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CAIRNS WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Happy Monday!

We hope you all had a wonderful weekend! It was wonderful getting to meet you all in person last Thursday. Nicki (nicolette.cagle@duke.edu) and I are always here to support you all, so please feel free to reach out to either of us with any questions or concerns!

To help you all prepare for the Mentor-Mentee Speed Networking Zoom next **Thursday, October 7**, [here are some networking tips and resources](#):

- TIP 1: Craft the story of you
 - Oftentimes when you are meeting someone in speed networking event (like our Zoom or even a career fair), you will need to have your "elevator pitch" ready. Your goal should be to get across what your interests are, what your aspirations are, and why you want to connect with the person you are speaking to.
- TIP 2: Find common ground
 - It can be easier and feel more natural to connect with someone when you both have found some common ground. Sometimes this common ground could simply be that you are interested in the field the other person is in. Or it could be that you both played a specific sport, or were in the same university organization. You can mention a bit of your background (hometown, what led you to where you are now) when you craft your story, and that may bring up areas of common ground!
- TIP 3: Focus on building a relationship, not a future job
 - Don't enter a networking event with the mindset of trying to find a job or internship. Use this opportunity to fully connect with the other individual you are talking to. Approach the conversation as a

field; you can find a lot of valuable advice from them if you focus on asking for their story rather than just about professional opportunities.

- Some resources with more tips and guides on building a network!
 - [Duke Career Hub Networking Guide](#)
 - [Duke Career Hub Networking 101 Online Course](#)
 - There are specific sections about Informational Interviewing that you all may find helpful!
 - [4 Tips for Boosting Your Networking](#)

SAVE THE DATE: Mentor-Mentee Speed Networking!

We will have a virtual speed networking event for you all and the graduate student mentors to get to know each other at **7pm on Thursday, October 7**. This event is an opportunity for you all to gauge which graduate student mentors you believe would be a best fit for you, as well as practice your networking skills. We will hold this event over Zoom - look out for an Outlook Calendar invite coming soon!



MENTOR FEATURE



Who: Cameron Oglesby (she/her)

Association with Duke: Graduated in 2021 from Nicholas School with a BA in Environmental Sciences and Policy with a focus in Ecology. Currently studying Public Policy at Sanford School of Public Policy

Interests: Environment and Energy Policy, Corporate Sustainability, and Environmental Justice

What on-campus organizations or groups are you involved with?

- Founding member and president of the Undergraduate Environmental Union
- Founding member and leader for Duke's Environmental Justice Campus Committee
- Director of Environmental Affairs and Policy for Duke Student Government
- Duke Board of Trustees Climate Change and Sustainability Task Force
- Social justice podcaster and environmental reporter for The Duke Chronicle

Environmental Alliance.

What is/was your favorite part of NSOE? Of Duke? Of Durham? (ie: study spots, places to hang out with friends, places to eat?)

The faculty at NSOE are some of the most well meaning and passionate people I've ever met. Suggestions for ways to improve NSOE were always taken seriously and it felt as though I could have critical conversations with several faculty members about the institution, about the field as a person of color, and about the environmental movement as a whole. People really seemed to be trying to listen and to accommodate different perspectives, and I appreciated that effort.

Any advice for the CAIRNS cohort (current undergraduates at Duke)?

Don't be afraid to make your visions for the university and for your time at Duke a reality. There is an amazing flexibility at this school. With a little vision and drive you can really make an impact here. It can be difficult not seeing yourself or your perspective reflected amongst your peers or your professors. If you want that to change, know that you can make it happen and that there are people in your corner who want to see you succeed. At the same time, take advantage of this institution and all that it has to offer. Let the school work for you. As you're looking to make your difference and leave your mark on this space, it can be difficult to balance yourself with the work. This school will take whatever it can from you. Make sure you aren't just giving back but taking as well.



The Nicholas Institute has a [calendar full of events](#) for the upcoming semester! Check out these one happening on Wednesday, September 29:

The Great Infrastructure Game

Jackson Ewing, Senior Fellow, will present "The Great Infrastructure Game:

[Register for this event here!](#)

[Learn more about the event here!](#)

Power Up Series (Session 2)

Duke students, are you interested in energy but don't know where to start? Duke University's Power Up series will introduce you to current issues and trends in this rapidly evolving sector.

Session 2: *Wed. Sept. 29, 6:00-7:30 p.m.* – Intro to Energy Systems and Tech: Get the latest on key trends and potential gamechangers in clean energy tech! Led by Dr. Tim Johnson (Nicholas School of the Environment) and Dr. Eric Rohlffing (Duke University Energy Initiative).

[Register for the event here!](#)



Need a break from your schoolwork? Check out these sustainability and environment related movies/tv shows/book/podcasts!

- **Threshold - Auricle Productions** (Podcast - find on any platform you listen to podcasts)
- **My Octopus Teacher** (Documentary - on Netflix)
- **The Ecology of Commerce by Paul Hawken** (physical book - through Duke Library)
- **The Economics of Sustainable Food by Nicoletta Batini** (eBook - through Duke Library)

Cohort Bulletin

What is the cohort up to?

Use this space to share your weekly triumphs, promote your student organization events, or anything that you would like to share with the cohort! Just send Meilin an email (meilin.chan@duke.edu) with what you'd like to share.



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