

2021 CALS Global Opportunity Initiative

CALS Global and the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine are pleased to offer the third Global Opportunity Initiative. Applications are invited from eligible faculty who wish to strengthen skills for global engagement and...

- Simplify complex research challenges
- Refine your research pitch
- Build your collaboration and networking skills
- Add systems thinking to your skills toolbox
- Work with like-minded faculty with a focus on global engagement
- Network with organizations active in global engagement
- Partner with colleagues globally to develop project ideas and fundable proposals

The theme for the 2021 virtual Global Opportunity Initiative is **strengthening food systems for food security, health, and community vitality**. If you have interest/expertise in any of these three areas—food security, health (human, animal, plant), or community vitality—please apply! We will build a transdisciplinary cohort, with faculty from any CALS or VM department eligible to apply.

The **2021 GOI Fellows** will participate in up to 24 hours of synchronous and asynchronous virtual capacity-building workshops with Kenyan and Tanzanian faculty colleagues during March through May 2021. Using the knowledge gained, this international team will help lead virtual collaboration events for additional faculty across these institutions during June 2021. Engagement with partners in East Africa will continue well past the formal sessions. GOI Fellows who wish to subsequently travel to East Africa for in-person collaboration with colleagues will be prioritized for CALS Global Partnership Initiative funding when travel becomes advisable.

For 2021, we will select up to eight GOI Fellows. The following criteria will determine eligibility:

- Tenured and tenure-track CALS and VM Assistant, Associate, and full Professors are eligible. Collegiate and other faculty in longer-term positions with responsibilities for resource generation are also eligible.
- Applications will be evaluated on 1) disciplinary fit with the objectives for the cohort, 2) career stage (priority to early-career faculty) and 3) candidate statement and likelihood of continued global engagement.

Expectations for GOI Fellows are as follows:

- Attend and participate fully in all synchronous and asynchronous virtual capacity-building workshops during March - May 2021
- Attend and participate fully in all synchronous and asynchronous virtual collaboration events during June 2021
- Participate in proposal and program development with partners and colleagues seeking competitive funding (pending appropriate opportunities)
- Help promote the program within CALS and VM

If you intend to apply, please inform Tom Thompson (tlthomps@vt.edu) via email no later than 18 December. Completed applications are due 15 January. Please contact Tom with questions.

To apply, submit to Nicole Martin (martinn@vt.edu) no later than 15 January 2021:

- Career CV
- Your current research/teaching/extension focus areas
- Statement of career goals for global engagement. Please address how your expertise will connect with the theme for the cohort.
- Letter of support from department head/unit leader.
- Submitting your application signifies that you have read and understand all program expectations

Detailed Schedule

- 18 December 2020 Deadline for intent to apply
- 15 January 2021 Applications due
- 22 January 2021 Fellow selections announced
- 29 January 2021 Kickoff cohort meeting and “reception”
- Week of March 14 Session 1 (two morning sessions of up to 4 hrs each)
- Week of April 11 Session 2 (two morning sessions of up to 4 hrs each)
- Week of May 16 Session 3 (two morning sessions of up to 4 hrs each)
- “Lunch and learn” 1200-1300 on 10 and 24 March, 7 and 21 April, and 5 May
- Week of 21 June Virtual Collaboration Week (up to 20 hours of virtual collaboration)
- 20 August Celebrate!