On March 25-27, 2021, Monmouth University's Institute for Global Understanding (IGU) held its three-day biennial symposium, inviting attendees from around the world to hear experts address the event’s theme: human rights and the environment. The symposium marked the relaunched IGU’s first major event since the institute’s hiatus from 2015-2019. Soon after Prof. Randall S. Abate was appointed Director of the relaunched IGU in March 2020, he and his colleagues on the IGU Faculty Advisory Council and a team of IGU interns devoted nearly a year to prepare for the symposium. Though the COVID-19 pandemic’s realities forced the symposium to pivot from its usual in-person format, the online platform for the event offered a truly global experience, connecting speakers and participants from across the globe and allowing the IGU to exert its greatest possible impact in its first year back on campus.

This year’s IGU Biennial Symposium extended the highly successful track record of the annual Global Understanding Conventions during the initial iteration of the IGU. An archive of these previous events and other information from the IGU’s distinguished history is available here: https://www.monmouth.edu/igu/history/ The first online symposium in IGU history, the 2021 event assembled experts from the government, nonprofit, academic, community, and private sectors to examine topics at the intersection of human rights and the environment and propose solutions for the future. Featured speakers and panelists addressed regulatory responses, litigation, academic and scientific discourse, and the activist movements that have shaped the intersection between human rights and the environment.

Highlights of this year’s event included:

- A distinguished opening lecture from a leading scholar on climate migration
- Panels and roundtable discussions featuring expert interdisciplinary speakers from Canada, Colombia, India, the Kyrgyz Republic, Norway, Qatar, Serbia, South Korea, and the U.S.
- A screening of and commentary on the award-winning documentary, Kivalina: Life in the Modern Arctic, with the film’s director, a member of the Kivalina community, and an indigenous rights scholar
- Panels of Monmouth faculty and students
- A student poster competition
- A student open mic night
Message from the Director (continued)

Consistent with previous IGU annual symposia, this year’s event successfully engaged the global and local communities, including the Monmouth campus community. We proudly featured Monmouth faculty panels, a Monmouth student panel, and Monmouth student artistic expression in a logo competition, poster competition, and open mic event based on the symposium’s theme. Congratulations to Monmouth student Hunter Goldberg for designing the logo for this year’s symposium, which is featured on this cover of this newsletter and on the symposium program and webpage. He prepared this logo in a logo design competition in fall 2020, which was supervised by Profs. Karen Bright and Romy Weine.

I have been fortunate to work with an exceptionally talented and engaged IGU team on all aspects of the IGU’s activities this year, including this symposium. This team consists of the IGU Faculty Advisory Council, graduate assistants, and graduate and undergraduate interns. We are also grateful for exceptional support from Monmouth’s Information Management Department and from webmaster Bob Smith in building content for the symposium web page. This ambitious event would not have been possible without their dedication and expertise.

Prof. Randall S. Abate
Director, Institute for Global Understanding
Planning Chair, IGU Biennial Symposium 2021
IGU Team

Faculty Advisory Council

Melissa Alvaré, Lecturer, Dept. of Political Science and Sociology*
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*Members of the Symposium Planning Committee

Ex Officio Members

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Priscilla Gac-Artigas, Prof., Dept. of World Languages and Cultures
Susan Gupta, Associate Provost; Associate Prof., Leon Hess Business School
Tony MacDonald, Esq., Director, Urban Coast Institute
MyKellann Maloney, Director of Global Education

Graduate Assistants and Interns

Graduate Assistants
Lisha Samuel (Fall ’20)
Victoria Cattelona (Spring ’21)

Graduate Interns (2020-2021)
Courtney Gosse
Emilia Intili

Undergraduate Interns (Spring ’21)
Chelsea Franchette
Muge Gore
Madison Hanrahan
Chloey Norris
Emily O’Sullivan

Acknowledgments

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Dr. Deanna Shoemaker
CommWorks
Dr. Aaron Furgason
XCMX Radio
Stacey Ayers*
Tashir Hampton

*Recipients of the IGU Certificate of Appreciation for Exceptional Support of the 2021 IGU Biennial Symposium
The IGU Student Poster Competition is a long-standing tradition in the IGU Symposium. The 2021 exhibition features two dozen posters designed by Monmouth graphic design students in the Graphic Design Studio 2 course taught by Profs. Pat Cresson and Mike Richison. These posters reflect the symposium’s “human rights and the environment” theme. A jury panel consisting of Monmouth faculty and students selected three winners and three honorable mentions.

**First Place**

Do Your Part. By 2050 There Will Be More Plastic Than Fish in the World's Oceans.

*Samantha Pedicine*

**Second Place**

We Are the Problem and the Solution

*Alissa Fitzgerald*

**Third Place**

Globally 1 in 9 People Do Not Have Access to Clean Water

*Darika Lara-Rodriguez*

**Honorable Mention**

Drowning in Water: Oil and Water Don’t Mix

*Emily Lopes*

**Honorable Mention**

Water and Air, Two Essential Fluids on Which All Life Depends, Have Become Global Garbage Cans

*Jenni Ackerman*

**Honorable Mention**

Keep Yourself Protected and Keep Our Planet Clean

*Mackenzie Purcell*
Opening Remarks from Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. and Interim Provost Dr. Rekha Datta and Prof. Maxine Burkett’s Distinguished Lecture

Following a warm welcome from Monmouth University President Dr. Patrick F. Leahy, Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. addressed the virtual crowd. Born in Long Branch, New Jersey, Congressman Pallone has firsthand experience with the Monmouth community. He has served in the U.S. House of Representatives since 1988 and currently represents New Jersey’s 6th congressional district, a position in which he fights for many issues that are integral to the IGU’s mission. Specifically, he is a fierce environmental justice advocate, combating the climate crisis in his role as the Chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee and working to maintain the ecological integrity of coastal New Jersey communities.

Congressman Pallone enthusiastically reported that the U.S. has become “re-engaged” in the battle against climate change, with President Biden rejoining the Paris Agreement during his first days in office and reinstating important relationships with international allies. He noted that New Jersey residents in particular experience the consequences of inaction, hearkening back to the devastation of Hurricane Sandy in 2012 and the years it took to rebuild what had been destroyed. He stressed the importance of service at both the local and global levels, and praised the university for its commitment to “international affairs and global understanding” and to “the local community and so many things involving the Jersey Shore.” The IGU similarly values local-global connections, and it strives to promote an environmentally just future alongside key leaders in the movement like Congressman Pallone.

Following Congressman Pallone’s remarks, the founder and inaugural director of the IGU, Dr. Rekha Datta, offered insight into the IGU’s history. Through her current posts as Monmouth’s Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Datta works to promote the IGU’s mission on a university-wide scale. She described the IGU’s origins as “a small group of faculty and staff getting together in the student center in June of 2001 and just wondering what we could do to promote more global and cultural literacy on this campus.” Functioning as a space of faculty and student engagement throughout its 20-year history, the IGU has long envisioned a world that understands the connection between human rights and the environment as significant to every living being. The re-launched IGU now hopes to build on Dr. Datta and her colleagues’ legacy.

As a step toward this goal, Prof. Abate secured Prof. Maxine Burkett to deliver the symposium’s Distinguished Lecture, titled “Root and Branch: Climate Migration, Racial Crises, and the Future of Climate Justice.” A member of the faculty at the University of Hawaii’s William S. Richardson School of Law, Prof. Burkett is a world-renowned legal scholar known for her work on climate migration and climate justice within and outside academic contexts. In addition to her role as an educator, she currently serves as the Co-founder and Director of the Institute for Climate and Peace, a position that highlights her skills as “a leader in the intersectionality of climate change as an issue that is fundamentally at the corner of human rights and the environment.” Prof. Burkett’s scholarship focused on these issues long before they entered mainstream dialogue, which is why Prof. Abate referred to her as a “pioneer” in the environmental justice movement and honored her longstanding efforts toward securing a better future for marginalized populations throughout the world.
Prof. Burkett began her talk by establishing the linkages among racism, racial hierarchy, environmental degradation, and the law, deeming contemporary climate change “the climax of centuries of wrong relationships with our natural environment.” She then proceeded to discuss climate migration within our constructed geopolitical landscape, explaining that geopolitical borders exacerbate the conditions of climate-driven movement and perpetuate “racialized exclusion.” Before diving further into her discussion, she defined common terms in the climate mobility lexicon, differentiating between displacement and migration on the basis that the latter implies a degree of voluntary movement while the former results from short-term force. On a similar note, a key understanding of climate migration is that the most vulnerable — the poor — often lack the resources to emigrate from their established communities, creating a problem of “trapped populations.” Moreover, climate migrants cannot turn to any legitimate source of recourse, for no single governance entity is required to respond to their troubles. Consequently, Prof. Burkett included an analysis of reparations, citing various scholars who hold that countries that have historically contributed to the climate change crisis should assume responsibility for mitigating the challenges that accompany today’s climate migration. She also noted that the most substantive reparation is one committed to the principle of “non-repetition,” guaranteeing that future communities will not have to endure the past’s ills.

On a related topic, Prof. Burkett explored the work of Jason Hickel, a renowned anthropologist who argued, “rich countries aren’t developing poor countries: poor countries are developing rich countries, and they have been since the late 15th century.” Similarly, she explained that the leading world powers attained their status by exploiting the countries we often refer to as “developing” today, supporting her argument that countries can perhaps best help those that are struggling from environmental degradation by simply wielding “less harm” on them. In short, a global system of inequity has created the current climate landscape, and world leaders must actively reject past habits if they seek to combat the climate crisis effectively.

Importantly, Prof. Burkett concluded her lecture on an optimistic note, paying homage to the many who work alongside her to catalyze an increasingly equitable future. Like Congressman Pallone, she expressed appreciation for the Biden administration’s recognition of the urgency of the climate crisis and its prioritization of relevant initiatives, even beyond the Paris Agreement. Ultimately, Prof. Burkett encouraged the attendees to consider that people are capable of a better tomorrow — to reach one, though, they must first evaluate the roots that brought them to their current destination and learn enough from them to avoid making the same mistakes. As Prof. Burkett noted in her lecture, “Decision-makers have generally favored low-hanging fruit in our problem-solving yet, at the roots, we find the origins of both a dangerously cabined view of the environment and a political economy that has relied on sacrificing land and people.”

To view the opening remarks and Distinguished Lecture, please watch the recording on YouTube.

Authored by Emily O’Sullivan
Symposium Panels

The IGU Biennial Symposium 2021 was proud to feature three panels of distinguished experts from around the world addressing cutting-edge topics related to the symposium theme.

New Directions in Human Rights and the Environment Panel

Moderated by Prof. James R. May, Distinguished Professor of Law at Widener University, Delaware Law School, this panel addressed human rights issues around the world that intersect with environmental challenges such as access to clean drinking water, maintaining cultural traditions, and confronting gender-based issues. The panel addressed the following overarching question: Should countries recognize a right to a healthy environment?

Dr. Joshua Gellers, Associate Prof. in the Department of Political Science and Public Administration at the University of North Florida, provided an overview of rights-based approaches to environmental protection, including the status of rights to the environment and rights to nature in many countries. Dr. Marijana Mladenov, Assistant Prof. and Vice Dean for International Cooperation at the Faculty of Law for Commerce and Judiciary at the University Business Academy in Novi Sad, Serbia, then presented on recent jurisprudence under the European Convention on Human Rights on access to drinking water and proper sanitation. Maria Antonia Tigre, Director of Latin America for the Global Network for the Study of Human Rights and the Environment, followed with her presentation on greening the jurisprudence of the Inter-American Human Rights System during the COVID-19 pandemic through indigenous claims. Dr. Lina Muñoz-Avila, Director of the Master of Environmental Law and Management program at Universidad del Rosario in Bogotá, Colombia, addressed the dangers that women environmental defenders face in Latin America, particularly in Colombia and in Brazil, and offered proposals on how to enhance protection of women environmental defenders.

Watch the full presentation here and enter the following passcode: *sF’t9qT

Dr. Joshua Gellers

Dr. Marijana Mladenov

Prof. James May

Maria Antonia Tigre

Dr. Lina Muñoz-Avila

In rule of law systems that lack the express right to a healthy environment, like those countries within the European system, environmental rights and the idea of the linkage between human rights and a healthy environment is still there, and you can find it lurking in all sorts of other rights that are recognized expressly in the rights to life.

Distinguished Professor
James R. May
Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Environmental Justice Panel

This panel featured five experts to address perspectives on environmental justice around the world. The first two speakers addressed U.S. perspectives. Prof. Rebecca Bratspies, Director of the Center for Urban Environmental Reform at CUNY School of Law, presented on storytelling to build the next generation of environmental leaders. She discussed how the Environmental Justice Chronicles, a series of comic books that she developed, has helped educate students in New York City and throughout the country on environmental justice issues. Dr. Deepa Badrinarayana then addressed the merits of limits of seeking a constitutional right to environmental protection under the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment as a mechanism to secure environmental justice. Dr. Begaiym Esenkulova, Associate Prof. at American University of Central Asia in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, addressed suggestions on how integrate environmental and human rights protections into international investment treaty regimes to help promote environmental justice. Dr. Stellina Jolly addressed how the concept of “just sustainability” from a recent court decision in India affirms the need to integrate environmental justice principle into sustainable development objectives. Dr. Jonathan Scherch concluded the panel with a presentation on his Pacific Bamboo Resources organization’s “Bamboo for Good” programs in East Africa that promote a wide range of social and environmental benefits to help secure sustainability objectives and environmental justice.

Watch the full presentation here and enter the following passcode: M*sq640K
Global Perspectives on Climate and Energy Justice Roundtable

This roundtable addressed recent developments on climate and energy justice from experts in four countries: Canada, South Korea, Norway, and Qatar. Moderated by Prof. Abate, the panel began with Dr. Patrícia Galvão Ferreira, Assistant Prof. at the University of Windsor Faculty of Law in Ontario, Canada, who addressed recent developments in youth and indigenous climate justice cases in the Canadian court system. Dr. Jae-Hyup Lee, Prof. of Law at Seoul National University School in South Korea, addressed the “Green New Deal” (2020) policy in South Korea and why it is necessary to help secure climate and energy justice in South Korea. Dr. Esmeralda Colombo, Visiting Prof. at the Centre for Climate and Energy Transformation at the University of Bergen in Norway, addressed climate and justice issues through the lens of a recent landmark decision in the Norwegian court system, People v. Arctic Oil. Dr. Damilola S. Olawuyi, SAN, Prof. of Energy and Environmental Law at Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU) College of Law in Doha, Qatar, addressed the need to promote energy justice in the global South and how a just energy transition considers the global South countries’ special needs. Prof. Abate engaged the panelists in a Q&A dialogue to conclude the roundtable.

The transcript of the roundtable, which was edited and published as an article in the June 2021 issue of the Environmental Law Institute’s The Environmental Law Reporter, is available via the symposium webpage. To view the roundtable, access the Zoom recording with the following passcode: F.yEd@^7
Two interdisciplinary Monmouth faculty panels addressed a wide range of topics at the intersection of human rights and the environment. Dr. Catherine Duckett, Associate Dean of the School of Science, moderated the first panel. Dr. Melissa Alvaré, Lecturer in the Department of Political Science and Sociology, discussed the challenge of climate gentrification in select U.S. cities and recommended solutions such as enforcing rent control and tax freezes, preserving and building affordable housing, and organizing within local communities. Dr. Kathleen Grant, Assistant Prof. in the Department of Educational Counseling, examined the link between advocacy for climate change and social justice and discussed how the quest for climate justice must confront institutional racism. Dr. Eric Fesselmeyer, Associate Prof. of Economics, presented his research on whether heat affects certain populations disproportionately, which concluded with substantial evidence indicating a connection between race/ethnic origin, rent, income, and college education. Dr. Abha Sood, Lecturer in the Department of English, addressed the Isle de Jean Charles in Louisiana as a case study in climate justice. The community is just one example of many indigenous, minority, and low-income communities throughout the U.S. that has struggled to receive adequate support to ensure safe resettlement to avoid the severe climate change impacts they face.

“People who are socially, economically, culturally, politically, institutionally, or otherwise marginalized are especially vulnerable to climate change.... Overall, African-Americans are three times more likely to die from particulate air pollution as the overall population.”

Dr. Kathleen Grant
Tony MacDonald, Esq., Director of the Urban Coast Institute, moderated the second Monmouth faculty panel. Dr. John Comiskey, Assistant Prof. in the Department of Criminal Justice, delivered a presentation that linked climate inaction to “systemic security risks,” which include hospitals stretched beyond capacity, food and water shortages, looting and violence, soaring unemployment, and a nationwide increase in post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other mental illness. Given that existing U.S. policies are insufficient to prevent these outcomes from climate-related events such as Hurricane Katrina, Dr. Comiskey underscored the urgency of bringing the climate crisis to the forefront of security discussions. Dr. Thomas Herrington, Associate Director of the Urban Coast Institute, examined climate change-induced coastal migration and addressed three core questions: where will population relocate to, when will the relocation process begin, and what resources are necessary to prepare? Dr. Robin Mama, Dean of the School of Social Work, discussed her work as an International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) Representative to the United Nations. As a representative, Dean Mama advocates for the social work profession and assists the UN in attaining its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). She explained that social workers are always present in natural disasters, are conversant in the discipline of disaster mental health, and are essential in combating the climate crisis.

To view the recording of the faculty panels, enter the following passcode: @?N0$sY

"Where we have highly resourced or privileged populations, they have a lot of capacity to move or to affect their own outcomes whereas, where we have marginalized, under-resourced communities, they are vulnerable and left with few options."

Dr. Thomas Herrington
Open Mic Night

The student-led Open Mic Night provided a forum for students to share their talents and thoughts on human rights and the environment issues. Hosted by IGU graduate interns Emi Intili and Courtney Gosse, the event was an energetic display with student, community, and faculty performances. Participants sang, danced, and recited poetry and short stories, while others simply shared their thoughts. Some participants produced original TikTok videos that reflected the intersectionality inherent in the event’s human rights and the environment theme.

Winning performances included undergraduate student and aspiring educator Emma Cooper’s Spanish Ode to Mother Earth — which she wrote for a course with Associate Prof. Dr. Alison Maginn in the Department of World Languages and Cultures — and School of Social Work graduate student Hannah Burke’s “The Embalming Song,” which explores unsustainable modern death practices and her post-mortem plan to honor the Earth. Burke also delivered a presentation on this topic the following day as part of the symposium’s student panel. Other contributions include Julia Poaella’s original poetry on social isolation during the COVID-19 pandemic, and fifth grader Jeff Jiju’s recommendations for sustainable living.

The winning video, “Equal,” submitted by music student Dillon Schindler, emphasized the importance of actively combating racism through one’s voice. The video is available to view here. The Kahoot! Trivia Game, moderated by IGU undergraduate interns Chelsea Franchette, Chloey Norris, and Muge Gore, featured a fierce competition and ended with Kerry Lenhart, a graduate student in the School of Social Work, claiming victory.

The successful inaugural student-run Open Mic Night will continue in future iterations of the biennial symposium.

Co-authored by Emilia Intili and Victoria Cattelona
Screening of and Commentary on "Kivalina: Life in the Modern Arctic"

In the film *Kivalina: Life in the Modern Arctic*, viewers experience an intimate story of the lives of the Inupiaq people in the Native Village of Kivalina in Northern Alaska. Throughout the documentary, the village faces a significant challenge: climate change. The filmmaker, Gina Abatemarco, explores how climate change impacts Kivalina and its community members. The film also delves into the people's lifestyles, culture, food sources, and views on climate change as well as the government's role in response to this ongoing existential threat to the community.

The Inupiaq people reside in a small and remote village. The film offers a window into the daily lives of this community by showing different activities in which the community members partake and interviewing multiple individuals. The community members participate in many activities together and rely on one another for their needs. The film portrays how the community members catch fish, whales, and seals and how they prepare the food for their families. In recent years, whaling has become a challenge for the community due to the lack of ice in the area because of climate change, and the severe ocean storms have led to erosion. Another ocean storm could devastate the village if the waves are high enough to trigger an emergency evacuation.

The film examines possible adaptation responses to the challenges that Kivalina faces from climate change. There was government funding to help relocate the village, but the government decided to fund the sea wall instead. Some of Kivalina’s residents wanted funding for the village’s relocation rather than for the sea wall. Although several community members expressed a desire to allocate funding for the village’s relocation, there were also many who wanted to stay in Kivalina despite dangerous conditions.

During the commentary portion of the event, the audience heard from three speakers: Enoch Adams, a member of Kivalina; Dr. Kelsey Leonard, an Assistant Prof. in the Faculty of Environment at the University of Waterloo in Ontario and an expert on indigenous legal rights; and Gina Abatemarco, the filmmaker. Mr. Adams described how Kivalina has been moving forward in its evacuation efforts. He discussed how the island has built an evacuation road to a new inland school site. Furthermore, he stated that the community is split about the new school, as most of the community stayed while some community members decided to live near the new school. He also noted that the community is fond of Abatemarco, the filmmaker, and how she embraced the community during the time that she worked on this film.

Dr. Leonard recounted her experience as a member of the Shinnecock Indian Nation in relation to Mr. Adams’s experience. She educated the audience on several dimensions of indigenous nations’ climate adaptation and relocation challenges, offering further insight into how climate change affects indigenous communities and the federal government’s role in these matters.

Abatemarco discussed her emotional attachment to Kivalina and to its beautiful history. She explained how she entered this project, including that she related to the sense of loss that Kivalina was experiencing. During her seven-year journey in making the film, she formed deep friendships and connections and, through doing so, gained knowledge about the culture.

Visit the [2021 IGU Biennial Symposium webpage](#) to view the recording. You can also watch interns Emily O’Sullivan and Madison Hanrahan interview Abatemarco here.

*Authored by Chelsea Franchette*
Monmouth Student Panel

The Monmouth student panel showcased five students’ presentations at the intersection of human rights and the environment. Dr. Melissa Alvaré, Lecturer in the Department of Political Science and Sociology, moderated the event.

The panel began with Hannah Burke, graduate student in the School of Social Work, who delivered her presentation, “Death and Sustainability: Post-Mortem Conservation.” Burke explained how the practice of contemporary embalming has led to deforestation due to harsh chemicals, including the release of carbon monoxide into our environment, and does not involve family and loved ones in the process. She proposed eco-friendly options, such as natural and conservation burials, which also cost significantly less than traditional funerals.


Following Burke’s and Snyder’s presentations were three compelling presentations on cutting-edge issues in law and policy. The first was delivered by Jessica Stos, a graduate student in the Department of Professional Counseling, which addressed the topic, “Nature’s Rights: A Discussion on Mother Earth, Cultural Sensitivity, and the Impact of Nature’s Constitutional Rights on Indigenous People,” which addressed developments in the burgeoning rights of nature movement in Latin America. Dan Conte, an undergraduate student in the Department of Political Science and Sociology, delivered his presentation, “Ocean Acidification as a Climate Change Harm in the Inter-American Court System,” which offered an innovative proposal to help secure climate justice for indigenous communities in the Inter-American Human Rights System based on a promising recent advisory opinion. Lastly, London Jones, an undergraduate student in the Department of Communication, delivered her presentation, “Keep the Culture, Change the Fate: Responding to the Threat of Climate Gentrification to Asbury Park’s West Side,” which addressed a significant climate justice challenge within a short distance of Monmouth’s campus.

Author by Muge Gore
Follow the IGU on Twitter for the latest news! Check out our top live tweets from the symposium:

### Institute for Global Understanding
[@monmouthuIGU](https://twitter.com/monmouthuIGU)

**#IGUSymposium2021** starts NOW! The IGU and [@monmouthu](https://twitter.com/monmouthu) welcome Congressman [@FrankPallone](https://twitter.com/FrankPallone) as he delivers live opening remarks to kick off our three-day symposium. Register now to hear the rest: [bit.ly/registerigusym](https://bit.ly/registerigusym)

4:00 PM · Mar 25, 2021 · Twitter Web App

### Institute for Global Understanding
[@monmouthuIGU](https://twitter.com/monmouthuIGU)

Join us now, as we speak w/ @toniatigre on the effects of #IndigenousPeoples & @linamunozavila on the role of women w/in #EnvironmentalJustice.

#IGUSymposium2021

10:04 AM · Mar 26, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

### Institute for Global Understanding
[@monmouthuIGU](https://twitter.com/monmouthuIGU)

Dan Conte, an undergraduate political science @monmouthu student, is presenting on legal solutions for ocean acidification at #IGUSymposium2021! “Reefs in general provide natural protection from sea level rise, storm surges and extreme weather conditions for coastal communities.”

3:23 PM · Mar 27, 2021 · Twitter Web App

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**SHARE YOUR VOICE!**

**@THE INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL UNDERSTANDING'S OPEN MIC NIGHT**

**SING, DANCE, RECITE A POEM, SHARE A THOUGHT ABOUT...**

**THEME: HUMAN RIGHTS & THE ENVIRONMENT**

**DATE: FRIDAY MARCH 26**

**TIME: 6PM-8PM**

**SCAN & REGISTER**

**HAVE QUESTIONS, EMAIL EMI: S0672455@MONMOUTH.EDU**

6:00 PM · Mar 26, 2021 · Twitter Web App
Social Media Outreach via Monmouth University’s Pages

Total Number of Engagements: 7,021

Facebook Event
1,003 reached
32 responses

Instagram Stories
3,316 reached

Twitter Fleets
1,218 reached

Podcast Tweet
1,484 reached

Praise for the Symposium

"The IGU symposium offered informative and thought-provoking presentations and discussions on a critical and timely set of themes. The student presentations were outstanding examples of scholarly activity in human rights and the environment."

"I liked the dialogue, the open honesty, and cultural differences that were brought to the conversation."

"I liked that students took ownership of an event [the Open Mic Night] and led it from start to finish. This is what makes days like this more engaging — students who are our future leaders sharing their skills and passion."

"I thought that it brought many things to light and stressed the importance of equality, peace, and being aware of the issues that are occurring in our world today."

"The set up/introduction of the event by all speakers during the Opening Remarks, including the history and reason for being as expressed by Provost Datta and the relevancy of Global Understanding, was deeply informative and sounded an alarm for the reason events like this are important and urgent."

"The distinguished speaker was amazing; I will go back and listen to her lecture again as it was so rich and in-depth. [The] Human Rights and the Environment Panel was very good and I enjoyed the Open Mic Night..."