

EARTH LAB

COMMUNITY-ENGAGED, IMPACT-DRIVEN

WE ENVISION AN EQUITABLE, JUST AND SUSTAINABLE WORLD WHERE PEOPLE AND PLANET THRIVE

EarthLab is a visionary institute at the University of Washington that pushes boundaries to develop innovative and equitable solutions to our most pressing environmental challenges, with urgency and action on climate and its intersection with social justice. We do this by connecting across sectors and academic disciplines to inspire and incentivize new partnerships that bridge the UW and the wider community.

Our place at the University of Washington helps to define our purpose. As a Carnegie-classified Community Engagement University, the UW aspires to be the #1 university in the world as measured by impact. We are motivated and humbled by this challenge.

FOUR ACTION AREAS



Convene cross-cutting conversations



Invest in innovative transdisciplinary collaborations



Support and amplify EarthLab member organizations



Foster the development of professionals skilled in transdisciplinary, applied work

“One of my greatest hopes and aspirations for EarthLab is to engage, enable and foster the development of academic professionals at the UW to work collaboratively across disciplines and in partnership with constituencies to solve big environmental challenges, especially those that have a disproportionate impact on disadvantaged communities.”

Sally Jewell
EarthLab Advisory Council Chair &
Former U.S. Secretary of the Interior





OUR INNOVATION GRANTS PROGRAM

The EarthLab Innovations Grant Program was launched in 2019 to fund actionable, interdisciplinary and community-engaged environmental research. We invest in projects that demonstrate co-creation and partnership between community and UW researchers, interdisciplinary collaboration, action at the intersection of climate (both mitigation and adaptation) and social justice, and the potential for growth of the project or partnership.

PAST PROJECTS INCLUDE

- > **Clean Safety & Health in Food Trucks Program (SHiFT)** What if food truck workers had better access to green cleaning tools and practices?
- > **A Community-Engaged Study Using Drones for 3D Air Quality Measurements** Does vegetation help mitigate roadway- and aircraft-related air pollution in Seattle?

OUR STUDENT EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

Addressing our most pressing challenges at the intersection of climate and social justice will require a new approach to problem-solving, communicating and training. Our Student Experience Program is designed to engage university-level students who are passionate about these issues, through training and professional development opportunities that will build the skills required to effectively execute this work both within academia and in the wider community.

EXAMPLE PROGRAMS

- > **EarthLab Summer Internship Program** A 10-week, paid cohort-based experience for University of Washington undergraduate students.
- > **UW-APRU Climate Change Simulation** An annual program that sponsors 10 UW students of any level or discipline to participate in mock U.N. climate change negotiations.

EARTHLAB MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

EarthLab provides each member organization with technical, operational and communications support to amplify their work addressing some of the most critical environmental challenges of our lifetime.

- > **Center for Health and the Global Environment** A world in which climate action protects health and health action prioritizes climate resilience.
- > **Climate Impacts Group** Providing scientific data, tools, guidance and capacity needed to manage climate risks such as sea level rise and forest fires.
- > **Doris Duke Conservation Scholars Program** Inclusive conservation management involving a diversity of stakeholders and incorporating multiple values.
- > **Future Rivers** A workforce ready for 21st century problem-solving while developing a better understanding of freshwater ecosystems.
- > **Nature and Health** Scientists, practitioners and community members on a mission to define how time spent in nature improves health and well-being.
- > **Nippon Foundation Ocean Nexus Center** Oceans that benefit everyone, equitably.
- > **Northwest Climate Adaptation Science Center** Safeguarding the natural and cultural resources of Idaho, Oregon and Washington for generations to come.
- > **Washington Ocean Acidification Center** Resilient coastal communities around the world mitigating and adapting to ocean acidification.

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