Last updated: Sept. 2026

Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, Virginia Tech
295 West Campus Drive, 223 Wallace Hall, Blacksburg, VA, 24061 USA
540-449-3581 | eranga@vt.edu | https://www.irilab.org | @IRI-Lab

PROFILE

Areas of research: Community-based participatory research | Climate adaptation | Indigenous peoples | Co-management | Indigenous knowledge systems | Climate-Food-Health Nexus | Indigenous entrepreneurship | Research co-planning | Systematic reviews
Publications: 52 journal articles | 3 book chapters | 3 high-level reports | 55 conference presentations | >5000 citations
External Grants: >$2M project-specific total | >US$8M consortium-wide total
Students: 19 graduate advisees | 6 undergraduate advisees | 10 external mentees
Community: Ongoing partnerships with 11 Indigenous communities from Global North and South
Global research networks: IPON—Indigenous Peoples Observatory Network (17 countries & >100 Indigenous communities)

EDUCATION

PhD in Geography
Department of Geography, McGill University, Canada
2016-2020*
*Visiting Research Scholar at Stanford University, USA (2019), at the Center on Food Security and the Environment under Prof. Rosamond L. Naylor.

MSc in Natural Resource Management
Natural Resources Institute, University of Manitoba, Canada
2011-2013

MBA (Master of Business Administration)
Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka
2007-2010

BSc in Fisheries and Marine Science
Ocean University of Sri Lanka
2001-2005

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS AFTER PhD

Assistant Professor
Department of Geography, Virginia Tech, USA
2021/08-Present

Visiting Honorary Professor
Department of Agricultural Economics and Business Management, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka
2023/05-Present

Research Scientist
Arctic and Aquatic Research Division, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
2021/06-2021/08

Research Professional in Northern Indigenous Fisheries Management
Marine Arctic Resilience, Adaptations and Transformations project, Laval University, Canada
2020/07-2021/08

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

1. Early Career Scholarly Impact Award, Office of Research and Innovation & Office of Faculty Affairs, Virginia Tech, 2026

2. Early Career Research Achievement Award, Virginia Tech College of Natural Resources and Environment, 2026

PUBLICATIONS

JOURNAL ARTICLES (PEER-REVIEWED)

*Student/mentee co-author

1. *Garbutt, E.H., Galappaththi, E.K., *Jayasekara, S.M., Bell, S.E., Crawford, T.W. (2026). Limits and barriers to climate adaptation among Indigenous women: Insights from Vedda communities in Sri Lanka. Environmental Science and Policy, 183: 104478.

2. *Jayasekara, S. M., Kodithuwakku, S.S., Viraji W. Jayaweera, V.W., Galappaththi, E.K. (2026) Determinants of Succession Planning in Sri Lankan Family Businesses: A Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis of Owner, Family, and Business Attributes. *Journal of Sustainability* (2026) 2:1, 1-21.

3. *Bilous, M., *Wlght, K., Galappaththi, E.K., Dunmall, K. (2026) A systematic review of indicators and methods used to assess coastal to offshore marine ecosystems in the eastern Canadian Arctic. *Canadian Technical Report of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences 3786*: vii + 81 p.

4. *Jayasekara, S.M., Galappaththi, E.K., Niewolny, K.L., Rijal, S. (2026). Governance of Indigenous Food Systems: Linking Global Patterns with Local Realities, *Sustainability* 18(11), 5763.

5. Galappaththi, E.K., *Ilangarathna, G.A., *Jayasekara, S.M. (2026). Co-planning community-based research: evidence, steps, and strategies. *The Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability,* 80: 101624.

6. *Ilangarathna, G.A., Galappaththi, E.K., Resler, L.M., Dunmall, K.M., Rijal, S. (2026). Unseen challenges to Arctic food security: the role of non-climatic factors in a changing climate. *Regional Environmental Change*, 26 (69), 1-22.

7. *Franco, C.L.B., Sorice, M., Castillo, L.S., Galappaththi, E.K. (2026). How social norms are integrated in natural resource co-management. *People and Nature*, 8 (5), 1050-1065.

8. *Perera, C. D., Galappaththi, E. K., Zavaleta-Cortijo, C., Baird, T. D., & Kolivras, K. N., Ford, J.D., et al. (2026). Transformative Pathways for Strengthening Climate-Resilient Health Systems Among Indigenous Communities: Advancing Equity and Sustainability in Global Health. *Sustainable Development*, *0*, 1-15.

9. Galappaththi, E.K., Russell, J. D., *Dolby, M., *Newsome, T., & *Jayasekara, S. M. (2025). Status of global accumulation of marine debris. *Global Environmental Change*, 95, 103058.

10. Galappaththi, E.K., *Ayesu-Danso, B., *Jayasekara, S. M., Baird, T. D., Bukvic, A., & Rijal, S. (2025). Voices from Akplabanya: Community Adaptation and Social-Ecological Changes in Coastal Ghana. *Cambridge Prisms: Coastal Futures*, 3, e19,1-13.

11. *Kabir Adrita, M., Kolivras, K. N., Crawford, T. W., & Galappaththi, E.K (2025). Climatic Drivers of Malaria Incidence: A Study in Naikhongchhari Subdistrict, Bandarban, Bangladesh. *Weather, Climate, and Society*, 17(4), 833-847.

12. *Punjabi, S., Misra, S., Rippy, M. A., Grant, S. B., Galappaththi, E., Lim, T., & Birkland, T. A. (2025). A conceptual framework for knowledge integration in cross-disciplinary collaborations. *Environmental Science & Policy*, 172, 104197.

13. *Dharmasiri, I. P., Galappaththi, E. K., Baird, T. D., Bukvic, A., & Rijal, S. (2025). From Roots to Resilience: Exploring the Drivers of Indigenous Entrepreneurship for Climate Adaptation. *Sustainability*, *17*(10), 4472.

14. *Perera, C. D., Galappaththi, E. K., Zavaleta-Cortijo, C., Baird, T. D., & Kolivras, K. N. (2025). A conceptual framework to improve climate-resilient health among Indigenous communities. *Environmental Science & Policy*, *168*, 104069.

15. Carlos Bezerra, J. et al., Galappaththi, E. K., et al. (2025). Addressing Food Insecurity Through Community Kitchens During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Case Study from the Eastern Cape, South Africa. *Urban Science*, *9*(2), 37.

16. Maskell, G., et al., Galappaththi E.K. et al. (2025). Dichotomy or continuum? A global review of the interaction between autonomous and planned adaptations. *Ecology and Society*, *30*(1), 18.

17. Galappaththi, E. K., *Jayasekara, S. M., *Perera, C. D., *Ilangarathna, G. A., & *Garbutt, H. (2025). Solvable constraints and unsolvable limits to global climate adaptation in coastal Indigenous food security. *Cambridge Prisms: Coastal Futures*, *3*, e3.

18. *Bilous, M., *Wlght, K., Galappaththi, E.K., Dunmall, K. (2024) A systematic review of indicators and methods used to assess coastal to offshore marine ecosystems in the western Canadian Arctic. *Polar Biology*, 47: 317-332.

19. Galappaththi, E. K., *Perera, C. D., *Illangarathna, G. A., *Jayasekara, S. M., & *Garbutt, H. (2024). Food security policy and coastal climate adaptation among Indigenous and Local Communities. *Marine Policy*, *170*, 106408.

20. Pickering, K., Galappaththi, E., Ford, J., Pearce, T., Manuel, L., Dauniwaqalevu, E., et al. & Amukugo, H. (2024). Fiji's policy response to COVID-19 and the integration of Indigenous voices. *Environmental Science & Policy*, *158*, 103791.

21. Reyes-García, V., et al. Galappaththi, E.K. et al. (2024) Local studies provide a global perspective of the impacts of climate change on Indigenous Peoples and local communities. *Sustainable Earth Reviews*, 7 (1): 1-11.
22. Reyes-García, V. et al. Galappaththi, E.K. et al. (2024) Indigenous Peoples and local communities report ongoing and widespread climate change impacts on local social-ecological systems. *Communications Earth & Environment*, 5 (1): 1-10.

23. Chicmana-Zapata, V., Arotoma-Rojas, I., Anza-Ramírez, C., Ford, J., Galappaththi, E.K., et al. *Perera, C.D., *Dharmasiri, I.P., et al. (2023) Justice implications of health and food security policies for Indigenous peoples facing COVID-19: a qualitative study and policy analysis in Peru. *Health Policy and Planning*, 38 (2): ii36-ii50.

24. Zavaleta-Cortijo, C., Ford, J.D., Galappaththi, E.K., et al. *Perera, C.D., *Dharmasiri, I.P., et al. (2023) Indigenous knowledge, community resilience, and health emergency preparedness. *The Lancet Planetary Health, 7* (8): E641-E643.

25. Galappaththi, E.K. and Schlingmann, A. (2023) The sustainability assessment of Indigenous and local knowledge-based climate adaptation responses in agricultural and aquatic food systems. *The Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability,* 62: 101276.

26. Galappaththi, E.K., *Perera, C.D., *Dharmasiri, I.P., et al. (2023) Policy responses to COVID-19 in Sri Lanka and the consideration of Indigenous Peoples. *Environmental Science and Policy,* 144: 110-123.

27. Pickering, K., Galappaththi, E.K., et al. (2023) Indigenous Peoples and the COVID-19 pandemic: a systematic scoping review. *Environmental Research Letters*, 18: 033001.

28. Ford, J.F., Zavaleta-Cortijo, C., Ainembabazi, T., Anza-Ramirez, C., Arotoma-Rojas, I., Bezerra, J., Chicmana-Zapata, V., Galappaththi, E.K., et al. (2022) Interactions between climate and COVID-19. *The Lancet Planetary Health,* 6 (10): e825-e833.

29. Galappaththi, E.K., Falardeau, M., Harris, L.N., Rocha, J.C., Moore, J.-S., Berkes, F. (2022) Resilience-based steps for adaptive co-management of Arctic small-scale fisheries. *Environmental Research Letters,* 17(8): 083004.

30. Torhan, S., Grady, C. A., Ajibade, I., Galappaththi, E.K., Hernandez, R. R., Musah-Surugu, J. I., et al. (2022) Tradeoffs and synergies across global climate change adaptations in the food-energy-water nexus. *Earth's Future*, 10 (4): e2021EF002201.

31. Divine, L.M., Pearce, T, Ford, J., Solovyev, B., Galappaththi, E.K., Bluhm, B., Kaiser, B.A. (2021) Protecting the future Arctic. *One Earth,* 4 (12): 1649-1651.

32. Ulibarri, N., Ajibade, I., Galappaththi, E.K, et al. (2022) A global assessment of policy tools to support climate adaptation. *Climate Policy*, 22(1): 77-96.

33. Berrang-Ford, L., Siders, A.R., Lesnikowski, A., et al. Galappaththi, E.K., et al. (2021) A systematic global stocktake of evidence on human adaptation to climate change, *Nature Climate Change*, 11: 989-1000.

34. Galappaththi, E.K., *Susarla, V.B., *Loutet, S.J.T., Ichien, S.T., Hayman, A.A., Ford, J.D. (2021) Climate change adaptation in fisheries. *Fish and Fisheries*, 23(1): 4-21.

35. Araos, M., Jagannathan, K., et al. Galappaththi, E.K., et al. (2021) Equity in human adaptation-related responses: A systematic global review. *One Earth,* 4: 1454-1467.

36. Sitati, A., et al. Galappaththi, E.K., et al. (2021) Climate change adaptation in conflict-affected countries: A systematic assessment of evidence. *Discover Sustainability,* 2(1): 42.

37. Thomas, A., Thekritoff, E., et al. Galappaththi, E.K., et al. 2021 Global evidence of limits and constraints to human adaptation. *Regional Environmental Change,* 21(3): 1-15.

38. Scheelbeek, P.F.D., et al. Galappaththi, E.K., et al. (2021) The effects on public health of climate change adaptation responses: a systematic review of evidence from low- and middle-income countries. *Environmental Research Letters,* 16: 073001.

39. Turek-Hankins, L.L., et al. Galappaththi, E.K., et al. (2021) Climate change adaptation to extreme heat: A global systematic review of implemented action. *Oxford Open Climate Change*, 1 (1): kgab005.

40. Galappaththi, E.K., Ford, J., Bennett, E., Berkes, F. (2021) Adapting to climate change in small-scale fisheries: Insights from Indigenous communities in the global north and south. *Environmental Science and Policy,* 116: 160-170.

41. Galappaththi, E.K., Ford, D.J., Bennett, E.M. (2020) Climate change and adaptation to social-ecological change: The case of Indigenous people and culture-based fisheries in Sri Lanka. *Climatic Change,*162: 279-300.

42. Galappaththi, E.K., Ichien, S.T., Hayman, A.A., *Aubrac, C.J., Ford, J.D. (2020) Climate change adaptation in aquaculture. *Reviews in Aquaculture,* 12 (4): 2160-2176.

43. Ford, J.D., King, N., Galappaththi, E.K., Pearce, T., McDowell, G., Harper, S. (2020) The Resilience of Indigenous peoples to environmental change. *One Earth,* 2(6): 532-543.

44. Galappaththi, E.K., Ford, J., Bennett, E., Berkes, F. (2019) Climate change and community fisheries in the Arctic: A case study from Pangnirtung, Canada. *Journal of Environmental Management,* 250:109534.

45. Galappaththi, E.K., Ford, J., Bennett, E. (2019) A framework for assessing community adaptation to climate change in a fisheries context. *Environmental Science and Policy,* 92, 17-26.

46. Galappaththi, E.K., Berkes, F., Ford, J. (2018) Climate change adaptation efforts in coastal shrimp aquaculture: A case from northwestern Sri Lanka. *In:* Johnson, J., De Young, C., Bahri, T., Soto, D., & Virapat, C., eds. FishAdapt: The Global Conference on Climate Change Adaptation for Fisheries and Aquaculture, 2018 Bangkok. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Proceedings No. 61. Rome, FAO.

47. Galappaththi, E.K. & Nayak, P.K. (2017) Two faces of shrimp aquaculture: Commonising vs. decommonising effects of a "wicked" driver. *Maritime Studies,* 16 (12):1-19.

48. Galappaththi, I.M., Galappaththi, E.K., Kodithuwakku, S.S. (2017) Can start-up motives influence social-ecological resilience in community-based entrepreneurship setting? Case of coastal shrimp farmers in Sri Lanka. *Marine Policy,* 86: 156-163.

49. Galappaththi, E.K., Kodithuwakku, S.K, Galappaththi, I.M. (2016) Can environment management integrate into supply chain management? Information sharing via shrimp aquaculture cooperatives in northwestern Sri Lanka. *Marine Policy,* 68: 187-194.

50. Galappaththi, E.K. & Berkes, F. (2015) Can co-management emerge spontaneously? Collaborative management in Sri Lankan shrimp aquaculture. *Marine Policy,* 60: 1-8.

51. Galappaththi, E.K. & Berkes, F. (2015) Drama of the commons in small-scale shrimp aquaculture in northwestern, Sri Lanka. *International Journal of the Commons,* 9 (1): 347-368.

52. Galappaththi, E.K. & Berkes, F. (2014) Institutions for managing common-pool resources: The case of community-based shrimp aquaculture in northwestern Sri Lanka. *Maritime Studies,* 13: 1-16.

*Forthcoming: Papers currently in-review (**7**) and in-preparation (**11**)*

BOOK CHAPTERS

1. Galappaththi, E.K. (2025) The role of Indigenous fishers' knowledge and collective action in reducing vulnerability to climate change. In: Miller, F., Shrestha, K., Wright, S. (eds). Handbook on Climate Change Vulnerability, Environments and Communities. Edward Elgar Publishing: Cheltenham, UK. Chapter 13, pp. 260-281.

2. Galappaththi, E.K. (2024) How can co-management support adaptation to climate change? The case of co-existing fisheries from Pangnirtung, Nunavut, Canada. In V. Reyes-García et al. (Ed.), *Routledge*

Handbook of Climate Change Impacts on Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities. Routledge: New York. Chp 23, pp. 372-390.

3. Galappaththi, E.K. & Galappaththi, I.M. (2021) Five key characteristics that drive commonisation: Empirical evidence from Sri Lankan shrimp aquaculture. In: Nayak, P.K. (Ed). *Making Commons Dynamic: Understanding Change Through Commonisation and Decommonisation. Routledge*: New York. pp. 83-101.

THESIS/DISSERTATION

1. Opportunities for adaptation to climate change: A comparative analysis of Indigenous fisheries systems in Canadian Arctic and Eastern Sri Lanka. PhD Dissertation. McGill University, Department of Geography, Montreal, Canada. 2020.

2. Community-based shrimp aquaculture in northwestern Sri Lanka. Masters in Natural Resources Management Thesis. University of Manitoba, Natural Resources Institute, Winnipeg, Canada. 2013.

3. Shrimp aquaculture supply chains in Sri Lanka. MBA Thesis. University of Peradeniya, Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. 2010.

HIGH-LEVEL GLOBAL REPORTS

1. IPCC Contributing Author: Berrang-Ford, L., et al. Galappaththi, E.K., et al. (2022). Chapter 16: Adaptation opportunities, constraints, and limits. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 6th Assessment Report. Working Group II.

2. IPCC Contributing Author: Kerr, R.B., et al. Galappaththi, E.K., et al. (2022). Chapter 5: Food, fibre and other services from managed ecosystems. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 6th Assessment Report. Working Group II.

3. FAO Contributing Author: The White/Wiphala Paper on Indigenous Peoples' food systems. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Rome. 2022.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

1. **Garbutt, H.**, Galappaththi, E.K., & Jayasekara Pathiranage, S. M. (2026). *Climate change impacts and experiences: The voices of Vedda women*. Story Book. Figshare. https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.32660895

2. Galappaththi, E.K. and Jayasekara, S.M. (2026) Country Profile of Sri Lanka: Indigenous Peoples Observatories Network. figshare. Book. https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.31953408.v1

3. Namanya, D.B., Nuwagira, R., Ainembabazi, T., Kazaana, C., Nkalubo, J., Nahabwe, H., Okware, S., Lwasa, S., Ford, J., Zavaleta-Cortijo, C., Chicmana-Zapata, V., Galappaththi, E.K., Hangula, M.M., Perera, C.D. (2022) Prevention, Impacts, and Response to COVID-19 among the Batwa Indigenous Peoples in Uganda: A Policy Brief. figshare. Online resource. https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.21394974.v2

4. Galappaththi, E.K. (2019) Following the fish: Climate change and community fisheries in the Arctic. Resilience in the Arctic: facing the future. *The Circle*, The WWF Arctic Program, Volume 4, Pp 8-9.

5. Galappaththi, E.K. (2019) Sustaining lagoon-based shrimp aquaculture through collaborative management: Sri Lankan experience. *Hanthana Vision*, Research Magazine of the University of Peradeniya, Volume 5, Issue 1, June 2019: 17-18.

PROPOSALS FUNDED

EXTERNAL GRANTS (VIRGINIA TECH: 08/2021-05/2026)

1. Indigenous Peoples Food Systems' statistics: nurturing epistemic diversity in the configuration of quantitative data for the right to foods.
   Sponsor: **European Research Council (ERC).**
   Investigator(s): Galappaththi E.K. (PI-Virginia Tech).
   Amount: €65,000 ($77,000) (consortium-wide total: >$2.4 million--PI: Pamela Katic).
   2026–2031

2. Belmont Forum Collaborative Research: The Indigenous Peoples Observatory Network (IPON): Understanding and responding to complex climate-health emergencies
   Sponsor: **U.S. National Science Foundation.**
   Investigator(s): Galappaththi E.K. (PI).
   Amount: $928,001 (consortium-wide total: >$1.6 million)
   2025–2028

3. Understanding the Geography of Wildlife Use in the Face of Urbanization.
   Sponsor: **U.S. National Science Foundation.**
   Investigator(s): Chaves V. (PI), Valle D.R. (UFL), and Galappaththi E.K. (VT).
   Amount: $396,474
   2024–2027

4. Collaborative Research: NSF-NFRF – The Indigenous Peoples Observatory Network (IPON): The Climate-Food-Health Nexus.
   Sponsor: **U.S. National Science Foundation.**
   Investigator(s): Galappaththi E.K. (PI) and Chi G. (PSU).
   Amount: $424,251 (consortium-wide total: >$3.5 million; project-specific total: $700,000).
   2024–2027

5. Pathways to enhance Indigenous participation in developing climate resilience health systems: A Peruvian Case Study.
   Sponsor: **The Soulsby Foundation for One Health, UK.**
   Investigator(s): Galappaththi E.K. (PI)
   Awarded: $10,053
   2024-2025

6. Planning Proposal to Collaboratively Develop Community Partnerships with Nunavut Residents.
   Sponsor: **U.S. National Science Foundation.**
   Investigator(s): Galappaththi E.K. (PI).
   Amount: $200,000
   2022–2025

INTERNAL GRANTS (VIRGINIA TECH: 08/2021-05/2026)

1. Enhancing climate-food-health resilience among Inuit in the Arctic.
   Sponsor: **ISCE Scholar Program, Virginia Tech.**
   Investigator(s): Galappaththi E.K. (PI) and Wilcke M. (Pangnirtung, Canada).
   Awarded: $30,000
   2025–2026

2. AI undergraduate Curriculum Development Initiative 2026.
   Sponsor: **Undergraduate Academic Affairs, Virginia Tech.**
   Investigator(s): Baird T. (PI) and Galappaththi E.K. (Co-PI).

Awarded: $5,000
2026

3. Indigenous Data Sovereignty: Rethinking Ethical Training of Large Language Models.
Sponsor: **ICAT Mini SEAD grant, Virginia Tech.**
Investigator(s): Buyuktahtakin-Toy E. (PI) and Galappaththi E.K. (Co-PI).
Amount: $6,000
2025–2026

4. Uplifting Livelihoods of Indigenous Peoples in Sri Lanka through Technological Interventions.
Sponsor: **ICAT SEAD Grant, Virginia Tech.**
Investigator(s): Galappaththi E.K. (PI) and Niewolny K. (VT).
Amount: $20,000
2024–2025

5. Using Population Genetics to Inform Sustainable Aquaculture Governance in Lake Victoria, Uganda.
Sponsor: **GCC Seed Grant, Virginia Tech.**
Investigator(s): Nyboer E. (PI), Galappaththi E.K. (VT), Mims M. (VT), Halleman E. (VT), Frimpong E. (VT), and Tibihika P.D.M. (NARO).
Amount: $12,670
2024–2025

6. Food Security and Climate Change among Indigenous Peoples in Sri Lanka.
Sponsor: **ISCE Scholar Program, Virginia Tech.**
Investigator(s): Galappaththi E.K. (PI) and Gamage T.A. (MCA).
Awarded: $30,000
2023–2024

7. Marine Debris Accumulation in Coastal Areas.
Sponsor: **Center for Coastal Studies FY23 Seed Grant, Virginia Tech.**
Investigator(s): Galappaththi E.K. (PI) and Russell J.D. (VT).
Amount: $9,800
2022–2023

8. Develop Partnerships and Collaborations with Indigenous Leaders in Sri Lanka.
Sponsor: **Faculty Mentoring Grant, Virginia Tech.**
Investigator(s): Galappaththi E.K. (PI).
Amount: $1,500
2022–2023

AWARDS AND PROPOSALS FUNDED (PREDOCTORAL)

1	UK Research and Innovation-UKRI, The COVID Observatories international collaborative research (project funding for Sri Lankan component: £9,000) *[Senior Personnel]*	~$16,000	2020-2023
2	European Research Council-ERC [FP7-771056-LICCI], The Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (*LICCI project funding: €10,000) [Research partner for 2 case studies: Arctic and Sri Lanka]*	~$15,000	2021-2021
3	SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship	$86,667	2016-2020
4	McGill Graduate Excellence Fellowship	$4,000	2020
5	Mitacs Globalink Research Award	$6,000	2019
6	McGill Graduate Mobility Award	$1,000	2019
7	McGill North Engagement Grant	$4,000	2019

8	IDRC Doctoral Research Award	$20,000	2017-2018
9	Arctic Field Research Stipend (McGill University)	$21,128	2017-2018
10	GREAT-Graduate Research Enhancement and Travel Award	$600	2017-2018
11	NSTP (Northern Scientific Training Program) Grant	$5,950	2017-2019
12	IK-Adapt Grant (McGill University)	$2,000	2017
13	McGill Graduate Excellence Award	$7,000	2016
14	Graduate Research Fellowship (CRC-Community-based Resource Management, University of Manitoba)	$30,000	2011-2013
15	UMGSA Travel Grant, University of Manitoba	$750	09/2013
16	CHRFEER Dean's Office Travel Award, University of Manitoba	$750	07/2013
17	NRI's Graduate Student Conference Travel Award	$200	06/2013
18	Faculty of Graduate Studies Travel Award, University of Manitoba	$1,500	05/2013
19	Faculty of Graduate Studies Special Award, University of Manitoba	$1,000	10/2011
20	Faculty of Graduate Studies Special Award, University of Manitoba	$5,000	09/2011

CONFERENCE & SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

PAPER AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS

*Student/mentee co-author presenter

1. *Jayasekara S.M., Rijal, S. & Galappaththi, E.K. (2026). Spatiotemporal Analysis of Vegetation Dynamics in Sri Lankan Indigenous Villages Using NDVI (1988-2025). Virginia Tech Office of GIS and Remote Sensing (OGIS) Research Symposium, USA, April 10th, 2026.

2. *Jayasekara S.M., Galappaththi, E.K. & Jolly, H. (2026). We Share This World: Understanding Human-Wildlife Interactions and Lived Coexistence among Sri Lankan Indigenous Peoples, American Association of Geographers (AAG) 2026. | San Francisco, California, March 17th, 2026.

3. *Perera, C.D., Zavaleta-Cortijo, C., Galappaththi, E.K., Valdivia Gago, A., De La Cruz, E., (2026). Community Determinants for Climate-Resilient Health Systems of Indigenous Peoples: A Peruvian Case Study. American Association of Geographers (AAG) 2026. | San Francisco, California, March 16th, 2026.

4. Toy E.B., Galappaththi E.K., *Jayasekara S.M. & *Galande N. (2026). Indigenous Data Sovereignty: Rethinking Ethical Training of Large Language Models, Pecha Kucha presentation of the Institute for Creativity, Arts and Technology (ICAT) at Virginia Tech | February 6th, 2026.

5. *Gautam, S., Rijal, S., Shao, Y., Galappaththi, E.K., Kochersberger, K. (2026) Analyzing Urban Heat Island Intensity and Spatial Clustering Across U.S. Cities (2000– 2024): Using MODIS Data and an Open-Source Python Application. OGIS Symposium, Blacksburg, VA, USA | March 2026.

6. *Gautam, S., Rijal, S., Shao, Y., Galappaththi, E.K., Kochersberger, K. (2026) Analyzing Urban Heat Island Intensity and Spatial Clustering Across U.S. Cities (2000– 2024): Using MODIS Data and an Open-Source Python Application. *AAG Annual Meeting,* San Francisco, USA | March 2026.

7. *Gautam, S., Rijal, S., Shao, Y., Galappaththi, E.K., Kochersberger, K. (2025) Analyzing Urban Heat Island Intensity and Spatial Clustering Across U.S. Cities (2000– 2024): Using MODIS Data and an Open-Source Python Application. Southeastern Division of the American Association of Geographers (SEDAAG), Lexington, KY, USA | November 2025.

8. *Ilangarathna, G.A., Galappaththi, E.K., Resler, L.M., Rijal, S. (2025) Indigenous Knowledge-based Adaptation Strategies for Arctic Food Insecurity amidst Non-climatic stress: ICES's Annual Science Conference, Klaipeda University, Lithuania | September 15, 2025.

9. *Garbutt, E.H. and Galappaththi, E.K. (2025) Indigenous women's experiences and responses to climate change: insights from Sri Lanka. 80th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Division of the AAG. Lexington, KY, USA | November 23rd -24th, 2025.

10. *Jayasekara S.M. & Galappaththi, E.K. (2025). Governing Indigenous food systems: Global practices and local realities in Sri Lanka, Indigenous Peoples Observatory Network (IPON) Annual Scientific Meeting, Big Ada, Ghana | November 24th, 2025.

11. *Jayasekara S.M. & Galappaththi, E.K. (2025) Current Research Approaches for Studying the Climate–Food–Health Nexus of Sri Lankan Indigenous Communities, Indigenous Peoples Observatory Network (IPON) Annual Scientific Meeting, Big Ada, Ghana | November 23rd, 2025.

12. Galappaththi, E.K., & *Jayasekara. S.M. (2025) Uplifting livelihoods of Indigenous Peoples in Sri Lanka through technological interventions. Playdate of the Institute for Creativity, Arts and Technology (ICAT) at Virginia Tech, September 19th, 2025.

13. Galappaththi, E.K., & *Jayasekara. S.M. (2025) Uplifting livelihoods of Indigenous Peoples in Sri Lanka through technological interventions. Pecha Kucha presentation of the Institute for Creativity, Arts and Technology (ICAT) at Virginia Tech, August 8th, 2025.

14. *Jayasekara S.M. & Galappaththi, E.K. (2025). Analyzing Land Use and Land Cover Changes in Sri Lankan Indigenous Villages Using GIS and Remote Sensing, Virginia Tech Office of GIS and Remote Sensing (OGIS) Research Symposium, USA | April 11th, 2025.

15. Galappaththi, E.K., & *Jayasekara. S.M. (2025) Uplifting livelihoods of Indigenous Peoples in Sri Lanka through technological interventions. Mid-Pecha Kucha presentation of the Institute for Creativity, Arts and Technology (ICAT) at Virginia Tech, February 13th, 2025.

16. *Perera, C.D., Galappaththi, E.K., Zavaleta-Cortijo, C., Baird, T. D. & Kolivras, N.K. (2024) Transformative pathways to inform health professionals in adopting climate-resilient health systems for Indigenous communities. 79th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Division of the AAG. Greenville, South Carolina, USA | November 23rd -25th, 2024.

17. *Perera, C.D., Galappaththi, E.K., Zavaleta-Cortijo, C., Baird, T. D. & Kolivras, N.K. (2024) Conceptual framework to uplift climate health resilience among communities. International Medical Geography Symposium. Atlanta, Georgia, USA | July 14th-19th, 2024.

18. *Jayasekara, S.M., Galappaththi, E.K., Niewolny, K. & Rijal, S. (2024) What is on Indigenous menu? Exploring Indigenous food system governance from global to local. 79th Southeastern Division of the American Association of Geographers (SEDAAG) Meeting, Greenville, South Carolina, USA | November 23rd -25th, 2024.

19. *Ilangarathna, G.A., Galappaththi, E.K., Resler, L.M., Rijal, S. (2024) Unseen Challenges: Non-climatic Factors Exacerbating Food Insecurity Among Arctic Indigenous Communities: 79th Southeastern Division of the American Association of Geographers (SEDAAG) Meeting, Greenville, South Carolina, USA | November 23rd -25th, 2024.

20. *Garbutt, H. and Galappaththi, E.K. (2024) How Indigenous Women Experience and Respond to Climate Change in Sri Lanka: a Gender Perspective. 79th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Division of the AAG. Greenville, South Carolina, USA | November 23rd -25th, 2024.

21. Akyemfori W., Oliver R., Juran, L., Galappaththi, E.K., Read, D., & Issahaku, P. (2024) The 'Gates' of Transformation: Exploring the Intersection of Policy, Private Development, and Urban Living in Accra. 79th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Division of the AAG. Greenville, South Carolina, USA | November 23rd -25th, 2024.

22. Franco, C., Galappaththi, E.K., Brondizio, E.S., & Sorice, M.G. (2024) A Framework to Explore Social Norms in Co-Management of Natural Resources in a Multi-Level Structure. 20th International Conference on Social Dilemmas. Leiden University, The Netherlands, July 2–5, 2024.

23. Franco, C., Galappaththi, E.K., & Sorice, M.G. (2024) Exploring Social Norms in the Co-Management of Natural Resources and Fisheries. 9th World Fisheries Congress. Seattle, WA, March 3–7, 2024.

24. *Garbutt, H. and Galappaththi, E.K. (2023) Assessing the current status of climate change adaptation in Sri Lanka. 78th Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers (SEDAAG) meeting, 18 -20 November 2023, Norfolk, VA, USA.

25. *Adrita, M.K., Kolivras, K., Crawford, T., Galappaththi, E.K. (2023) Community perceptions associated with malaria endemicity in Chittagong Hill Tracts, Bangladesh. 78th Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers (SEDAAG) meeting, 18 -20 November 2023, Norfolk, Virginia, USA.

26. *Dharmasiri I.P., & Galappaththi E.K. (2023) Entrepreneurship-based factors to foster climate adaptations among Indigenous peoples. 78th Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers (SEDAAG) meeting, 18 -20 November 2023, Norfolk, Virginia, USA.

27. *Ayesu-Danso, B. & Galappaththi, E.K. (2023) Adaptation Responses in Coastal Indigenous Community of Akplabanya, Ghana. 78th Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers (SEDAAG) meeting, 18 -20 November 2023, Norfolk, Viginia, USA.

28. Galappaththi E.K., *Perera C., & *Dharmasiri I.P. (2023) Policy responses to COVID-19 in Sri Lanka and the consideration of Indigenous Peoples. 51st Annual Conference on South Asia, 21 October 2023, University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA.

29. *Ayesu-Danso, B. & Galappaththi, E.K. (2023) Climate Induced Changes, and Adaptive Capacity in Coastal Indigenous Community of Akplabanya, Ghana. Climate Adaptation Research and Understanding through the Social Sciences (ICARUS) Workshop VI, 29 September - 01 October 2023, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA.

30. *Ayesu-Danso, B. & Galappaththi, E.K. (2023) Social-Ecological Systems in Akplabanya, Ghana: The changes in connections of Indigenous people to land, food, and local power. Race, Ethnicity, and Place. 7th REP / MADAAG Conference, 11-13 October 2023, Washington DC, USA.

31. *Adrita, M.K., Kolivras, K., Crawford, T., Galappaththi, E.K. (2023) The knowledge, practices, and attitudes associated with malaria endemicity in the tribal communities of southeastern, Bangladesh. Center for Emerging, Zoonotic, and Arthropod-borne Pathogens Research Symposium, 06 October 2023.

32. *Akugre, F.A., Mensah, A., Galappaththi, E.K., Adiku, P. (2023) Interactions between Covid-19 and climate risks among Indigenous people in Northwest Ghana: the lived experiences of the Dagaaba. Herrenhausen Conference, 21-23 June 2023, Hannover, Germany.

33. Galappaththi, E.K., *Perera, C.D., *Dharmasiri, P.I., and the COVID Observatories team. (2023) COVID-19 policy responses and Sri Lanka Indigenous Peoples. *AAG Annual Meeting,* 23-27 March 2023*, Denver, USA.*

34. Galappaththi, E.K. (2022) Indigenous data sovereignty: Insights from climate change adaptation research. 152nd Annual Meeting, The American Fisheries Society, Spokane, USA.

35. Galappaththi, E.K. (2022) Resilience-based steps for adaptive co-management of Arctic small-scale fisheries. 4th World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress, St. John's, Canada.

36. Galappaththi, E.K. (2021) Climate change and community fisheries in the Arctic: A case study from Pangnirtung. Local Indicators of Climate Change Impacts, The contributions to small-scale fisheries research, Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain.

37. Galappaththi, E.K., et al. (2021) Climate change adaptation in aquaculture: A systematic review (poster). Ecosystem Studies of Subarctic and Arctic Seas, Sapporo, Japan.

38. Galappaththi, E.K. (2021) Climate change and community fisheries in the Arctic: A case study from Pangnirtung, Canada. Arctic Network for Climate Adaptation and Food Security, Rovaniemi, Finland.

39. Galappaththi, E.K., Ford, J., Bennett, E. (2018) Can an Arctic turbot fishery adapt to climate change? An empirical study from the Pangnirtung coastal community in Baffin Island, Nunavut, Canada. ArcticNet Annual Scientific Meeting, Ottawa, Canada.

40. Galappaththi, E.K., Ford, J., Bennett, E. (2018) How do Coastal Vedda fishers experience and respond to climate change? Empirical evidence from the Eastern Sri Lanka. 3rd World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress, Chiang Mai, Thailand.

41. Galappaththi, E.K., & Ford, J. (2017) How do Inuit fishers experience and respond to climate change? Empirical evidence from the Pangnirtung community in Nunavut, Canada (paper). Arctic Change, Quebec City, Canada.

42. Galappaththi, E.K., & Ford, J. (2017) How do Inuit fishers experience and respond to climate change? Empirical evidence from the Pangnirtung community in Nunavut, Canada. Arctic Change Annual Scientific Meeting 2017, Quebec City, Canada. (award-winning poster)

43. Galappaththi, E.K., & Ford, J. (2016) Opportunities for adaptation: Case studies from the Canadian Arctic and Eastern Sri Lanka indigenous fisheries. 5th Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Forum, Adapting and Living under 2°C: Bridging Gaps in Policy and Practice, Colombo, Sri Lanka.

44. Galappaththi, E.K., Berkes, F., Ford, J. (2016) Climate change adaptation efforts in coastal shrimp aquaculture: Case from northwestern Sri Lanka. Global Conference on Climate Change Adaptation for Fisheries and Aquaculture, Bangkok, Thailand.

45. Galappaththi, E.K. & Berkes, F. (2015) Is commonisation possible in shrimp aquaculture? A case from northwestern Sri Lanka. 15th Biennial Global Conference, International Association for the Study of the Commons, Edmonton, Canada.

46. Galappaththi, E.K. & Berkes, F. (2014) Can shrimp aquaculture be made resilient? A case from northwestern Sri Lanka. 2nd Small-Scale Fisheries Congress, Merida, Mexico.

47. Galappaththi, E.K. & Berkes, F. (2014) The liminal nature of Sri Lankan lagoons: How to get sustainable aquaculture? The Canadian Association for the Study of International Development, Congress 2014 of the Humanities and Social Sciences, St. Catharines, Canada.

48. Galappaththi, E.K. & Berkes, F. (2014) Overcoming shared problems among resource users: co-management of shrimp aquaculture in northwestern Sri Lanka. Environmental Studies Association of Canada, Congress 2014 of the Humanities and Social Sciences, St. Catharines, Canada.

49. Galappaththi, E.K. & Berkes, F. (2013) Can co-management emerge spontaneously? Collaborative management in Sri Lankan shrimp aquaculture. Natural Resources Institute research and learning forum 2013: "Research and Researches: Stories from the Field," University of Manitoba, Canada.

50. Galappaththi, E.K. & Berkes, F. (2013) Institutions for managing common-pool resources: The case of community-based shrimp aquaculture in northwestern Sri Lanka. MARE People and the Sea Conference, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

51. Galappaththi, E.K. & Berkes, F. (2013) Institutional dynamics in managing common-pool resources: community-based shrimp aquaculture in the Northwestern, Sri Lanka. European Society for Ecological-Economics, “Ecological-Economics and Institutional Dynamics,” Lille, France.

52. Galappaththi, E.K. & Berkes, F. (2013) Information commons in small-scale community-based resource management: “Muthupanthiya” shrimp farming community, Sri Lanka. Congress 2013 of the Humanities and Social Sciences, Victoria, BC, Canada.

53. Galappaththi, E.K. & Berkes, F. (2013) Institutions for managing common-pool resources: The case of community-based shrimp aquaculture in northwestern Sri Lanka. Student poster competition, Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources, University of Manitoba, Canada. (**award-winning poster**)

54. Galappaththi, E.K. & Berkes, F. (2012) Behaviour of information commons in small scale community-based resource management settings: The case of “Muthupanthiya” shrimp farming community, Sri Lanka. Natural Resources Institute research and learning forum 2012: "Research and Researches: Stories from the Field,” University of Manitoba, Canada.

WORKSHOPS & PANEL DISCUSSIONS

1. Workshop in Baffin Island, Canada: Organized a "Youth in Action" event with Inuit in partnership with the Pangnirtung Hamlet Council, Nunavut, Canada (2026).

2. Workshop in Ghana: Co-organized the IPON project research meeting in Accra, Ghana, together with other Co-PIs. This includes several workshops, including a Gender workshop co-organized with Kerrie Pickering, Sithuni Jayasekara, and Hannah Garbutt (2025).

3. Workshop in Peru: Co-organized the IPON project research meetings at Central Amazone and Lima, along with workshops involving Peruvian team members. The workshops resulted in two peer-reviewed articles that are currently under review (2024).

4. Workshop in Sri Lanka: Organized an intellectual Knowledge Dialogue with Sri Lankan Vedda communities in partnership with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) (2024).

5. Workshop in Baffin Island, Canada: Organized a research co-planning knowledge dialogue with Inuit elders in partnership with the Pangnirtung Hamlet Council, Nunavut, Canada (2023).

6. Workshop in India: Co-organized the COVID Observatories research meeting and workshop with Keystone Foundation in Kotagiri, India. The workshop led to 2 grant proposals and two peer-review articles (2023).

7. Indigenous Peoples Unit of The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (UN FAO). 22nd Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII). The Covid-19 observatories: How COVID-19 and climate risks have impacted Indigenous Peoples’ food and knowledge systems across the world (2023).

8. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (UN FAO). Expert Workshop in Aquaculture Co-management, Kigali, Rwanda (2022).

9. Towards a New Social Contract for Small-Scale Fisheries (SSF): Change and Resilience, SSF Open house event organized by TBTI (Too Big to Ignore) (Panel: Ratana Chuenpagdee, Fikret Berkes, Melissa Marschke, Prateep Nayak, Eranga Galappaththi) (2021).

10. International Arctic Change conference, Québec City, Québec, Canada. Experiences Studying and Working Internationally, Conversations from the couch (Panel: Sarah Arnold, Allen Pope, Eranga Galappaththi, Melanie Flynn, Gwenaelle Gremion) (2017).

11. Biennial Global Conference, International Association for the Study of the Commons, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Framing Commons as a process: Exploring the concepts of Commonisation and Decommonisation for theory, policy and practice (Panel: Prateep Nayak, Eranga Galappaththi, Yolanda Lopez, Fikret Berkes) (2015).

TEACHING

COURSES TAUGHT (Virginia Tech)

1. Qualitative Methods and Ethics in Geography (GEOG 4984/5984)
2. Human Dimensions of Coastal Social-ecological Systems (GEOG 4284/5284)
3. Practicing Sustainability (GEOG 4444)
4. Geographic Theory and Research (GEOG 5014)
5. Current Geographic Research (GEOG 5004)
6. World Regions (GEOG 1014)
7. Sustaining Human Societies and the Environment (GEOG 3954/5954 New Zealand Study Abroad)

TRAINING

1. Compassionate STEM Education Program, building a culture of Compassion in STEM Education, Virginia Tech, Fall 2025-Spring 2026.
   - Workshop #1: Shift to positive thoughts and powerful results
   - Workshop #2: Building a culture of Compassion in STEM Education (Part 1)
   - Workshop #3: Building a culture of Compassion in STEM Education (Part 2)
   - Workshop #4: Synthesis of Compassionate STEM Education Program
   - Spring workbook to document the Compassionate STEM Education Experiment

2. Tomlinson Project in University-Level Science Education (T-PULSE) workshops, McGill University (2018-2021)
   - Active teaching strategies (design teaching strategies; modifications for online learning; and importance of alignment)
   - Assessment, grading, and feedback (strategies for grading with consistency and fairness; evaluate the rubric criteria; and best practices for providing feedback to students based on various levels of performance)
   - Implementing accessible and inclusive teaching (understand the impact of diversity on the teaching and learning environment; determine the role of the TA in issues of academic integrity; and address student concerns fairly and professionally)
   - Class management
   - Course design and course plan
   - Effective presentation skills

INVITED TALKS AND GUST LECTURES

2026

- Guest Speaker. VCN Virtual Webinar on Climate Change & Community Engagement. Virginia Conservation Network. “Understanding Climate Change Through Arctic Communities”. July 22, 2026.
- Guest Lecture. *Qualitative Research Methodology (Course Number TBD)*, invited by Dr. Helina Jolly, University of Vermont. “Validity, Verification, and Generalization in Qualitative Research.”

- April 9, 2026.
- Guest Lecture. *Water and Sanitation in Developing Countries (BSE 4394)*, invited by Dr. Leigh-Anne Krometis, Virginia Tech. “Water, Climate, and Community Resilience in the Arctic: Insights from Pangnirtung.” April 16, 2026.
- Guest Speaker. *The Coastal Sustainability Institute Seminar*, Department of Marine & Environmental Sciences, Northeastern University. “Adapting to Climate Change in Coastal Systems: Insights from Community-Engaged Research in the Global North and South.” January 27, 2026.

2025

- Guest Speaker. *April Center Fellows Speaker Series*, The Center for Food Systems and Community Transformation, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Virginia Tech. “Indigenous Climate-Food-Health Nexus: Insights from Community-Engaged Research in the Global North and South.” April 23, 2025.

2024

- Guest Speaker. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and Korea Maritime Institute (KMI). “Validation Workshop on the Development of the Aquaculture Co-management System for Sustainable Aquaculture.” November 26, 2024.
- Guest Speaker. *IPON Network Inaugural Meeting*, Lima, Peru. “Climate-Food-Health Nexus: Indigenous Peoples in Sri Lanka.” October 22, 2024.
- Guest Talk. *GEOG 5004 Colloquium Panel Discussion*, Virginia Tech. “Ethics in Publishing.” October 4, 2024.
- Guest Lecture. *Graduate Seminar (FRAC 5004)*, invited by Dr. Marc Stern, Virginia Tech. “Indigenous Fisheries and Climate Adaptation.” September 25, 2024.
- Guest Talk. *GEOG 5004 Colloquium*, Virginia Tech. “Self-introduction to Eranga Galappaththi.” September 13, 2024.
- Guest Lecture. *Social Ecological Systems (FREC 5024)*, invited by Dr. Michael Sorice, Virginia Tech. “Indigenous Fisheries and Climate Adaptation: Insights from the Global North and South.” April 25, 2024.
- Guest Talk. *Cube Panel Discussion: Small Island, Big Song*, Moss Arts Center, Virginia Tech. “Climate Change: Our Response as Artists and Scientists.” April 16, 2024.
- Guest Speaker. Blacksburg Presbyterian Church. “Indigenous Peoples from the Global North and South.” April 7, 2024.

2023

- Guest Speaker. Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya. “Opportunities for Postgraduate Studies in the USA.” August 13, 2023.
- Guest Speaker. *GEOG 5004 Colloquium Series*, Virginia Tech. “Introduction to Indigenous Participatory Research.” October 13, 2023.
- Guest Lecture. *IGC Seminar on Inclusivity*, Global Change Center, Virginia Tech. “Inclusive Community-Based Research.” September 25, 2023.
- Guest Speaker. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 22nd Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII). “The COVID-19 Observatories: How COVID-19 and Climate Risks Have Impacted Indigenous Peoples’ Food and Knowledge Systems Across the World.” April 25, 2023.
- Guest Lecture. *Social Ecological Systems (FREC 5024)*, invited by Dr. Michael Sorice, Virginia Tech. “Climate Adapting in Small-Scale Fisheries Systems: Insights from Indigenous Communities in the Global North and South.” November 10, 2023.

2022

- Guest Lecture. *GEOG 2114 Introduction to Coastal Regions*, invited by Dr. Anamaria Bukvic, Virginia Tech. "Coastal Indigenous Fisheries Systems: Insights from the Global North and South." October 28, 2022.
- Guest Speaker. *Indigenous Speaker Series*, Indigenous Land & Data Stewards Lab, Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy, University of Arizona. "Indigenous Data Governance." October 10, 2022.
- Guest Speaker. *American Fisheries Society (AFS), Virginia Tech Chapter*. "Fisheries Research with Indigenous Peoples." October 3, 2022.
- Panel Member. *Panel on Ethics in Research*, Fall 2022 Colloquium Series, Department of Geography, Virginia Tech. "Ethics in Research." September 16, 2022.
- Invited Talk. *152nd Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society*, Spokane, USA. "Indigenous Data Sovereignty: Insights from Climate Change Adaptation Research." August 22, 2022.
- Guest Speaker. *4th World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress North America*, Memorial University of Newfoundland and TBTI Network, St. John's, Canada. "Resilience-Based Steps for Adaptive Co-management of Arctic Small-Scale Fisheries." June 21, 2022.
- Guest Speaker. *4th World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress Asia-Pacific*, Tokai University and TBTI Japan Research Network, Shizuoka, Japan. "Climate Change and Small-Scale Fisheries." May 10, 2022.
- Guest Speaker. Vermont Council on World Affairs. "Climate Change and Adaptation to Social-Ecological Change." May 5, 2022.
- Guest Speaker. Spring 2022 Colloquium Series, Department of Geography, Environment, and Sustainability, University of North Carolina Greensboro. "Linking Local and Global Governance Perspectives to Advance Climate Change Adaptation." April 22, 2022.
- Guest Lecture. *Polar Geography (GEOG 3274)*, invited by Dr. Lynn Resler, Virginia Tech. "Human Dimensions of Arctic Fisheries Systems." April 21, 2022.
- Guest Lecture. *Polar Environments (GEOG 3274)*, invited by Dr. Lynn Resler, Virginia Tech. "Arctic Fisheries Systems." April 18, 2022.
- Guest Lecture. *Human-Environment Systems (FREC 2614)*, invited by Dr. Michael Sorice, Virginia Tech. "Climate Change and Small-Scale Fisheries Systems: Insights from Indigenous Communities in the Global North and South." March 24, 2022.

2021

- Panel Member. *Panel on Fieldwork and DEI*, Fall 2021 Colloquium Series, Department of Geography, Virginia Tech. "Impact of Personal Actions & Words: The Effects on the Community in which we Live." October 15, 2021.
- Guest Lecture. *ENVIRON 321: Climate Change and Adaptation*, University of Michigan. "Food Security and Adapting to Climate Change in Indigenous Fisheries." March 10, 2021.
- Guest Lecture. *GEOG 478 Climate Change: Science, Impacts and Policy*, Concordia University. "Adapting to Climate Change in Indigenous Fisheries: Impacts and Risks to Natural and Human Systems." February 18, 2021.
- Guest Lecture. *ERS 321 Coastal Social-Ecological Systems*, University of Waterloo. "Arctic Climate Change and Northern Indigenous Fisheries." February 3, 2021.
- Guest Lecture. *Arctic and Aquatic Research Division (AARD)*, Fisheries and Oceans Canada. "Local Knowledge Documentation in the Arctic." January 20, 2021.

2019

- Guest Lecture. *ES112 Human Society and Environmental Change*, Stanford University. "Indigenous Fishing Communities' Adaptation to Climate Change." November 12, 2019.
- Guest Speaker. *Center on Food Security and the Environment (FSE)*, Stanford University. "Adapting to Climate Change in Small-Scale Fisheries: Insights from Indigenous Communities in the Global North and South." November 4, 2019.

- Guest Speaker. *Center for Ocean Solutions (COS)*, Stanford University. "Indigenous Adaptations to Climate Change in Marine Social-Ecological Systems." October 11, 2019.
- Guest Lecture. *ES112 Human Society and Environmental Change*, Stanford University. "Mock Interview to Illustrate the 12 Fundamental Concepts of Environmental Governance in a Real-Life Setting." October 31, 2019.
- Guest Speaker. Aspen Global Change Institute. "Adaptation and Management Options for Disease Problems: Insights from the Sri Lankan Shrimp Aquaculture Industry." August 19, 2019.

2018 and Earlier

- Guest Lecture. *GEO 213 Environmental Geography*, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka. "Adaptation to Climate Change in Canadian Arctic Fishing Communities." June 7, 2018.
- Guest Lecture. *GEO 411 Research Methods in Geography*, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka. "Qualitative Methods for Climate Adaptation Research in Indigenous Fisheries Context." June 27, 2018.
- Guest Lecture. *NRI 7360 Qualitative Methods in Community-based Natural Resources & Environmental Management*, University of Manitoba, Canada. "Qualitative Research Methods: Insights from Sri Lankan Community Research." January 21, 2015.
- Guest Speaker. Natural Resource Institute, University of Manitoba, Canada. "Community-based Shrimp Aquaculture: Is It Possible?" March 21, 2013.
- Guest Speaker. *Enhanced English Skills for Employment*, Winnipeg, Canada. "The Cultural Experience Gained During Enumeration Activities of Census 2011 in 15 Northern Indigenous Communities of Manitoba." June 19, 2011.
- Guest Speaker. National Institute of Fisheries & Nautical Engineering, Ocean University of Sri Lanka. "Shrimp Aquaculture Technology and Management." May 5, 2006.

STUDENTS AND MENTEES

STUDENTS AT VIRGINIA TECH

GRADUATE ADVISEES: *direct supervision and committee chair

1. *Sithuni Pathiranage (PhD-Geospatial and Environmental Analysis: Ongoing)
2. *Zakiur Rahman (PhD-Geospatial and Environmental Analysis: Ongoing)
3. *Abdur Rahman Md (MS-Geography: Ongoing)
4. *Nelakshi Gunasena (MS-Geography: Ongoing)
5. *Indunil Dharmasiri (MS-Geography: Graduated)
6. *Brandy Ayesu-Danso (MS-Geography: Graduated)
7. *Sithuni Pathiranage (MS-Geography: Graduated)
8. *Gayanthi Anuradha (MS-Geography: Graduated)
9. *Chrishma Perera (MS-Geography: Graduated)
10. *Hannah Garbutt (MS-Geography: Graduated)
11. Adrita Mahjabin (MS-Geography: Graduated)
12. Williams Akyemfori (MS-Geography: Graduated)
13. Tim Babchak (MS-Geography: Ongoing)
14. Suyog Gautam (MS-Geography: Ongoing)
15. Emma Rice (PhD-Fish & Wildlife: Ongoing)
16. Anu Rai (PhD-FRAC: Ongoing)
17. Iman Pakzad (PhD-Fish & Wildlife: Graduated)
18. Caetano Franco (PhD-FRAC: Graduated)
19. Sruthi Panjabi (PhD-Urban Affairs and Planning: Graduated)

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH ADVISEES:

1. *Hannah Garbutt (BSc-Geography: Graduated)
2. *Thomas Newsome (BSc-Geography: Graduated)

3. *Quinn Herbine (BSc-FRAC: Graduated)
4. *Mitch Dolby (BSc-Geography: Graduated)
5. *Tyler Krupnik (BSc-Geography: Graduated)
6. *Hayden Trexel (BSc-Geography: Ongoing)

MENTEES OUTSIDE VIRGINIA TECH

IPON Mentorship Program: Andrea Valdivia (Peru)
Shrimp aquaculture fieldwork mentorship: Loyce Lin (Stanford University)

MENTEES BEFORE VIRGINIA TECH

- McGill University, Canada: Charlotte Aubrac | Laura Latendresse | Jihoon Jeon | Zachary Ripka | Olivia Kennedy | Tobias Moore (Undergraduates)
- University of Helsinki, Finland: Laura Tille (Undergraduate)
- Concordia University, Canada: Nafisa Sarwath (PhD Candidate)
- University of Colombo, Sri Lanka: Chrishma Perera (Undergraduate)

OUTREACH

INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Activity	Connection	Achievements
IPON-Indigenous Peoples Observatories Network. IPON brings together Indigenous and non-Indigenous researchers from 17 countries, working with more than 100 Indigenous communities worldwide. (2023-Present)	Co-PI	Two funded grant proposals; ten peer-review articles; two international in-person workshops; mentoring programs
This project is led by Dr. Pamela Katic at the University of Greenwich in the UK and involves six countries, including Sri Lanka. (2025-2031)	Co-PI	European Research Council (ERC)-funded proposal
FAO-The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. a. Research collaborator for *Aquaculture Co-management* Expert Workshops. (2021-2025) b. Subject expert for Aquaculture adaptation needs under climate change. (2024)	Collaborator Subject expert	FAO Report and a guidebook, in-person workshops, Networking opportunities
DFO-Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada. DFO is the project collaborator for Arctic co-planning research. (2020-2025)	Co-PI	Two peer-reviewed articles, two grant proposals, one funded proposal
LICCI-Local Indicators of Climate Change Impacts. This includes over 50 researches conduct research with over 40 Indigenous communities. (2020-2023)	Research partner	Book chapter, 2 peer-review articles, workshops
The Covid Observatories project. A network of 14 countries aims at Interaction between COVID-19 and climate change in global Indigenous settings. (2020-2023)	Senior personal	Five peer-reviewed articles, three reports, workshops, and three grant applications
GAMI-Global Adaptation Mapping Initiative. This includes over 130 experts worldwide. (2019-2021)	Member	Eight peer-reviewed articles, two chapters in IPCC Assessment Report 6

ACAF-Arctic Network for Climate Adaptation and Food Security. This is based in Finland and a collaboration of Arctic Council countries. (2022-Present)	Member	Knowledge sharing and networking events
Department of Agricultural Economics and Business management, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. Offered with a Visiting Honorary Lecturer position. (2022-Present)	Honorary Lecturer	Research collaborations
Center on Food Security and the Environment, Stanford University (2019-2020)	Visiting Scholar	Grant proposal, guest lectures

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

Country	Activity organized
India	Co-organized the COVID Observatories research meeting and workshop with Keystone Foundation in Kotagiri, India. The workshop led to 2 grant proposals and two peer-review articles. (2023)
Peru	Co-organized the IPON project research meetings at Central Amazone and Lima, along with workshops involving Peruvian team members. The workshops resulted in two peer-reviewed articles that are currently under review. (2024)
Sri Lanka	Organized an intellectual Knowledge Dialogue with Sri Lankan Vedda communities in partnership with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). (2024)
Baffin Island, Canada	Organized a research co-planning knowledge dialogue with Inuit elders in partnership with the Pangnirtung Hamlet Council, Nunavut, Canada. (2023)
Big Ada, Ghana	Organized an Indigenous storytelling circle (workshop) as a part of the IPON annual scientific meeting. (2025)
Baffin Island, Canada	Organized an Inuit Youth in Action workshop with elders in partnership with the Pangnirtung Hamlet Council, Nunavut, Canada. (2026)

FIELDWORK

Year (Duration)	Fieldwork
2026/7-8 (5 weeks)	***Communities:*** 6 Vedda communities in Sri Lanka ***Data:*** Human–wildlife coexistence, complex health emergencies ***Methods:*** Semi-structured interviews, Key informant interviews, 4 workshops ***IRB:*** 26-619 (Virginia Tech) ***Funding:*** U.S. National Science Foundation ***Outcomes:*** In Progress
2026/03 (12 days)	***Communities:*** Inuit community of Pangnirtung, Nunavut, Canada ***Data:*** Climate-food-health nexus, research co-planning ***Methods:*** Community radio session, Key informant interviews, and a public workshop ***IRB:*** 22-378; 26-221 (Virginia Tech) ***Funding:*** ISCE Scholar Program, Virginia Tech ***Outcomes:*** Introducing and training a graduate student, Youth in Action workshop, Initial data collection
2025/05 (5 weeks)	***Communities:*** 6 Vedda communities in Sri Lanka ***Data:*** Gender and climate change, human–wildlife coexistence, socio-economic ***Methods:*** Semi-structured interviews, Key informant interviews ***IRB:*** 25-099 and 24-593 (Virginia Tech) ***Funding:*** U.S. National Science Foundation ***Outcomes:*** MS thesis, 3 manuscripts, training 2 graduate students, a country profile, YouTube videos, a concept note
2024/07 (4 weeks)	***Communities:*** 6 Vedda communities in Sri Lanka ***Data:*** Technological interventions, Indigenous health ***Methods:*** Semi-structured interviews, Intercultural knowledge dialogues

	IRB: 24-590 (Virginia Tech) ***Funding:*** ICAT SEAD Grant, Virginia Tech ***Outcomes:*** MS thesis, a manuscript, a grant proposal, training a graduate student, 6 community tech profiles, and 2 Pecha Kucha sessions
2023/11 (2 weeks)	***Communities:*** Inuit community of Pangnirtung, Nunavut, Canada ***Data:*** Research co-planning ***Methods:*** Community radio session, Key informant interviews, and a public workshop ***IRB:*** 22-378 (Virginia Tech) ***Funding:*** U.S. National Science Foundation ***Outcomes:*** MS thesis, 2 manuscripts, training a graduate student, a grant proposal
2023/05 (5 weeks)	***Communities:*** 9 Vedda communities in Sri Lanka ***Data:*** Food security, community statistics, Indigenous entrepreneurship ***Methods:*** Semi-structured interviews, Key informant interviews ***IRB:*** 23-388 (Virginia Tech) ***Funding:*** ISCE Scholar Program, Virginia Tech ***Outcomes:*** 2 MS theses, 2 manuscripts, training a graduate student, and a country profile
2022/06 (1 week)	***Communities:*** One Vedda community in Sri Lanka ***Focus:*** Research co-planning ***Funding:*** Faculty Mentoring Grant, Virginia Tech ***Outcomes:*** Community collaborations, 2 grant proposals
2019/05 (4 weeks)	***Community:*** Coastal-Vedda community of Kunjankalkulam, Sri Lanka ***Data:*** Community collaborations and results dissemination ***Approach:*** Focus group discussion ***Ethics:*** REB 52-0617 (McGill) ***Funding:*** IDRC Doctoral Award, SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship ***Outcomes:*** PhD thesis, 2 manuscripts, community friendships and partnerships
2019/03 (1 week)	***Community:*** Inuit community of Pangnirtung, Nunavut, Canada ***Focus:*** Community collaborations and results dissemination ***Methods:*** Key informant interviews, a dissemination workshop ***Ethics:*** REB 52-0617 (McGill), NRI Research License No. 02 049 17N-M ***Funding:*** McGill NORTH, Northern Scientific Training Program ***Outcomes:*** PhD thesis, 2 manuscripts, community friendships and partnerships
2018/06 (12 weeks)	***Community:*** Coastal-Vedda community of Kunjankalkulam, Sri Lanka ***Data:*** climate change impacts and community adaptation responses ***Approach:*** Semi-structured interviews, Key informant interviews, Participant observation ***Ethics:*** REB 52-0617 (McGill) ***Funding:*** IDRC Doctoral Award, SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship ***Outcomes:*** PhD thesis, 2 manuscripts, community friendships and partnerships
2018/02 (1 week)	***Community:*** Inuit community of Pangnirtung, Nunavut, Canada ***Focus:*** Community collaborations and participatory data analysis ***Methods:*** Drawing workshops, data analysis, and interpretation workshops ***Ethics:*** REB 52-0617 (McGill), NRI Research License No. 02 049 17N-M ***Funding:*** McGill NORTH, Northern Scientific Training Program ***Outcomes:*** PhD thesis, 2 manuscripts, community friendships and partnerships
2017/07 (12 weeks)	***Community:*** Coastal-Vedda community of Kunjankalkulam, Sri Lanka ***Data:*** climate change impacts and community adaptation responses ***Approach:*** Semi-structured interviews, Key informant interviews, Participant observation ***Ethics:*** REB 52-0617 (McGill) ***Funding:*** IDRC Doctoral Award, SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship ***Outcomes:*** PhD thesis, 2 manuscripts, community friendships and partnerships
2017/03 (12 weeks)	***Community:*** Inuit community of Pangnirtung, Nunavut, Canada ***Data:*** climate change impacts and community adaptation responses ***Methods:*** Semi-structured interviews, Key informant interviews, Participant observation ***Ethics:*** REB 52-0617 (McGill), NRI Research License No. 02 049 17N-M ***Funding:*** CIHR funding via Dr. James Ford, SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship

	Outcomes: PhD thesis, 2 manuscripts, community friendships and partnerships
2016/06 (4 weeks)	***Community:*** Coastal-Vedda community of Kunjankalkulam, Sri Lanka ***Focus:*** Exploring Coastal-Vedda community, familiarization, and building friendship ***Approach:*** Key informant interviews, travel throughout Eastern Sri Lanka ***Ethics:*** REB 52-0617 (McGill) ***Funding:*** CIHR funding via Dr. James Ford, SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship ***Outcomes:*** PhD thesis, 2 manuscripts, community friendships and partnerships
2016/04 (2 weeks)	***Community:*** Inuit community of Pangnirtung, Nunavut, Canada ***Focus:*** validating research idea, familiarization, and building Inuit friendships ***Methods:*** Meetings with council members, Informal chats, and drinking tea ***Ethics:*** REB 52-0617 (McGill), NRI Research License No. 02 049 17N-M ***Funding:*** CIHR funding via Dr. James Ford, SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship ***Outcomes:*** PhD thesis, 2 manuscripts, community friendships and partnerships
2014/10 (2 weeks)	***Community:*** 3 shrimp farming communities in Northwestern Sri Lanka ***Focus:*** Results dissemination and inform local policy ***Methods:*** Community workshops, meetings with government officials (NAQDA) ***Ethics:*** Protocol #J2012: 044 (Manitoba) ***Funding:*** Canada Research Chair funding via Dr. Fikret Berkes ***Outcomes:*** MS thesis, 4 manuscripts, research opportunities
2012/06 (13 weeks)	***Community:*** 3 shrimp farming communities in Northwestern Sri Lanka ***Focus:*** Community-based shrimp aquaculture ***Methods:*** Semi-structured interviews, Key informant interviews, Participant observation, Focus group discussions ***Ethics:*** Protocol #J2012: 044 (Manitoba) ***Funding:*** Canada Research Chair funding via Dr. Fikret Berkes ***Outcomes:*** MS thesis, 4 manuscripts, research opportunities

KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSLATION WITH COMMUNITIES (predoctoral*)

*** After the doctoral stage, knowledge mobilization and translation with partner communities became ongoing activities, now co-led monthly by Eranga's team in collaboration with community leaders.**

Year	Activity
2018/09	*My Role*: Researcher and Principal Investigator for the research
	Target Group: Coastal-Vedda who are relying on culture-based fisheries in Kunjankalkulam community, Sri Lanka
	Activity Description: As part of my Ph.D., I partnered with the Kunjankalkulam Costal-Vedda (the group of Indigenous people from Eastern Sri Lanka) to examine how communities build resilience and adapt to social-ecological change. Throughout and after the research, various knowledge translation activities were organized (in addition to data collection activities). Discussion groups (n=12) were arranged to create a dialog and thoughtful debate among the community about the importance of adaptation to change and (adaptive) capacity-building suggestions in culture-based fisheries. Participants ranged from 2-8 per group and consisted of community and local organization leaders, youth, and fisherwomen. Three stakeholder meetings were organized through the community's Regional Fisheries Organization, bringing together the community, government organizations, and local NGOs.
2018/03	*My Role*: Researcher and Principal Investigator for the research
	Target Group: Inuit fishers in the Arctic community of Pangnirtung, Canada
	Activity Description: As part of my Ph.D., I partnered with the Pangnirtung Inuit to examine how communities build resilience and adapt to climate change. Throughout and after the research, various knowledge translation activities were organized (in addition to data collection activities). Discussion groups (n=6) were arranged to create a dialog and thoughtful debate among the community about the importance of adaptation to change and (adaptive) capacity-building suggestions in Arctic char and turbot fisheries. Participants

	ranged from 2-6 per group and consisted of community and local organization leaders, youth, and fisherwomen. Two stakeholder meetings were organized through the community's Hunters and Trappers Association, bringing together Inuit fishers, the local fish plant, and stakeholders from both territorial and federal governments.
2017/04-2018/04	*My Role*: Co-Investigator and Researcher
	Target Group: Inuit community of the Pangnirtung, Nunavut
	Activity Description: This collaborative community work was a result of the IK-Adapt partnership grant with Natalie Baird (University of Winnipeg). The project aimed to use participatory visual methods to explore elder and youth perceptions of climate change adaptation in Pangnirtung, Nunavut. To do this, we visited the community in the spring/ summer and conducted drawing and painting workshops with elder and youth Inuit (n=2). We provided different topics and facilitated the participants' engagement in drawing or painting. This workshop allowed the participants to express their thoughts feelings, and perceptions related to climate change, community fisheries, and other needs for adaptation. We helped the participants combine all their drawings/paintings (n=18) and create wall art in the community school. This was a participatory effort with community groups, especially those including young Inuit students and elders.
2012/07-2015/09	*My Role*: Researcher and Principal Investigator for the research
	Target Group: Shrimp aquaculture industry stakeholders
	Activity Description: This expert knowledge translation was part of my master's research project (University of Manitoba) aimed at the shrimp aquaculture industry in Northwestern Sri Lanka. I produced a series of publications about the Sri Lankan shrimp farming sector; this informed the industry stakeholders, including shrimp farming cooperatives (community to national), government institutions (e.g., NAqDA), and private sector companies (which are actively involved in shrimp aquaculture resource governance). My research identified the zonal crop calendar system (ZCCS) and multi-level institutional structure for decision making as key aspects for purposes of confronting the challenge of shrimp disease. This is also evident by the steady growth of national shrimp aquaculture production after the application of ZCCS. As a previous shrimp farmer, and then as a researcher, I closely engaged with the shrimp industry associations (community to national) and NAqDA to inform national aquaculture management policy.

SERVICE

TO DEPARTMENT AND COLLEGE AT VIRGINIA TECH

1. Member, Jacob A. Lutz III Award for Distinguished Service to Research Faculty Selection Committee, Virginia Tech (2026). (VT Research and Innovation: 2026)
2. Member of Academic Resources (College [CNRE] standing committee: 2024-2026)
3. Chair of Faculty Development (Department standing committee: 2024-2026)
4. Member of Graduate committee (Department standing committee: 2021-2024, 2026)
5. Member of Job Search committee (Department ad hoc committee: 2026)
6. Member of Facilities & equipment (Department standing committee: 2021-2022)
7. Member of DEI-Diversity, equity, and Inclusion (Department standing committee: 2023-2025)
8. Chair of PhD thesis committee (Sithuni Jayasekara)
9. Chair of MS graduate thesis committee (Indunil Dharmasiri)
10. Chair of MS graduate thesis committee (Brandy Ayesu-danso)
11. Chair of MS graduate thesis committee (Sithuni Jayasekara)
12. Chair of MS graduate thesis committee (Chrishma Perera)
13. Chair of MS graduate thesis committee (Gayanthi Ilangarathna)
14. Chair of MS graduate thesis committee (Hannah Garbutt)
15. Member of MS graduate thesis committee (Mahjabin Adrita, Supervisor-Dr. Korine Kolivras)
16. Member of MS graduate thesis committee (Gautam Suyog, Supervisor-Dr. Santosh Rijal)
17. Member of MS graduate thesis committee (Tim Babchak, Supervisor-Dr. Tim Baird)

18. Member of MS graduate thesis committee (Geoffrey Otieno, Supervisor-Dr. Tim Baird)
19. Member of PhD thesis committee (Emma Rice, Supervisor-Dr. Elizabeth Nyboer)
20. Member of PhD thesis committee (Anu Rai, Supervisor-Dr. Michael Sorice)
21. Member of PhD thesis committee (Caetano Franco, Supervisor-Dr. Michael Sorice)
22. Member of PhD thesis committee (Iman Pakzad, Supervisor-Dr. Yan Jiao)
23. Member of PhD thesis committee (Shruti Punjabi, Supervisor-Dr. Dr. Shalini Misra)
24. Member of Marine Fisheries Journal Club (organized by: Hailey Conrad, Supervisor-Dr. Holly Kindsvater)

TO STUDENTS

1. Advisor for the Society of Indian Americans (SIA) at Virginia Tech for the academic year 2025-present.
2. Advisor for the Sri Lankan Student Association (SLSA) at Virginia Tech for the academic year 2023-2026.
3. "Work-Life Balance" Graduate Professional Development Panel, Interfaces of Global Change (IGC) Program, Virginia Tech, April 23, 2026. Shared experiences and strategies for balancing academic, professional, and personal responsibilities with graduate students from diverse disciplines.
4. Graduate Student Health and Well-being Working Group, Virginia Tech. Invited to share faculty perspectives on graduate student well-being, mentoring practices, and support strategies as part of a university-wide effort to strengthen graduate student health, wellness, and academic success (June 3, 2026).
5. Nature walks: I started hosting informal "nature walks" with my lab group. Almost every Saturday, we went hiking or trekking around Blacksburg—places like the Cascades, Dragon's Tooth, McAfee Knob, Heritage Park, and Mill Creek Nature Park. What began as a small lab activity gradually grew to include colleagues and students from the department and the College. On weekends with bad weather, we kept the tradition going by meeting for brunch instead.
6. Organized a Seminar on Transdisciplinary Arctic Science to understand the connections between marine ecosystems, fisheries, and Inuit food security (Guest speaker Dr. Marianne Falardeau), May 8, 2023.
7. Indigenous Resilience and Innovation (IRI) Lab: a lab space with five computer stations in the 243 Wallace building, used for NVivo training as a part of Qualitative Methods and Ethics and Geography (GEOG 4984/5984).

EDITORIAL & REVIEW ACTIVITIES

1. An associate editor for the *Cambridge Prisms: Coastal Futures* journal, whose editor-in-chief is Professor Tom Spencer from the University of Cambridge (August 2021 to Present)
2. Expert reviewer for the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF):
    a. Human-Environment and Geographical Science Program (HEGS), 2026
    b. Office of Polar Programs, Arctic Social Science program. "CAREER Ground Control: Advancing the Co-Production of Remote Sensing in Arctic Communities." (2022)
    c. Office of Polar Programs, Arctic Social Science program. "Modelling climate futures, impacts, and adaptation options for Arctic communities in Greenland (Arctic Futures)." (2023)
    d. Office of Polar Programs, Arctic Social Science program. "AccelNet Design: Facilitating wide-ranging public policy collaboration for an economically resilient and environmentally sustainable future." (2024)
    e. Office of Polar Programs, Arctic Social Science program. "Advancing research on environmental variability and traditional ecological knowledge." (2026)
3. Expert Reviewer for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC):
    a. First Order Draft (FOD) of the IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Cities (SRCITIES), December 2025
    b. IPCC Assessment Report 6, Working Group II, Chapter 9 (2022)
    c. IPCC Assessment Report 6, Working Group II, Chapter 16 (2022)
    d. IPCC Assessment Report 6, Working Group II, Chapter 8 (Second Order Draft), 2020/2021
4. Expert reviewer: Oregon Sea Grant Review Panel, Oregon State University, USA, 2023

5. Conference abstract reviewer: 30th International Symposium on Sustainable Systems and Technology, Fort Collins, CO, USA, 2023
6. Expert reviewer, Regular FONDECYT National Projects Competition, National Research and Development Agency (ANID) of the Ministry of Science, Chile, 2022
7. External reviewer for PhD thesis, Diego Salgueiro, University de Vigo, Spain, 2021
8. External reviewer for master's thesis, Stephanie Chan, University of Northern BC, Canada, 2024
9. Expert Reviewer for VT's "+Policy Network": I reviewed eight proposals for the Policy Fellow and Policy Scholar awards, 2024
10. Expert reviewer for book proposals:
    a. Resilient thinking: Indigenous communities' approach to climate change adaptation
    b. Indigenous Climate-Smart Innovations for Resource Security in Africa
11. Peer-reviewed book chapters:
    a. Local impacts of climate change, Understanding the efforts of climate change on social-ecological systems, (Eds)Victoria Reyes-Garcia and LICCI team, 2022
    b. Making Commons Dynamic, Understanding change through commonisation and decommonisation, (Ed) Prateep Kumar Nayak, 2016
12. Peer-reviewed journals:
    Nature Climate Change (2) | People and Nature (2) | Weather, Climate and Society | World Development (4) | Regional Environmental Change (8) | Environmental Research Letters (4) | Journal of Environmental Management (4) | Environment, Development and Sustainability | International Journal of Urban sustainable Development | International Journal of the Commons | Marine Policy (5) | Maritime Studies | Journal of Risk Analysis and Crisis Response | Ambio, A journal of Environment and Society (5) | Society & Natural Resources (4) | Perspectives in Ecology and Conservation | Polar Record | Environmental Science and Pollution Research | Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability (2) | Environment and Sustainability Indicators | Ocean and Coastal Management | International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health (2) | Environmental Science and Policy (4) | Fish and Fisheries (3) | Arctic Science | FUTURES | WIREs Climate Change (3) | Global Environmental Change (7) | One Earth (3)

MEDIA ATTENTION (selected)

1. Moody, C. Research builds a cultural bridge across continents. *Virginia Tech News*, May 27, 2026. [Link]
2. Williams, T. Research and scholarship honored with spring awards. *Virginia Tech News*, April 28, 2026. [Link]
3. Esterhuizen, M. Graduate student's work connects life to environment. *Virginia Tech News*, January 7, 2026. [Link]
4. With Good Reason (National Public Radio affiliate program). *The Food That Makes Us.* Interview featuring research on Indigenous food systems and sustainability, November 21, 2025. [Link]
5. Esterhuizen, M. Students help drive new research on global marine debris. *Virginia Tech News*, October 20, 2025. [Link]
6. Halm, B. Scholars program empowers researchers to explore concerns across the globe. *Virginia Tech News*, October 16, 2025. [Link]
7. The Institute for Creativity, Arts and Technology (ICAT). *ICAT Playdate: Uplifting livelihoods of Indigenous peoples in Sri Lanka through technology.* ICAT YouTube Channel, September 19, 2025. [Link]
8. Robertson, J. Students pack a lot in on summer trips to Asia. *Virginia Tech News*, August 11, 2025. [Link]
9. Esterhuizen, M. Researchers join international environmental stewardship collaboration. *Virginia Tech News*, August 11, 2025. [Link]
10. Pangnirtung community radio, Nunavut, Canada, live interview with Madeleine Qumuatuq, evening show. Research co-planning session on climate change and food security. November 20, 2023.
11. Pangnirtung community radio, Nunavut, Canada, live interview with Madeleine Qumuatuq, morning show. The discussion focused on climate change impacts and community fisheries. July 15, 2017.

12. Winnipeg CBC Radio (89.3 FM/990 AM's morning show), live interview with Terry Macleod. The discussion focused on Earth Day, climate justice, and thoughts and actions surrounding environmental issues. We represented the Winnipeg Next Up leadership network. April 19, 2015.
13. Community radio of the Pukatawagan Cree Nation in northern Manitoba. This live radio interview focused on promoting, and informing the community about, the Census 2011 and its importance. I represented the Statistics Canada special area division. June 12, 2011.
14. ITN, live television interview. The discussion focused on the on-going 'hunger strike' of the student union, which was seeking justice in light of the false promises that politicians had made regarding the creation of Ocean University of Sri Lanka. We represented the Student Union of Ocean University of Sri Lanka. July 7, 2004.
15. SLBC National Radio (91.7FM), live interview. The discussion sought to inform the public about the demand for blood donors and our social organization, the Colombo District Emergency, Social, and Welfare Unit, Sri Lanka. May 10, 2001.

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:

Four Sri Lankan newspaper articles related to Climate change and Indigenous peoples.
1. *The Island*, June 20, 2018
2. *Sunday Observer*, June 24, 2018, P.72
3. *Divaina*, June 17, 2018, P.12
4. *Dinamina*, June 21, 2018, P.30

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS BEFORE PhD

Year	Employment details
2016/01-2020/04	***Title*:** Doctoral Researcher
	***Place*:** Department of Geography, McGill University, Montreal, Canada
	***Job description*:** Examined opportunities for climate change adaptation in Indigenous food systems, using two communities: one in Sri Lanka and the other in the Canadian Arctic. This comparative research is based on extensive fieldwork over three years (2016-2019) with *Inuit* (Canada) and *Coastal-Vedda* (Sri Lanka) villages. In the partnered communities, qualitative data was collected and triangulated using participatory methods. I have developed a novel conceptual framework based on a literature review and have used this framework throughout the knowledge production process. This work has created new insights into how Indigenous peoples respond to climate change in the context of rural food system transformations. Part of this research was conducted at the Center on Food Security and the Environment at Stanford University, USA.
2015/05-2015/10	***Title*:** Forest Health Protection Inspector
	***Place*:** Government of Manitoba-Conservation and Water Stewardship, Winnipeg, Canada
	***Job description*:** Travelled throughout communities in southern and eastern Manitoba to identify symptoms of Dutch elm disease and to mark dead, dying, and diseased trees for removal; communicated about and promoted the Dutch elm disease program to the public; prepared and implemented work plans to accomplish targets and geographical coverage rates of survey completion; communicated survey activities in collaboration with the main office in Winnipeg; collected field data manually and electronically using ArcGIS mobile devices; discussed and produced progress and productivity reports on a regular basis.
2013/11-2015/05	***Title*:** Research Assistant
	***Place*:** Centre for Community-Based Resource Management, NRI, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada
	***Job description*:** Participated in literature search and compilation of a Case Study Database—a tool for storing and retrieving up-to-date international literature on community-based resources management (CBRM); contributed by providing feedback/input about the Centre's ongoing projects and by representing the Centre during presentations and discussions; worked in collaboration with the Canada Research Chair, other collaborators

	in the CBRM field, visiting scholars, departmental staff, and graduate students; developed and maintained working relationships with scholars, networks, and institutions in the field of CBRM.
2011/01-2011/09	***Title*:** Crew Leader
	***Place*:** Statistics Canada-Survey Operations Division, Northern Enumeration: 2011 Census and National Household Survey, Manitoba, Canada
	***Job description*:** Led Census Enumeration Field Teams (3-12 members in each team depending on the size of the community) during Census enumeration in about 15 communities in northern Manitoba; prepared and implemented work plans to accomplish target rates of survey completion; managed financial, human, and material resources under tight deadlines and budgetary constraints; supervised data collection, checked for data quality, and maintained records; interviewed and hired team members and provided field training; hired native-language translators, guides, and enumerators from local communities; coordinated enumeration activities in collaboration with the Western Canada Regional Office in Edmonton; submitted data through the online Field Management System; produced progress and productivity reports on a regular basis.
2009/10-2010/10	***Title*:** Consultant, Research & Development
	***Place*:** Ceylon Foods Ltd, Pamunugama, Sri Lanka
	***Job description*:** Formulated and implemented improvements in systems, procedures, and workflows to enhance productivity of seafood processing operations and plants; optimized company-owned resources by identifying alternative uses for underutilized assets; guided and motivated staff to achieve increased levels of efficiency during the change process; developed a database of farmers involved in shrimp supply chains to ensure a continuous supply of raw material; carried out an extended work-study to identify areas requiring improvement related to the processing mechanism.
2008/01-2009/09	***Title*:** Assistant Director, Research & Development (covering)
	***Place*:** Ocean University of Sri Lanka*, Colombo, Sri Lanka
	***Job description*:** Liaised with the Fisheries Ministry to interpret, implement, and administer relevant recommendations for the country's 10-year fisheries sector development framework; prepared project concept papers/proposals related to human resource development in the fisheries and aquaculture sector to attract donor funding (projects included using a tracking device to locate fishermen at sea, and safety sea procedures related to the loading and unloading of cargo); formulated and implemented programs that would allow different small-scale fishery communities to develop their livelihoods in collaboration with other stakeholder organizations; studied the systems in detail; formulated and implemented ways and means to minimize costs and manage waste; assessed the institute's physical resources to re-allocate underutilized resources for effective optimization; involved directly in formulating the institutional corporate plan. I continue key roles in the Fisheries Training Assistant position (e.g., lecturing) while covering work in this position.
2006/01-2009/09	***Title*:** Fisheries Training Assistant
	***Place*:** Ocean University of Sri Lanka*, Colombo, Sri Lanka
	***Job description*:** Main duty is cause module and training program design, participating in student recruitment activities, delivering lectures and evaluating students, and mentoring diploma to undergraduate students. Moreover, I served to national wide fisheries collages; traveled to isolated rural communities to conduct lectures/training programs on fisheries and aquaculture; developed and revised programs targeting different fishing groups; conducted practical sessions and field demonstrations; instructed Fisheries Management and Aquaculture for Diploma students; prepared teaching materials and assignments; supervised examinations; and marked papers and assignments.
2003/05-2005/12	***Title*:** Shrimp Farmer/Entrepreneur
	***Place*:** Shrimp farming project at CeyTech Aqua Ltd., Marawila, Sri Lanka
	***Job description*:** Started aquaculture business initially partnered with CeyTech Aqua Ltd and, later, as its own business entity; developed aquaculture business and managed human resource (up to 12 staff members), financial, marketing, and operational functions of the

	business; maintained laboratory facilities to ensure quality standards in aquaculture operation.

*The National Institute of Fisheries and Nautical Engineering (NIFNE) later become the Ocean University of Sri Lanka.