technology for Development, with Prof. Rob Krueger, Director of the Provost’s Global Initiatives; the Math and Science for Sub-Saharan Africa (MS4SSA) program; and new partnerships and joint degree programs currently under development with African partners (see section IV below).

d) Advance the Global STEM Education Initiative directed by Joe Doiron with Brad Miller and First Global Robotics: developing and piloting an online Open STEM curriculum for teachers to use in classrooms around the world using the XRP robotic platform. We will seek additional support to broaden access to STEM education using this innovative open educational model.

e) Continue to implement Sustainable Development Goals at WPI: tagging and tracking of all projects and research; submitted to Times Higher Education Impact Index; planning Global School Forum around SDG themes; contributing to plans for a new Center for Sustainability at WPI.

f) Continue and strengthen regional hubs in collaboration with the School of Arts and Sciences, beginning with joint programs in Switzerland with Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW).
I. Key achievements: Global Projects Program

The Global Project Program’s key priority in 2021 was to transition from successful remote project work and return to pre-pandemic project center operations. We were successful in this and achieved nearly full global travel experiences by D-term 2022, with just a few adjustments (see Figure 1). We also moved the Global Experience Office and SWEET Center into the ground floor of the newly named Laurie A. Leshin Global Project Center, creating a central presence for the Global Projects Program with campus access.

Major accomplishments this year include:

- Hired Kathleen Head as Director of GEO, and Colin Watters as Director of Global Risk Management and made internal promotions of Krista Miller and Candace Ruta to Assistant Directors. New Program Coordinator position to be filled before end of 2022.

- Associate Dean Kent Rissmiller led the successful Global Projects Program with COVID-related precautions, handling staff leaves of absence and returning us to full travel by D-term of 2022.

- Opened new Project Centers and reorganized others to temporary locations as needed.

- Achieved a balanced operating budget in FY22 despite many fluctuations in operations, travel costs, lengths of stay, etc.

- Our largest cohort of students ever applied for IQP in AY2023, more than 1190 project applications, at 60+ project centers and over 90% of students were placed in 3 top-choice centers.

![Figure 1: Student IQP projects: remote, international and domestic travel, 2020-2023](image)
The President's IQP Awards for 2021 were presented on January 28th, 2022 with a distinguished panel of judges including President Laurie Leshin; Dean Mimi Sheller; Professor Jillian Mcleod from the US Coast Guard Academy and American Council on Education Fellow at WPI; Navjot Singh, Senior Partner at McKinsey & Company and board member of the Massachusetts High Technology Council; and Patricia Eppinger, chair of the Worcester Education Collaborative and president of the Ecotarium. Presented annually, the President's IQP Awards are given to student teams whose IQP work is determined to be outstanding in its focus on science, technology, and society. With five nominated projects, the winner was the Therapeutic Gardening project, pictured here.

Global Project Centers
2021-2022

- Asuncion, Paraguay
- Bangkok, Thailand
- Beijing, China
- Berlin, Germany
- Bucharest, Romania
- Cape Town, South Africa
- Cuenca, Ecuador
- Copenhagen, Denmark
- Eilat, Israel
- Hangzhou, China
- Kyebi, Ghana
- Kyoto, Japan
- London, England
- Lyon, France
- Mandi, India
- Melbourne, Australia
- Monteverde, Costa Rica
- Moscow, Russia
- Panama City, Panama
- Prague, Czech Republic
- Rabat, Morocco
- Reykjavik, Iceland
- Rocky Mountain Project Center-Estes Park, Colorado
- San José, Costa Rica
- Taipei, Taiwan
- Thessaloniki, Greece
- Tirana, Albania
- Venice, Italy
- Wellington, New Zealand
- Windhoek, Namibia
- Worcester, England
- Yerevan, Armenia
- Zurich, Switzerland
- Bar Harbor, ME
- Boston, MA
- Farm Stay, Paxton, MA
- Glacier National Park, MT
- Honolulu, Hawaii
- Nantucket, MA
- San Juan, Puerto Rico
- Santa Fe, NM
- Washington, DC
- Water Resource Outreach
- Worcester, MA
Advancing Resiliency Projects in Puerto Rico

Due to pandemic travel restrictions, Professor Emeritus Scott Jiusto and Associate Professor of Teaching Gbetonmasse Somasse began looking for an alternative travel experience for IQP teams scheduled to head to the Cape Town, South Africa, Project Center they co-direct. They were especially intrigued by the Puerto Rico Project Center (PRPC), a well-established center that has hosted groups of WPI students for more than 30 years. Jiusto then approached Assistant Teaching Professor John-Michael Davis, who, in his first year as the PRPC director, jumped at the chance to collaborate. Jiusto and Davis soon became PRPC co-directors, and began meeting with local nonprofit groups to identify new projects ideal for students in need of a new locale for their IQP research. As a result, two student teams began working with local leaders in turning an abandoned school into a comprehensive community center where residents can access health care, education and job training, computer services, and clean water, especially in emergencies. One team focused on ways to harvest clean, potable water and generate off-grid power in the case of emergencies. A second team built a website for the center that includes videos, a 360-degree tour, and computer-aided design models to promote the center and aid in fundraising.
The Global Experience Office supports travel to global Humanities and Arts Project Centers (including London, England; Rabat, Morocco; Taipei, Taiwan; and Buenos Aires, Argentina). Humanities and Arts Faculty are a crucial component of the Global Projects Program. In addition, we support international and domestic travel for students completing Major Qualifying Projects (MQP) in their senior year, international graduate research, and incoming and outgoing students on several two-way exchanges.

**Senior Year MQP Project Centers 2021-22:**

- Beijing, China
- Campinas, Brazil
- Eilat, Israel
- Kyebi, Ghana
- Monteverde, Costa Rica
- Nancy, France
- Osaka, Japan
- Panama City, Panama
- Stockholm, Sweden
- Switzerland
- Tokyo, Japan
- Bedford, MA (MITRE Corp)
- Burlington, MA (Stantec)
- Lexington, MA (MIT Lincoln Laboratory)
- Modesto, CA (Gallo Winery)
- Wall Street/Fin Tech
- Silicon Valley, CA
IQP travel involves full time research and meetings with sponsors most of the week, but also leave time for cultural discovery and exploration. Above left, the Cuenca C22 cohort whose projects included investigating the plastic in a local soup kitchen and creating environmentally sustainable replacements, studying and preserving the uses of traditional medicinal plants, and designing a platform of information accessible to the community.
II. Key Achievements: Department of Integrative and Global Studies

This has been an important year of building our new Department of Integrative and Global Studies (DIGS). Laureen Elgert was hired as Department Head, Sarah Stanlick was appointed Director of the Great Problems Seminar, and Sarah Strauss as Director of GS Research & Graduate Studies. Seven DIGS faculty were selected into the first two cohorts on WPI’s new Teaching Path to Tenure. We also hired one new Tenure Track faculty, William San Martin, and currently have an open search for another in Global Health.

Our faculty and leadership have continued to extend the Global School’s reputation in community-based global learning and interdisciplinary and global studies. The Global School joined the Community-based Global Learning Collaborative which is dedicated to showcasing research on global community-based learning, advocating for policy, and establishing high-quality, ethical norms for education abroad. Professor Sarah Stanlick was named co-Director of the Collaborative. Representatives from our leadership team presented at the Academic Council on the United Nations System annual meeting, focusing on the creation of WPI’s Global School to address research, education, and preparing the next generation of leaders to address sustainable development goals (SDGs).

DIGS faculty were very involved in the WPI Social Justice Summit in 2022 including a mobilities justice roundtable, a workshop on Open Educational Resources and pedagogical justice, and radio-style storytelling: ‘Researchers and their stories for social justice.’ The Careers Event for Sustainable and Just Communities was organized by Lisa Stoddard and the Public Interest Technology group, bringing dozens of local employers to campus to tell students about career paths in sustainability and social justice fields.

The Just-Tech Collab was established to provide space and resources to faculty, student, and community partner scholars to think about, write about, and act upon issues and ideas at the intersection of public interest technology and social justice. Meeting regularly, they have been exploring questions such as who has access to technology? What impacts does technology have on different sectors of the public? How can technology embed prejudice and discrimination? How can technology address inequalities? We inducted Public Interest Technology Fellows on “Green Technology and Justice” including Steve McCauley, Katherine Foo, Seth Tuler, Varun Bhat, William San Martin, John-Michael Davis, Ruth McKeogh.

The National Science Foundation awarded a four-year, $1,849,994 grant to WPI to develop Public Interest Technology that supports the efforts of nonprofits to match resources and assets with client demand and operational needs. Our faculty will help design and implement a new algorithm-based community “collective ecosystem” tool that nonprofit organizations can use to find and share resources.

DIGS faculty have also been an essential part of a collaboration to build WPI’s Latin American and Caribbean Studies initiative, led by Co-Directors John Galante and Aarti Madan from the School of Arts and Sciences. The Global School and WPI’s Latin American and Caribbean Studies program sponsored the event Fronteras reimaginadas: Reimagining Borders in Latin(x) America on February 9, 2022, with Keynote speakers Dr. Lorgia García Peña, a scholar of racial and national identities and diasporic blackness in the Dominican Republic, and Noel Quiñones, a Puerto Rican poet based in New York. We also organized a LACS symposium in April and a meeting in October 2022 with participants from universities across New England, as we seek to build a regional consortium and develop our LACS program.
The Great Problems Seminar program is enjoying another strong year – its 16th. Fall 2022 brought near-capacity enrollment across our courses (256 students in AB terms; 50 students in BC terms). We added Heal the World back to our roster and in Spring 2023 will offer two new seminars – GPS and Teamwork, and Poverty, Inequality, and Democracy. Our faculty are also publishing and presenting work at AAC&U, the Lilly conferences, and the New England Faculty Development Conference on pedagogical innovations from open educational resources to inclusive teamwork.

GPS is programmatically healthy with ample potential to expand. We know this from enrollment and robust assessment and evaluation.

GPS scholarship on pedagogical innovations in the classroom is having national impact, as well as building pathways to disciplinary research support and grants beyond the classroom.

There are opportunities to do more in partnership, and we are working to invite new faculty co-teachers and grow capacity for more students to have a first-year project experience.

In December 2021 we celebrated 51 team projects and in December 2022 presented 59 projects at the annual Great Problems Seminar Poster Symposium, with topics ranging from the effects of rising sea levels on coastal regions to supporting educational equality for underrepresented students at WPI.

We published two open educational resources from the GPS seminars, Extinctions (Drs. Bakermans and San Martin) and Climate Change (Drs. Pfeifer and Bakermans), co-authored with student teams and highlighting student-voice driven explorations of the most pressing concerns of our time. Two GPS instructors – Derren Rosbach and David Medich – received a grant from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to examine new nuclear technologies, a direct outcome of their Power the World GPS.
Global Graduate Programs

The MS in Community Climate Adaptation (DIGS & CEAE) admitted seven students into the program this year, including two BS/MS students and three international Fulbright's, though not all were able to join us. We welcome new graduate students: Solange Uwera, a Fulbright Scholar from Rwanda, and Erin Bryan, BS/MS, and Varun Bhat who has been approved for an interdisciplinary PhD proposal in Community Climate Adaptation. WPI continues its organizational membership in the American Society of Adaptation resilience professionals to advance innovation and excellence in the field.

The MS in Science and Technology for Innovation in Global Development, supported by multiple departments across WPI's four schools, welcomed eight new students this year; six for the MS degree and two for interdisciplinary PhDs in development science and engineering. Last spring, Rachel Santarsiero MS '23, won the prestigious Herbert Scoville, Jr. Peace Fellowship at the National Security Archive. This year's cohort brings students together from Nigeria, Ghana, Nicaragua, Iran, Pakistan, and the United States. The program was recently showcased at an event sponsored by the Center for Strategic and International Studies and US AID's Center for Digital Development as an exemplar for bringing together development studies with digital, engineering, and natural science disciplines.

We continue to work closely with Dean Jean King and Associate Dean Carolina Ruiz in the School of Arts and Sciences to develop a proposal for a new interdisciplinary graduate program in Global Health. We are poised to scale up WPI's transformative approach to tech-enabled health innovation with partners around the world, and especially in developing countries, drawing on data science, accessible health technologies, biomedical devices, and mobile health. We also joined visitors from Zurich University of Applied Sciences and signed a new MOU for joint degree programs, that will strengthen our Swiss Hub in Europe.

Funding Spotlight: GLOBAL INITIATIVES and LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Michael Elmes, The Business School, has been awarded a grant from the U.S. Department of Education for a project that is designed to prepare New England Students, Faculty, and Business Professionals for Climate Resilience Enterprise Opportunities (CREO) in New Zealand and the Oceania Region. The project provides an international focus to a growth area of business (climate resilience) and builds on local interest and expertise in innovative business approaches to climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Katherine Foo and Sarah Stanlick, Integrative and Global Studies, have received a grant from the National Science Foundation for a project that engages with BIPOC experiences and perspectives to render visible BIPOC ecological knowledge and sustainability policy networks to broader publics. The project's goal is to produce an urban metabolic model for urban and regional food systems, which repairs historical grievances, and is rooted in relational place identities.

Seth Tuler, Department of Integrative and Global Studies, has received an award from the National Science Foundation to expand existing partnerships and lay the foundation for a Massachusetts Integrated Landscape and Land Use Research for Sustainability Network through co-learning activities, relationship building, and development of resources to support integrated land use planning and management in the Commonwealth. The project advances sustainability and climate resilience goals in Massachusetts, and it broadly advances collaborative governance by initiating partnerships and research among sectors where communication and coordination about land uses are weak.
Global School Research Awards

The Global School faculty have made great strides in winning research funding, collaborating with other WPI faculty and external partners:

- External Research Grants Awarded in DIGS topped $281,479 in FY2022
- Proposals submitted more than tripled from $1,065,902 in FY2021 to $3,815,712 in FY2022
- New awards won in FY2023 are already 3x more than the prior year, including a $675,000 NOAA Climate Adaptation Program grant.

A team of researchers from The Global School has been awarded funding to co-create a Caribbean Climate Adaptation Network (CCAN). The five-year, $5 million project is sponsored by the recently-renamed Climate Adaptation Partnerships (CAP) program at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), with WPI receiving $675,000 in funding. The Graduate School of Public Health at the University of Puerto Rico-Medical Sciences Campus is the lead institution for CCAN, with other researchers from nine academic institutions across the continental United States, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands (USVI).

The goal of CCAN is to foster knowledge sharing for more sustainable and equitable strategies for climate-action and community empowerment throughout Puerto Rico and the USVI. Building on over 30 years of experience at the WPI Puerto Rico Project Center in San Juan, the project will create networks of people working together to support “collaborative research relationships that help communities build lasting and equitable climate resilience.” There are five WPI researchers involved in the project: Dean of The Global School Mimi Sheller, Professor Sarah Strauss, Associate Professor Seth Tuler, and Assistant Professor of Teaching John-Michael Davis, and Professor Emeritus Scott Jiusto.
III. Cross-Institutional Global School Collaborations

Global Lab Projects

The Global Lab supports the mission of WPI’s global program and project-based learning curriculum to galvanize diverse STEM communities to build a more sustainable, just, and resilient world by creating a “living lab” space for faculty and students to learn about, explore, apply, test, and assess creative ways to transform research and education.

Through a strategic planning process during the summer of 2022, Global Lab co-directors Leslie Dodson, Seth Tuler and Joe Doiron are building on past work and developing new pedagogical and research activities within the Global School. These include:

- **AY 21-22 hosted 5 Global Fellows. AY 22-23 the Global Lab is hosting 5 Fellows and inviting another round of applications.** The program allows WPI faculty (TRT or TT) to spend a term in residence at the Global Lab in the Innovation Studio, completing a research or creative project that advances the goals of the Lab and the fellow’s own professional goals as they relate to global engagement. The lab also hired a new Graduate Assistant Varun Bhat for AY22.

- **Global STEM Ed Initiative:** The Global Lab played a fundamental role in the development of the newly created WPI Global STEM Education Initiative through the design and development of web pages and resources, the production of various video pieces, and a new STEAM podcast.

- **Showcasing Global Engagement:** The Global Lab’s website highlights the processes and outcomes of WPI faculty and student global engagement. In AY 21-22 we redesigned the website, developed “storyworlds” for symposia presenters and for the WPI speaker series, updated social media accounts, launched the new audio podcast “Have You Herd?” and a new video series “Know Us.”

- **Supporting Creative Scholarship:** The Lab continues to provide in-person and online training in innovative and creative scholarship methods and media-making for ethical engagement. We are re-assessing training modules and filling in gaps, and vastly expanding our Environmental Resilience, Social Justice, Global STEM Ed and Lab Artists podcasts shows.
The SWEET Center

The SWEET Center, dedicated to Supporting WPI through Effective and Equitable Teamwork, completed its second year of operation in 2021-2022, under the directorship of Anne Ogilvie. During this year, we increased the number of SWEET Fellows from 21 to 26 and welcomed 4 Senior Fellows (new WPI alumni) for their second year in the program.

Team consultations increased 60%, serving 121 students in 31 teams in 2021-22 vs. 73 students in 18 teams in our first year. We also supported a new initiative, the development of an alumni-led program to provide SWEET Senior Fellows (graduated Chemical Engineering alumni) to serve as teamwork mentors for seniors going through the Chemical Engineering course/lab/MQP sequence. This program reached 75 individual students in 2021 and we are continuing the partnership for this year.

In addition to our commitment to increasing equity and effectiveness of WPI student teams through consultation support for individual students and teams, The SWEET Center also offered sessions at the 2022 Institute for Project-Based Learning, the Project-Based Learning Collaborative, and at WPI New Faculty Orientation.

The Global School Events Series and Global School Forum

We thank the Provost’s Office for generous support of the 2021-2022 Global School Event Series, in which the following events were held:

- September 2021: *Community Climate Adaptation at Home and Abroad* with engineer Dr. Franco Montalto of Drexel University and community activist Maria Belen Power of GreenRoots, Boston, in a lively moderated discussion with national podcaster Doug Parsons.
- October 2021: *Oceania: Place, Placemaking, and Social Justice* with Chamorro poet Dr. Craig Santos Perez, Professor in the English Department at the University of Hawai’i.
- November 2021: *Middle East and North African Futures* with keynote speaker Mina Lalaoui Kamal, a sustainability expert working with women in rural Morocco.
- January 2022: *Generative Justice in Sub-Saharan Africa* with keynote Professor L. Wantchekon, of Princeton University introduced by Distinguished Statesman in Residence, former Ghanaian Ambassador to the United States, Barfuor Adjei-Barwuah, with closing remarks by Provost Wole Sobeyajo.
- February 2022: *Fronteras reimaginadas: Reimagining Borders in Latin(x) America* explored relations and associations between the Spanish-speaking Caribbean and the United States and highlighted recent innovations in WPI global project program activities in the region.

The U.N. Sustainable Development Goals: Focus of our 2022-2023 Global School Forum
We re-launched The Global School Forum in 2022-2023 focusing on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, with the theme of Climate Action (SDG 13) woven throughout the year.

The August 2022 event on **Circular Economy and Sustainable Business (SDG12)**, “Saving Humanity: Radical Confidence for a Positive Future” featured a keynote by Rob Watson, “Father of LEED” and international leader in market transformation in solid waste and green buildings. Discussants Mike Timko and Joe Sarkis from the Schools of Engineering and Business completed the session.

The November forum focused on **Affordable and Clean Energy (SDG7)**, “Energy, Climate, and Community: Building Just Transitions from New Zealand to New England.” Chief Financial Officer Mike Horan presented on WPI’s exciting plans for a new Co-generation Plant and Center for Sustainability. Co-organizers Profs. Mike Elmes and Ingrid Shockey hosted a hybrid panel from New Zealand on “Energy and Climate Change: Lessons Shared from Aotearoa-New Zealand and Massachusetts” with CEOs of renewable energy companies, the Climate Change Commission, and local alumni and business leaders.

In January ‘23 we welcome Prof. Glenda Cox, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Chair in Open Education and Social Justice at the University of Cape Town (UCT), for a visit to campus to explore Open textbook authorship, quality assurance and publishing. She will speak on “Social justice models of participatory design, engagement, co-creation and global partnership” which links to the theme of **Quality Education (SDG4)**, as well as wider work we are doing at WPI in Open Educational Resources as part of our Global STEM Education Initiatives.

In March ‘23 we will focus on **Global Health and Well-Being (SDG3)**, as we lay the groundwork to build a new graduate program in Global Health. Our keynote speaker will be Dr. Ann Moorman, professor of medicine in the Division of Infectious Diseases and Immunology at UMass Chan Medical School.

### IV. International Visibility and Cooperation Agreements

Building on the new Global School Strategic Plan 2022-2027, we are advancing strategic work to build cross-cutting regional hubs and international partnerships that span undergraduate project centers, graduate degree programs and research, corporate partnerships, and collaborative global research that can attract new funding from global foundations. New international agreements are now managed and housed within The Global School, working closely with the Provost and the Office of General Counsel:

- We joined with the School of Arts & Sciences on visits from the Deans of Zurich University of Applied Science (ZHAV), with whom WPI signed an MOU for joint graduate degree programs, as well as one with Bern University of Applied Sciences (BHF). In Europe we have student exchanges with Konstanz University of Applied Sciences and Walter de Gruyter GmbH, Germany, University of Lorraine (ENSIC) and Neoma Business School, France, and American University of Armenia.

- WPI is planning several initiatives and collaborations with partners in Africa, including the Nigerian University of Technology and Management (NUTM) and the National Agency for Science and Engineering Infrastructure in Nigeria (NASENI); the University of Johannesburg in South Africa; the National University of Science and Technology in Zimbabwe; and various Global STEM plans underway or under discussion in Ghana, Mauritius, Namibia, Morocco, Senegal, and Malawi.
• We have signed MOU’s with universities in Asia and the Middle East, including newly signed agreements with Tsinghua University in China, Kyoto University of Advanced Sciences and Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, Japan, and Konkuk University in South Korea.

As part of growing WPI’s international visibility, we have sought to speak on international stages where we can amplify our Global School activities. In AY21, Dean Sheller spoke at virtual events on Canadian, Chinese & African Sustainable Urbanization in Canada; at the New Mobility Conference, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, Germany; on Mobility Justice and Regenerative Tourism, at University of Sao Paulo, Brazil; a talk on Haiti at the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, University of London, England; at the Venice Biennale of Architecture, in Italy; at the Global Mobility Humanities Conference, Konkuk University, Seoul, South Korea; at The Ruskin School of Art, Oxford University, England; at Ritsumeikan University, Symposium on Tourism mobilities after COVID-19, Kyoto, Japan; and at the Mobilities Cultures & Societies, University of Vienna, Austria, among others.

In AY22 Sheller was invited to give the Willis and White Memorial Lecture on “Climate Mobilities and Energy Transitions: Mobility Justice and the Case for Reparations,” at the University of Toronto School of the Environment, Canada. She also gave remote Keynotes Addresses at the Workshop on New Approaches to Mobility, Transport, and Infrastructure in Africa, at University of Ghana, Legon/Accra; at the EPFL/ENAC 20th Anniversary Symposium, at The Federal University of Lausanne, Switzerland; and at the Mobility Justice Symposium of the Geographical Society of New South Wales, Australia.

Dean Sheller gave other invited talks at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Oslo, Norway; at Thing Tank: A Research Forum in Material Culture Studies, Center for Material Culture Studies, University of Delaware; at the Global Mobility Humanities Conference at Konkuk University, Seoul, South Korea; at the Fulda International Autumn School on Mobilities and Human Rights, Fulda University of Applied Sciences, Germany; and at the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies, Potsdam, Germany.

In 2023 she has been invited to give a Keynote Address at the 3rd Critical Tourism Studies-Asia Pacific conference in Hanoi, Vietnam; and will organize a stream of panels for the 2nd International Conference on Belonging and Mobility, at the Netherlands Institute of Advanced Study (NIAS), Amsterdam.
V. Other Special Events and Activities

The Global School welcomes Martin Burt, visiting professor of social entrepreneurship at WPI, who is devoted to the promotion of social entrepreneurship and economic self-reliance to eliminate poverty around the world. Martin and Dorothy Burt also serve as co-advisors at our WPI Paraguay Project Center. The Paraguay Interactive Qualifying Projects take place at the Escuela Agricola, a residential vocational/agricultural school that is run by Fundacion Paraguaya as one of its self-sufficient schools. We are proud that this year, the WPI-Fundacion Paraguaya and USAID/ASHA broke ground for the creation of a new Cheese Plant, as pictured below, that will serve the Escuela Agricola.

Image: Groundbreaking for the WPI-Fundacion Paraguaya, USAID/ASHA Cheese Plant

Martin Burt is also known for developing The Poverty Stoplight, a completely new poverty measurement tool and coaching methodology. It allows poor families—using a visual survey on a tablet with pictures and the colors red, yellow, and green—to self-diagnose their level of poverty in six different areas, including income and employment, health and environment, education and culture, housing and infrastructure, organization and participation, and interiority and motivation. Families construct a dashboard with a customized plan to utilize their strengths and overcome their deprivations according to their own priorities.

The Global School will organize further events and initiatives highlighting various kinds of social entrepreneurship in the coming year.

In May 2022, The Global School celebrated the partnership of WPI with Innovation Studio in Boston by organizing a Mobility Justice and Sustainable Mobilities panel discussion at the WPI Seaport. Dean Sheller moderated a conversation with keynote panelists Professor Julian Agyeman from Tufts University, Makayla Comas from the Liveable Streets Alliance, and Professor Diane E. Davis from Harvard Graduate School of Design. The event was introduced by Tiffany Chu, Chief of Staff for Boston Mayor Michelle Wu. The discussion highlighted how cities can learn to innovate not just technologies but new forms of governance to shift American cities toward more equitable and inclusive shared, sustainable, low-carbon mobilities.

Image left to right: Kola Akindele, WPI Associate VP for External Relations & Partnerships; Tiffany Chu, Chief of Staff for Mayor of Boston Michelle Wu; Wole Sobeyajo, Interim President of WPI, attending the Mobility Justice Event at the WPI Seaport.
Thank you to our Project Center Directors!

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<td>Jennifer Rudolph Wen-Hua Du</td>
<td>Washington, DC</td>
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<td>Lauren Mathews</td>
<td>Water Resource Outreach Center</td>
<td>Paul Mathisen</td>
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<td>Kyoto, Japan</td>
<td>Jennifer deWinter</td>
<td>Wellington, New Zealand</td>
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<td>Melbourne, Australia</td>
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<td>Zurich, Switzerland</td>
<td>Nancy Burnham</td>
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<td>Steve McCauley</td>
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Thank you to our donors!

Finally, we want to thank the many project sponsors, ongoing endowed funds, and donors who make our work possible.

We would not be able to do what we do without you.

Thank you!

“ The biggest impact that project work had on me was the confidence level it gave me to go out and take challenges head-on and have the confidence that I have a good chance of succeeding. ”

—John Kopchik ’77

“ The way it changed my view of the world translates to multiple, different areas of my life. I look at my community as a much smaller piece of a larger world than I used to. I see diversity in a different way. ”

—Nicholas Pelletier ’09

“ The impact of the students’ project certainly will affect us here in Acadia but will also go well beyond the boundaries of the park and throughout the country. ”

—Abe Miller-Rushing, Acadia National Park
WPI Project Sponsor
Bar Harbor, Maine Project Center
Appendix A: The Global School Faculty and Staff

Global Experience Office and Global School Staff

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>Rosemarie Alicea</td>
<td>Kathleen Head (Director)</td>
<td>Kent J. Rissmiller (Assoc. Dean)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dawn Farmer</td>
<td>Ruth McKeogh</td>
<td>Candace Ruta-Burdette</td>
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<td>Nancy Fay</td>
<td>Krista Miller</td>
<td>Mimi Sheller (Dean)</td>
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<td>Deborah Fusaro</td>
<td>Anne Ogilvie</td>
<td>Colin Watters</td>
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DIGS Faculty 2021-2022

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Marja Bakermans</td>
<td>Katherine Foo</td>
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<td>Fabio Carrera</td>
<td>Scott Jiusto</td>
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<td>James Chiarelli</td>
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<td>John-Michael Davis</td>
<td>Stephen McCauley</td>
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<td>Jason Davis</td>
<td>Creighton Peet</td>
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<td>Zoe Eddy</td>
<td>Derren Rosbach</td>
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<td>Laureen Elgert</td>
<td>William San Martin</td>
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Appendix B: Selected Global School Faculty Publications


Stanlick, S., ed. (2022) Perspectives on Lifelong Learning and Global Citizenship: Beyond the Classroom (Springer).


Appendix C: Research Grant Awards and Planning Grants

Carrick Eggleston, Steve McCauley (DIGS), Lisa Stoddard (DIGS), Oleg Pavel, Seth Tuler (DIGS) awarded NSF SRS-RN: Land Use in Regional Sustainability Transitions: Establishing a Network of Research and Practice to Support Governance in Linked Urban and Rural Systems of Massachusetts $149,873.

Seth Tuler (SI) awarded an NSF-INFEWS/T1 1856012: “Climate-induced Extremes on the Food, Energy, Water-Nexus (C-FEWS) and the Role of Engineered and Natural Infrastructure.” PI: Charles Vorosmarty.

Mimi Sheller, Seth Tuler, Sarah Strauss, John Michael Davis, and Scott Jiusto, awarded NOAA-CAP: Caribbean Climate Adaptation Network: Building equitable adaptive capacities of the US Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico ($675,000), part of a 5-year, 2022-2027, $5m grant led by PI: Pablo Mendez Lazaro, University of Puerto Rico Medical Campus.
Laureen Elgert and Yunus Telliel, $90,000– New America Foundation, Public Interest Technology Network, From Visibility to Institutionalization: Integrating a PIT Event Series through JUST-T Collab

Sarah Stanlick and Katherine Foo won Advancing Research Impact in Society fellowship to study and build capacity for more inclusive approaches to open, community-based, citizen-science.

Katherine Foo (PI) and Sarah Stanlick (co-PI) were part of an academic-civic research team with the Northeast Farmers of Color Land Trust and Black Farmer Fund awarded NSF SRS-RN: “To be truly regenerative, we must be reparative: a BIPOC agenda for regional sustainable systems” $131,606

Sarah Stanlick is part of a WPI team awarded a four-year, $1,849,994 award from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to design and implement a new algorithm-based community “collective ecosystem” tool that nonprofit organizations can use to find and share resources.

Derren Rosbach is Co-PI for grant of nearly $500,000 from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to Develop Designs and Propose Licensing Strategies for Next-Generation University Research Microreactors.

Courtney Kurlanska was awarded a WPI planning grant for DEIJ project “Responsible Representation: Assessing Cultural Competency for Equity and Inclusion in Student Posters”

### Appendix D: Selected Honors and Presentations

Laura Roberts chosen for the Campus Compact newest cohort of the Engaged Scholars Initiative.

Zoe Eddy, Katherine Foo and Sarah Stanlick selected for the Women's Young Investigator Fellowship 2021-2022, part of the Women's Impact Network.

William San Martín was invited to give a talk and participate in the 3-day Science-Policy Workshop Developing Roadmaps for Sustainable Nitrogen Management, sponsored by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) at the Institut d'études Avancées de Paris.

Professor Sarah Strauss gave an invited talk at the University of Bergen, Norway in May, part of the EU funded CALENDARS project’s Symposium on Seasonality—Time is Out of Joint: Seasons & Stories of the AnthropoScene. She also participated on the Advisory Board for the Community Science Exchange, a joint venture between several academic associations to promote community-focused research.

The Global School leadership team presented at the Academic Council on the United Nations System annual meeting on preparing the next generation of leaders to address Sustainable Development Goals.

### Appendix E: Media Coverage

Fabio Carrera is quoted extensively in an article on the BBC's website on how to save Venice from sinking, and in Condé Nast Traveler, which also mentions the Venice Project Center and WPI.

William San Martín published an opinion piece in Spanish in Jacobin América Latina.

Steve McCauley discusses “heat islands” with the Telegram & Gazette, part of USA TODAY Network reporting project on climate change.

Elisabeth Stoddard spoke with NBC10 as part of their Climate 2022 coverage about the Farm Stay Project Center in Paxton, Massachusetts.

Sarah Strauss and Jeanine Dudle, associate professor of civil and environmental engineering, discuss the university’s new graduate program in Community Climate Adaptation on NBC10 Boston.

Fred Bianchi, director of our Glacier National Park Project Center is quoted in a New York Times article about the world’s disappearing glaciers.

Grant Burrier had a popular press piece on the rising violence in the Amazon, in The Global Americans.

In April 2022 the WPI Board of Trustees Named the Global Project Center Building in honor of Outgoing President Laurie A. Leshin

Today the building serves as the home of The Global School, including the Global Experience Office and the Department of Integrative and Global Studies. We run WPI’s innovative project-based learning programs, including the Great Problems Seminar, the Interactive Qualifying Projects, Humanities and Arts Project Centers, international Major Qualifying Projects, and interdisciplinary graduate programs at more than 50+ WPI project centers around the world.

The Global School at WPI is a world leader in global experiential STEM education