



Call for Applications for 2025-26

SCoRE Community-Engaged Sustainability Research

Faculty Fellows Program

Deadline to Apply: Monday, August 11, 5PM

Program Background: To solve the pressing issues of our times, it is essential to learn how to work in close partnership with communities to combine academic knowledge with the deep expertise developed through lived experience and community action. The Center for Sustainable Communities Research and Education (SCoRE) is working to put this goal into action in close collaboration with the sustainability cluster of Interdisciplinary Research Institutes (IRIs): the Brook Byers Institute for Sustainable Systems (BBISS), the Renewable Bioproducts Institute (RBI), and the Strategic Energy Institute (SEI). SCoRE is currently recruiting up to six Faculty Fellows for Academic Year 2026 (September 2025 to April 2026). If you are eager to incorporate a new or stronger focus on community partnerships into your sustainability research, please consider applying!

Eligibility: All interested faculty are welcome to apply, regardless of prior experience in community-engaged research. Our goal is for fellows to represent multiple colleges and schools, as well as research interests spanning BBISS, SEI, and RBI. Faculty running labs or working with graduate students are encouraged to apply as pairs or teams so that the experience contributes to graduate student training and graduate students can support learning and deliverables. Many of our community-engaged research (CER) relationships focus on partners in the U.S. Southeast, so we are especially eager to receive applications from faculty interested in building relationships with partners in this region.

Scope of Work: Fellows will engage in two core activities: 1) Attend one or two CER training workshops, to learn or hone [community-engaged research principles](#) and methodologies such as asset-based community development (ABCD), participatory facilitation, and popular education (workshops will be tailored to the experiences and interests of the fellows); 2) Work closely with a SCoRE or BBISS faculty member – Jennifer Hirsch, SCoRE’s Senior Director; Ruthie Yow, SCoRE’s Associate Director; or Nicole Kennard, BBISS’ Assistant Director for Community-Engaged Research – to connect their research interests with one of our [community-engaged research signature partnerships](#) and build relationships with community partners related to those projects and programs. Fellows will also be invited to attend other SCoRE events and community events with partners and will be introduced to members of the Georgia Tech Community-Engaged Research (CER) Council, which, in addition to SCoRE, BBISS, RBI, and SEI, includes the Institute for People and Technology (IPaT), the Partnership for Inclusive Innovation (PIN), and the Enterprise Innovation Institute (EI²). Finally, each Fellow will be introduced to 1 or 2 other faculty members with similar interests and CER experience.

Deliverables: Each fellow will submit a final deliverable by end of May 2026, that is mutually beneficial to the fellow (and their graduate student/lab, if applicable) and to SCoRE/BBISS. The deliverable will be determined by the Fellow together with the SCoRE/BBISS faculty member they are working with. Examples may include, but are not limited to: a literature review or article connecting their research interests to community-based issues and partners, a societal impact statement for a tenure package, a Broader Impact Statement for external funding opportunities, a collaborative funding proposal written with community partners.

Funding: Fellows receive a \$1,000 stipend, generally dispersed as summer salary (or sometimes discretionary funds).

How to Apply: Submit your application [via Qualtrics here](#). Note that the application: 1) Requests a brief statement articulating your interest in the program, including a summary of your research interests (incl. your geographic interests, with a preference for U.S. Southeast), your experience (if any) with CER to date, what you hope to achieve from participating in the program, and the perspectives you will contribute; 2) Asks you to indicate which [community-engaged research signature partnerships](#) interest you; 3) Asks whether and how your interests align with any of the focus areas of the three sustainability IRIs; and 4) Asks whether you are applying with a graduate student or lab (not required) – and if so, if you would be interested in collaborating with us to put together an application for [PEGS](#) funding. It also requests that you attach your CV.

Questions: Contact the program lead, Jennifer Hirsch, Senior Director, SCoRE (jennifer.hirsch@gatech.edu)