

2025-26 Consultants2025

Kelly Gallagher (DUML)



Degree: Master of Environmental Management

Concentrations: Coastal and Marine Systems, Environmental and Economic Policy

About: Kelly holds a degree from the University of Florida (Go Gators!) in Marine Science. Prior to coming to Duke, Kelly worked as a research and policy associate in a marine lab, guided outdoor adventures, and traveled. She has experience writing blog posts, outreach posters and one-pagers, grant requests, and reports and is enthusiastic about helping people share their research and ideas.

Eileen Jennings



Degree: Master of Environmental Management

Concentrations: Coastal and Marine Systems, Community-Engaged Environmental Justice

Consultant Strengths: Research papers, scientific reports, data visualization, qualitative methods (interviews, research, and data management (NVivo))

About: Eileen (she/her) is a second-year Master of Environmental Management candidate at Duke University, concentrating in Coastal and Marine Systems and Community-Engaged Environmental Justice. She holds a degree in International Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Eileen has experience in qualitative research methods, including conducting interviews and analysis to produce a detailed research report. Prior to returning to university for her master's degree, she worked for several years as a second-language teacher in both English and Spanish. She enjoys creative writing in her free time. Eileen is happy to support writing processes by providing support for outlines and drafting papers.

Aakanksha Saraf



Degree: Master of Environmental Management

Concentrations: Environmental Policy; Terrestrial and Freshwater Environments

Consultant Strengths: Resume, Cover letters, policy memos/briefs, research papers/reports, presentations

About: Aakanksha is a second-year Master of Environmental Management student at Duke University with a passion for regenerative agriculture and environmental justice. As a Graduate

Assistant at the Duke Women's Center and a researcher in the Duke Soils Lab, she has explored the intersection of environmental stewardship and social equity, furthering her commitment to sustainable and inclusive practices. She founded Saraf Farms, a regenerative farm in New Delhi, to implement sustainable farming techniques and foster local partnerships. Previously, Aakanksha worked with state governments in India as a policy consultant, where she drafted and implemented environmental policy plans. She enjoys writing and sharing stories about the intersection of policy, agriculture, and sustainability.

Vedaansh Uberoi



Degree: Master of Environmental Management

Concentrations: Environmental Economics & Policy and Terrestrial & Freshwater Environments

Consultant Strengths: StoryMaps, policy writing, GIS and geospatial visualizations

About: Vedaansh (he/they) is a second-year Master of Environmental Management candidate. They communicate complex issues on equitable water infrastructure, environmental

justice, and policy analysis through compelling geospatial visualizations, data-driven StoryMaps, and concise policy briefs backed by financial modeling. Their experience includes GIS, spatial analysis, wetland research, and collaborating with agencies to design sustainable, community-centered policy solutions.

2024-25 Consultants

Wynona Curaming

wynonaeurj.curaming@duke.edu



Degree: Master of Environmental Management

Concentrations: Environmental Analytics; Energy

Consultant Strengths: resumes, presentations, graphic design, policy memos/briefs

About: Wynona is a second-year Master of Environmental Management student with a special interest in decarbonizing food systems. She has served as a class assistant for a climate class and as a food-climate research assistant for the Duke World Food Policy Center. Prior to graduate school, she studied environmental science and public policy at Duke and Duke Kunshan University (DKU), where she co-led the publication of the university's first sustainability report, and conducted program evaluation and Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) for clients. She enjoys writing, editing, and preparing presentations and is eager to help others develop their communications.

Katie Maxwell

katie.maxwell@duke.edu



Degree: Master of Environmental Management

Primary Concentration: Environmental Economics & Policy

Secondary Concentration: Energy & Environment

Consultant Strengths: Presentations, Public Speaking, Resumes, Cover Letters, Policy Memos, Graphic Design

About: A second-year from the Chicago area, Katie is a passionate climate justice advocate with a background in nonprofit communications. Before starting her master's program at Duke, Katie worked at a multifaith environmental justice nonprofit on their outreach and communications teams. She has experience creating an effective and engaging email strategy and highlighting impact through social media. Her keen eye and approachable nature help writers identify strategies to strengthen their storytelling in

various mediums. Katie is a 2017 graduate of St. Olaf College where she completed her Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Studies (Social Science emphasis) and German with a Management Studies concentration. A lifelong musician and avid reader, Katie enjoys singing in the Duke Chapel Choir. She loves hearing about what others are reading.

Courses Taken: ENVIRON 235/ENERGY 835 (Environmental Law); ENVIRON 577 (Global Environmental Politics); ENVIRON 592/PUBPOL 592 (U.N. Climate Change Negotiations Practicum)

Vanshika Mittal

vanshika.mittal@duke.edu



Degree: Master of Environmental Management

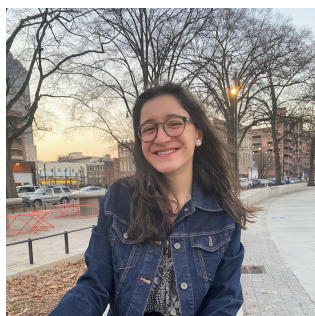
Concentration: Energy; Environmental Analytics and Modeling

Consultant Strengths: Data Visualisation, Technical Writing, Research Papers and Reports, Project Proposals.

About: Vanshika is a second-year Master in Environmental Management student with a strong background in research and writing. Prior to Duke, she worked with Adam Smith International where she drafted technical proposals for international development projects funded by DFID, USAID and DFAT. Additionally, she served as the lead editor and senior research analyst for a think tank in India, during which she published research papers in peer-reviewed journals such as Cities and Asian Ethnicity. Vanshika has extensive experience in grant writing, editing and communication and is eager to contribute to the Communications Studio.

Candela Cerpa

candela.cerpa@duke.edu



Degree: Master of Environmental Management

Concentration: Terrestrial & Freshwater Environments;
Environmental Analytics & Modeling

Consultant Strengths: Presentations, policy memos, research papers/reports, resumes, cover letters

About: Candela (she/her) is a third-year master's student in Environmental Management at Duke and City and Regional Planning at UNC-Chapel Hill. Over the past year, Candela was the Editor-in-Chief at the Carolina Planning Journal, the oldest student-run planning publication in the U.S., where she expanded her editing and writing skills. Candela was born and raised in Uruguay, so she's especially happy to support non-native English speakers with their writing.

2023-2024 Consultants

Maeve Arthur



maeve.arthur@duke.edu

Degree: Master of Environmental Management

Concentration: Coastal Environmental Management

Consultant Strengths: Policy memos, presentations, research papers/reports, academic writing, science communication, cover

letters

About: Maeve is a second-year MEM passionate about coastal resilience and adaptation and aquaculture management and development. She has developed her science communication and writing skills through several environmental research and policy internships and enjoys coaching her peers through the writing process. Maeve graduated from Davidson College with a degree in Environmental Studies and Data Science. Though originally from Maine, Maeve has loved spending the past five years exploring North Carolina.

Sophia Palia



sophia.palia@duke.edu

Degree: Master of Environmental Management

Concentration: Ecosystem Science and Conservation,
Certificate in Community-Based Environmental Management

Consultant Strengths: communications planning and strategies, research, popular science, storytelling, presentations, graphic design

About: Sophia is a second-year MEM passionate about the intersection between conservation, science communication, and environmental justice. After graduating from The College of William & Mary with a degree in Biology, she conducted ecology and conservation research in the tropical forests of Indonesia and Peru. During the pandemic, she explored science and environmental communication through her work as an educator at the Museum of Life and Science in Durham and as communications consultants for Appalachian Voices and The Hive Fund for Climate and Gender Justice. Sophia enjoys helping others tailor information to make it accessible for different audiences.

Sadaf Sadrudin Sutaria

sadafsadrudin.sutaria@duke.edu



Degrees: Master of Environmental Management

Concentrations: Environmental Economics and Policy

Consultant Strengths: Policy Memos, Scientific Communication, Cover Letters, Resumes, Presentations, and Public Speaking

About: Originally from Pakistan, Sadaf has lived, studied, and worked in various regions of the world bringing a great deal of international experience and adaptability to work in different settings. She completed her undergraduate degree in Earth and Environmental Science from the University of Central Asia, Tajikistan, and coordinated projects with five Southwest Indian Ocean countries during her work term with World Wide Fund for Nature, Mozambique. Sadaf has years of writing and public speaking experience and has held

internships in several renowned institutions in Tajikistan, Pakistan, and Canada as well as in the U.S. During her time at Duke, she served as the Conference Chair Assistant for the Blue Economy Summit 2023 hosted by Oceans@Duke and currently serving as the International Student Representative at the Nicholas School Student Council. In her free time, Sadaf enjoys reading, playing badminton, and volunteering.

Courses Taken: ENVIRON 835 (Environmental Law); ENVIRON 577 (Environmental Politics); ENVIRON 807 (International Fisheries Policy); PUBPOL 789 (Managing in the Development Context)

Tori Velasquez

victoria.velasquez@duke-edu



Degree: Master of Environmental Management

Concentration: Environmental Economics and Policy

Consultant Strengths: marketing, professional writing, academic writing, policy memos/briefs, presentations, cover letters, reports, blogs, personal narrative essays

Tori, a second-year MEM, has always enjoyed helping people find their voice through writing. A lifelong lover of the written word, she studied English and Theatre at the University of Notre Dame, dabbling in playwriting, dramaturgy, journalism, creative writing, and literary analysis. She found creative and collaborative ways to communicate working in the arts, then expanded her ability to write to scientific audiences during her four years of marketing for *Science*/AAAS. Between her policy and law classes at Duke and her summer government affairs fellowship at the League of Conservation Voters, she has experience writing briefs, blogs, oral testimonies, and reports on various environmental policy topics. Her favorite topics include environmental justice, water policy, and conservation. Tori is currently the communications coordinator for the Nicholas School Student Council and enjoys participating with the Duke Environmental Justice Network and Duke Conservation Society.

2022 – 2023 Consultants

Danlei Zou

danlei.zou@duke.edu



Degrees: Master of Environmental Management

Concentration: Business & Environment

Consultant Strengths: Research papers/reports, presentation practice, business memos, resumes, cover letters

About: Danlei is a second year MEM student from San Francisco interested in corporate sustainability and consumer behavior. At the Nic School, Danlei is the Vice President of the Duke Sustainability Board. Before coming to Duke, she graduated from UC Santa Barbara with a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies where she conducted a thesis project on consumer behavior towards sustainable fashion. Danlei has previously been a research consultant for the World Bank on the Global Health Engagement team and a strategy associate at ZS Associates in their Business Consulting team.

Courses taken with Writing: ENVIRON 811 (Business and Environment), ENVIRON 782 (Marketing for Environmental Professionals), ENVIRON 831 (Sustainable Business Strategy), EGRMGMT 563 (Supply Chain Management), ENERGY 638 (Environmental LCA)

Erin Keleske

erin.keleske@duke.edu



Degrees: Master of Environmental Management

Concentration: Environmental Economics and Policy

Consultant Strengths: policy memos, popular science and narrative writing, communications planning and strategies, graphic design, presentations and public speaking,

About: Erin is a second year from Wisconsin, interested in conservation policy of both land and freshwater systems. Before Duke, she worked for the City of Milwaukee on Great Lakes policy, climate advocacy, and communications campaigns for a range of conservation and environmental equity projects. Before transitioning to the social sciences, Erin got her Bachelor's in Biology from Kenyon College where she wrote an honors thesis on paleoclimate modeling. In addition to this experience in science writing, Erin conducted research on effective communications strategies to combat climate denialism. When not working at the Comms Studio, Erin is the Director of the Nicholas School Student Council, the President of Conservation Society, and on the board for Coding 4 the Environment. She also has worked as a professional communications consultant for environmental organizations and nonprofits.

Writing-intensive Courses Taken: ENVIRON 517 (Tropical Ecology); ENVIRON 835 (Environmental Law); ENVIRON 577 (Environmental Politics); ENVIRON 506 (Environmental Justice: Theory and Practice); ENVIRON 790.04 (Environmental Security and Peacebuilding); ENVIRON 590.04 (Transboundary Water Management); ENVIRON 738 (US Water Governance)

India Mackinson

india.mackinson@duke.edu



Degrees: Master of Environmental Management

Concentrations: Coastal Environmental Management

Consultant Strengths: Policy Memos, Science and Policy Research Papers, Popular Science/Science Communication,

Cover Letters, Resumes

About: Originally from Charlotte, India has lived in North Carolina from mountains to coast. She currently resides in Morehead City as a student at the Duke Marine Lab. She brings

several years of writing and science communication experience to the Comms Studio after graduating from UNC-Chapel Hill with a degree in environmental studies and journalism with multiple science writing internships under her belt. Before Duke, she worked in public communications and coastal policy with the Town of North Topsail Beach, North Carolina. She brought those interests to the Nic School, where she is focused on coastal resilience and climate adaptation policy. In her free time, India enjoys embroidery, reading, and tending to her container garden.

Courses Taken: ENVIRON 775 (Ocean & Coastal Law & Policy), ENVIRON 559 (Fundamentals of GIS and Geospatial Analysis), ENVIRON 755 (Community-Based Environmental Management), ENVIRON 614S (Coastal Resilience in the Face of Climate Change), ENVIRON 765 (Coastal and Marine Geospatial Analysis), ECS 715 (Intro to Coastal Processes)

2021 – 2022 Consultants

Rachel Earnhardt

rachel.earnhardt@duke.edu



Degrees: Master of Environmental Management

Concentrations: Environmental Economics and Policy, Certificate in Community-Based Environmental Management

Consultation Strengths: Cover Letters, Memos, Accessible Scientific Writing, Presentations

About: Born and raised in Raleigh, Rachel recently made the big move to Durham to pursue a MEM. Before starting at the Nicholas School, she served with FoodCorps AmeriCorps teaching gardening and cooking to kids, WWOOFed up and down New Zealand, and read a lot of books. To the Comms Studio, Rachel is excited to bring lessons learned from working as a writing tutor at her college writing workshop and providing

editorial support at a policy journal. For Rachel, writing consultation is all about helping people tell their stories more effectively.

Brenda Warger

[*brenda.warger@duke.edu*](mailto:brenda.warger@duke.edu)



Degrees: Master of Environmental Management

Concentration: Environmental Economics and Policy

Consultation Strengths: Resumes, Written application material, Cover Letters, Memos (policy-focused or other)

About: Brenda is from Miami, Florida, and graduated *summa cum laude* from Florida State University in 2016 with her B.S. degree in Environmental Studies. After four years in policy and business administration roles for environmental nonprofits and Miami-Dade County, she began her Master's degree at the Nicholas School of the Environment. Brenda is particularly interested in policy approaches that create enabling environments for renewable energy. In her free time, Brenda enjoys thrift shopping, sewing, and consuming boba tea.

2019-2020 Consultants

Johanna Kluck

(johanna.kluck@duke.edu)



Degrees: Master of Environmental Management

Concentrations: Environmental Economics and Policy

Areas of expertise: Scientific Communication, Presentations, Resumes and Cover Letters

About: Jo hails from Nebraska and previously studied in Iowa where she worked as a peer writing consultant. Here at Duke, Jo is interested in learning more about environmental policy and risk assessment, particularly toxicological and catastrophic risk. Beyond academics, Jo likes to play basketball, write slam poetry, and explore the world.

Kim Myers

(kimberly.r.myers@duke.edu)



Degrees: Master of Environmental Management/Master of Forestry

Concentrations: Ecosystem Science and Conservation

Areas of expertise: scientific communications, resumes, cover letters

About: Kim is originally from Wrentham, Massachusetts but has lived in New York City and Washington, D.C. since leaving home. She came to the Nicholas School to study the nexus of forest conservation and community livelihoods in developing countries. Last summer, she had the opportunity to work as a GIS Intern for The Nature Conservancy and spent a month in Oaxaca, Mexico, collecting data for her Masters Project. When she's not reading textbooks and scientific articles, she enjoys going to the gym and watching thrillers.

Kyle Cornish

(kyle.cornish@duke.edu)



Degrees: Master of Environmental Management

Concentrations: Environmental Policy and Analysis

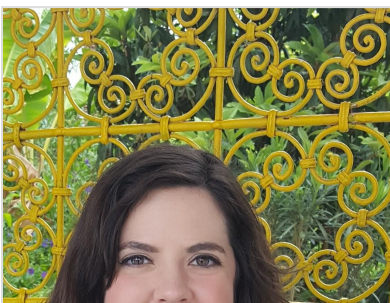
Areas of expertise: Cover letters, scientific communications, memos

About: Born and raised in Arlington, Virginia, Kyle grew up in close proximity to the political capital of the United States. After graduating from the University of Virginia in 2017, Kyle worked on ocean policy and public lands issues in Washington, DC. This summer, Kyle interned with a local climate justice nonprofit organization in Durham. Kyle is interested in how inclusive management and policy strategies can be implemented to enhance marine conservation and promote social justice.

Grace Hancock

(grace.hancock@duke.edu)

Joint CPDC & NSOE Career Fellow



Degree: Master of Environmental Management

Concentrations: Environmental Economics & Policy, Community Based Environmental Management

Areas of expertise: professional writing: cover letters, resumes, personal statements, memos (policy-focused & other)

About: Grace worked for eight years advising environmental non-profits on finance and strategy before coming to the Nic School to study urban environmental policy. Beyond classes and her Masters Project, which focuses on planning a sustainable tree canopy in Durham, she tries to find time for the occasional run around East Campus, gardening, or exploring new (to her!) parts of NC.

Lannette Rangel

(lannette.rangel@duke.edu)

Joint CPDC & NSOE Career Fellow



Degrees: Master of Environmental Management

Concentrations: Environmental Economics and Policy

Areas of expertise: Resumes, cover letters, memos

About: Lannette is a Californian at heart. Originally from Oceanside, California, she has lived throughout the state over the years, and now calls Lake Tahoe her home. She pursued studies at the Nicholas School to experience a different part of the country while studying the intersection of environmental science and policy. Over the summer she interned in Washington D.C. for the National Wildlife Refuge Association, developing communication materials to promote the organization's mission and inform the public of the importance of wildlife refuges. Outside of her academic pursuits, she enjoys dancing, yoga, singing, and advocating for the planet and its voiceless creatures.