



The Grace Anne Stewart Speaker Series



Welcome!

To keep EAS informed of Grace Anne Stewart Speaker Series (GASSS) activities, we will be circulating monthly newsletters throughout the year!

About the Grace Anne Stewart Speaker Series

The Grace Anne Stewart Speaker Series (GASSS) is a student-led equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) initiative which aims to address issues related to EDI in the Earth and Atmospheric sciences department at the UofA and broader geoscience community. The issues we wish to address include underrepresentation, inequality, discrimination, and bias related to gender, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, ability, and neurodiversity in geoscience.

GASSS update and events

Upcoming Talks

Wednesday February 16, 2022, 11 MDT

Title: Failing in Science and Dealing with Imposter Syndrome

Abstract: Experiencing failure in research is more common than success; yet we rarely share stories of our failures or reflect on how they may have been useful long-term. We'd like to start talking openly about failure and the associated imposter syndrome, so the Grace Anne Stewart Speaker Series is holding an hour-long panelist discussion with three of our own Faculty Members: Dr. Tom Chacko, Dr. Alberto Reyes and Dr. Sasha Wilson. In this session, our faculty will be sharing examples of their own failures in science and key lessons that they've learnt from them. Join us on Wednesday 16th February at 11am on zoom (link below) to be part of the conversation!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84976865105?pwd=QkR0OE9xeTVDM0pyQVICSkzLzV1Zz09>

GASSS EAS Gear Drive

We are organizing a department gear drive ahead of the upcoming field school and field work season. Our goal is to collect items over the next few months to help undergraduate and graduate students in EAS that have limited access to field gear. If you have any spare items that you no longer use, please consider donating them! We will accept any items ranging from field clothing to equipment. There is a donation bin set up in the EAS main office (ESB 1-26) for those that would like to drop off donations, which will remain open until the beginning of March.

GASSS Program - Mentorship Program

We are happy to announce the launch of the pilot Mentorship Program in EAS. During the pilot program running from September 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022 we hope to improve the student experience in EAS and ensure better pastoral care. Mentor-mentee relationships will work to bridge the gap in communication between various levels of the department body and improve the sense of community for all in EAS. Our hope is to initiate a permanent mentorship program after feedback from the pilot program. If you have any questions or concerns about the mentorship program please feel free to contact EASmentorship@gmail.com. If you missed the chance to participate as a mentee or mentor in the pilot program, everyone is able to view the [handbook](#) that provides a collection of resources on various topics from mental health to scholarships.

GASSS Program - Unlearning Racism in Geoscience (URGE)

As many know, a group from our department participated in the URGE program that took place from January 2021 to May 2021. This program was a 16-week structured reading and seminar course to learn about racism in geoscience, what we can do to be more inclusive, and develop policy and guidelines that are actively anti racist. A group from GASSS presented their work to date on the outcomes of the URGE program in a recent ATLAS talk on February 4, 2022. In case you missed it, you can watch it here:

Zoom Recording:

https://ualberta-ca.zoom.us/rec/share/XHR2rJjBybY0JI56ttCJd0pB8DadO8Kcbl_t6Rth9z04qUEX3O0-0NGLyxzJcuvb.lu7IGUyw5vpnsWQj

Passcode: 2p!U5M8w

To view the outcomes of the URGE program please visit:

<https://cms.eas.ualberta.ca/gass/unlearning-racism-in-geoscience/>

[URGEOSCIENCE – Unlearning Racism in Geoscience](#)

We will need everyone's help to make all of our goals coming from the URGE program a reality! If you see a project you'd be interested in helping or leading please contact GASSS. Please note that you do not have to be on the GASSS committee to help with any of these projects.

Other Speaker Series and EDI initiatives

GeoWomen: [Advancing women working in the geoscience professions \(geowomen.org\)](#)

Tuesday February 15th 2022 at 12 pm MDT: Mohamed El Daly

Title: "APEGA 30 by 30 Initiative Update and APEGA WAGE Grant Results Overview"

Register [here](#).

Scientific QUEERies: [Promoting the LGBTQIA2S+ community in STEM](#)

Tuesday February 15th 2022 at 1 pm MDT: Dr. Alex Moore, Postdoctoral Fellow, High Meadows Environmental Institute, Princeton University, Coastal Wetland Ecosystems.

Please use the following google form to sign up to the mailing list if you wish to receive details for these and future talks: <https://forms.gle/bgLWhHMwosBTzNrb6>. The future speaker schedule can be found on their [website](#).

Resources

- [Multiculturalism, Indigenous and Inclusion Grant Program](#)
- [Inclusion Alberta](#) assists families and individuals with developmental disabilities.
- Edmonton-based inclusive podcast: [The Well Endowed Podcast](#)
- [WISEST STEM podcast](#) is all about advancing the conversation around diversity and inclusion in science, engineering and technology.

Activities in Edmonton and Surrounding Areas

- [Sweet Treats & Latte Festival](#) - February 5 to 27th
- [Alt After After Dark Valentines Market](#) - February 11th
- [Silver Skate Festival](#) - February 11 - 20th
- [Millwoods Valentine's Sweet Heart Market](#) - February 12th
- [Taste of Africa - Celebrating Black History Month](#) - February 26th

Supporting EDI

We encourage you to support EDI in any way you can; whether it be by contributing to a fundraiser or supporting local businesses! The links below can get you started but it is no way an exhaustive list.

Fundraisers

- [Black Health Alliance](#) - This is a community-led registered charity working to improve the health and well-being of Black communities in Canada.
- [True North Aid](#) - Runs projects to support the critical needs of Indigenous communities and help reduce the poverty gap that exists between them and the rest of Canada.

Businesses

- [Zen Lion Loungewear & Design](#) - Edmonton Black-owned small business.
- [Workhall](#) - Indigenous-owned clothing business operating in Edmonton and Vancouver.
- [The QUILTBAG](#) - Edmonton LGBTQ2S+ and Black-owned business that is an LGBTQ+ retail shop. This shop carries pins, pronoun buttons, patches, stickers, art by local artists, and trans gear.
- [Mother Earth Essentials](#) - Edmonton Indigenous-owned beauty and wellness shop.
- [Indigenous-owned businesses in Edmonton](#)
- [Black-owned business in Edmonton](#)
- [Queer-friendly businesses in the Edmonton area](#)

Volunteer Opportunities

- There are many volunteer opportunities advertised by the city of Edmonton which you can find [here](#).
- [Edmonton Humane Society](#)
- [SPCA](#)
- [Zoey's Animal Rescue](#)
- [SCARS](#)
- [Meals on Wheels](#)
- [Edmonton Food Bank](#)
- [Homeless Connect YEG](#)
- [The Mustard Seed](#)
- [Campus Food Bank](#)
- [Edmonton Senior Centre](#)

