

## **Get The Scoop!**

Today is a powerful reminder of the importance of protecting our planet and the everyday actions we can take to make a difference. Whether it's reducing waste, conserving energy, supporting sustainable businesses, or simply spending time in nature, Earth Day invites us all to reflect on how we care for the world around us. In addition, we have very exciting events planned, so make sure you scroll down to get involved.

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## **Schiller Team Member Spotlight**



### **Meet Dominique!**

Dominique Williams was born in the US but lived in Saint Kitts and Nevis for the first 15 years of her life. Her favourite ice-breaker is to have people guess the population of the smallest sovereign country in the western hemisphere by size and population. She also considers herself an adopted New Englander after attending boarding school in Andover, MA for three years. While people assume the hardest part of leaving the Caribbean is giving up the warm climate and good food, to Dominique that comes second to being separated from her two

younger sisters, her family and community, still in Saint Kitts.

Dominique is a Freshman hoping to study Environmental Studies with a minor in Accounting for Finance & Consulting and Chinese. Dominique would say that growing up in the Caribbean, nestled between rainforests, with sight of the beach everywhere on the island, is precisely what made nature inseparable from her understanding of self, society and the world. Her passion for diverse subject areas and intersectional thinking is what led her to the interdisciplinary Environmental Studies major.

Dominique first learnt about the Schiller Institute during her spring revisit and immediately knew that was something she wanted to become more involved with. Aside from being a student assistant in the institute, she is also a new member of the Schiller Student Board. What is most fulfilling about working with the Schiller Institute is the opportunity to see the themes of energy, environment, and health converge in places that create a more just and sustainable future.

Her hobbies include listening to history books on Spotify while walking around campus, watching Chinese dramas - for language learning purposes of course - and writing. She currently has an online column about topics about Caribbean climate change called Hibiscus Tea. She also remains connected to activism in the region through the Saint Kitts National Youth Parliament Association and the Caribbean Youth Climate Change Council.

Looking forward Dominique will be doing research at the University of Pittsburgh's Mobilisation and Political Economy program, hoping to study how the economic impacts of natural disasters

influence voting patterns in hard hit communities. With her entire BC career spread out in front of her, Dominique loves talking to upperclassmen and extending her bucket list of classes to take, places to eat and things to do.





**Meet Our Team!**

## What Are Schiller Students Up To?

We are excited to congratulate Morrissey College junior Ashley Delgado! She is this year's Romero Scholarship winner and is passionate about housing advocacy and legal empowerment. She is also on the 2025 Chile project team for our Working For and With Communities class!



Delgado’s academic pursuits combine a business foundation with a deep interest in public policy and urban development. A double major in political science and communication with a minor in general business, she also completed the Carroll School of Management’s Catalyst Program, a summer initiative for non-management students which provides a broad foundation in the functional areas of management.

“The work that we do is not about [the] spotlight. It is not about self. It’s about something far greater—it’s about restoring what’s been broken, healing what’s been ignored, and uplifting the dignity of those in the world who are often overlooked,” she said in her acceptance speech.

“Housing justice is not just about units. It’s about people, about families that deserve permanence, not precarity,” said Delgado, who hopes to launch a Latino housing justice initiative focused on helping families find stable housing amid ongoing cycles of housing insecurity.

[Read More](#)

**...And Where Do They Go?**



"My name is Gustavo Cardona e Almeida, and I recently completed my Master's in Applied Economics at Boston College. Before that, my academic path took me from Curitiba, Brazil, where I earned my bachelor's degree in Economics at the Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná, to St Mary's University in London, where I did my Master's in International Business.

After London, I applied to Boston College, drawn by its Jesuit values, commitment to community, and strong academic reputation. While studying in the Engineering building at Boston College, I came across a banner inviting students to apply as delegates for COP29, held in Baku, Azerbaijan. I submitted my application...a few months later, I received an email: I had been selected. What happened next in Baku changed me forever.

We shared countless hours discussing climate policy, sustainable development, and our hopes for

the future. One of the most unforgettable moments for me was meeting key environmental leaders from around the world, from U.S. Senator and BC alum Ed Markey, to Brazilian senators, ministers and especially Judge Herman Benjamin, Chief Judge of the National High Court of Brazil and a leading mind in environmental law in the country.

A few months later, I had been accepted to pursue a Ph.D. in Finance at the Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná, in Curitiba, a city recognised for its environmental innovation and sustainable projects. My research will focus on green finance and sustainable investment.



If you're passionate about economics, sustainability, or just up for a good conversation, I'd love to hear from you! Feel free to connect with me on LinkedIn or reach out however you prefer. I'm always excited to swap ideas, share stories, or simply chat about where life and purpose intersect. As we all move forward, let's keep building bridges and in true Jesuit spirit, let's keep showing up for others, working for justice, and doing our part to build a more compassionate, sustainable world.



From a proud Eagle, Gustavo =)"

[Read More](#)

## Core Faculty Member Spotlight

### Meet Jier!

Jier Huang grew up on the southeast coast of China and driven by the curiosity to experience a different culture, chose to attend college in the northwest region of the country (Lanzhou)—an area completely different from her hometown (Ningbo).

The journey between the two regions took nearly 40 hours by train, but she enjoyed the journey, finding it interesting to see different landscapes and regions pass by.



She spent seven years at Lanzhou University, taking part in its prestigious chemistry program, which is where she earned her B.S. in Chemistry and M.S. in Analytical Chemistry. Eager to pursue a higher level of education as well as experience a different lifestyle, she went to the United States and earned her Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry at Emory University. Following that, she completed her postdoctoral research at Argonne National Laboratory. After finishing her studies, she started a career as an assistant professor at Marquette University in Milwaukee, later earning tenure and a promotion to associate professor. After nearly a decade there, she transferred to Boston College, where she now works as a Professor of Chemistry and a core faculty member at the Schiller Institute for Integrated Science and Society.

Jier's research focuses on solar energy conversion. Since her college days, she has always been passionate about methods of utilizing solar energy. In her lab, she uses ultrafast laser spectroscopy—a unique technique—to observe molecular behaviors critical to solar energy processes.

Outside of work, she enjoys hiking, gardening, and spending time with friends. She is grateful to have made plenty of close friends in her short span of time living in Boston. She is also a proud mother of two teenage sons and a dog named Coconut—who you might spot on campus if you're lucky!

**Meet the Core Faculty!**





## We Want to Hear From You

Did you know you can respond to this email? We check our inbox frequently and would love to hear your thoughts about The Scoop, fun opportunities you've had relating to environment, health, and energy, and more!

**If you let us know, we might feature you in the next edition!**

**Green Week**



We are very excited to announce that we will be hosting various activities as part of EcoPledge's **Green Week, April 22 to April 25!**

There will be a series of art and sustainability workshops in collaboration with the BC Writing Center, Studio Art, and Arts Festival. Additionally, there will be a meet and greet with our Schiller Student Board at the tabling event on Friday April 25.

Be sure to come say hi and grab Schiller Institute and The Scoop stickers and see below for details about the events!

### **Poetry and Environment Workshop**

**Today, Tuesday, April 22 from 3pm-6pm,** the Schiller Institute for Integrated Science and Society, in collaboration with the BC Writing Center, will be hosting a poetry and environment workshop led by our poet laureate, Jesse Julian. It will highlight the interdisciplinary and complementary nature of art, poetry, and the environment.

This event will take place **between Fulton Hall and 245 Beacon Street, next to the St. Ignatius statue.** Rain location is the Schiller Institute Convening Space (245 Beacon Rm 501).

[Register Here](#)

### Votive Making Workshop

**On Thursday, April 24 from 12:15-1:30 in Devlin Room 413**, in conjunction with Green Week and the Arts Festival, Studio Art Professor Sheila Gallagher will host a votives making workshop and performed lecture with Philosophy Professor Richard Kearney.

Everyone is encouraged to create art objects that represent our desire for connection, recovery, and co-creation. No experience necessary. All materials will be provided.

[Register Here](#)

### Nature-Inspired Sketching Workshop

**On Thursday, April 24 from 2pm - 3:30pm**, in collaboration with the Boston College Studio Art Department, will be hosting a Nature-Inspired Sketching Workshop. This event will be led by Professor Hartmut Austen from the Art Department. **Registration is mandatory**, so please register to ensure there is enough space.

Supplies will be provided to you.

The event will take place at **Pine Hill Preserve** (details to follow).

[Register Here](#)

## Our Poet Laureate



Happy Earth Day! Earth Day is a reminder to always cultivate care for our planet, regardless of the date. Remember that everyday is Earth Day.

To celebrate, I'm highlighting the 23rd Poet Laureate of the United States, Joy Harjo. As a member of the Muscogee nation, she began writing poetry during her time at the University of New Mexico in response to Native empowerment movements. From there, her work has repeatedly used spiritual themes to associate humanity with the natural world.

Now published as a children's picture book, "Remember" reminds people of their metaphysical connection to the earth. I aim to amplify Harjo's message regarding one's spiritual connection to the universe around them, thus assigning a sense of responsibility onto the person for the world around them.

-- **Jesse Julian**

[Read Jesse Julian's Analysis Here](#)

## Upcoming Schiller Institute Events

**Linking Knowledge with Action to  
Support Sustainable Development**





EARTH WEEK PRESENTS

# LINKING KNOWLEDGE WITH ACTION TO SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



**Thursday  
April 24**

3 PM - 5th Floor,  
245 Beacon Street

**PROFESSOR WILLIAM C. CLARK**

John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University

FOLLOWED BY PANNEL DISCUSSION WITH:



**HANQIN TIAN**  
Director of CES3 and  
Institute Professor of  
Global Sustainability



**PHILIP J. LANDRIGAN**  
Director of the GOPH  
Professor of Biology



**YI MING**  
Institute Professor of  
Climate and Society



CENTER FOR EARTH SYSTEM SCIENCE AND GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY (CES3)  
GLOBAL OBSERVATORY ON PLANETARY HEALTH (GOPH)



Global Sustainability has long been a vision for a world in which people's well-being in the here and now is enhanced without compromising the ability of people elsewhere or in the future to define and promote their own well-being. The pursuit of sustainability is ultimately a political process requiring constant efforts to combat barriers of power, corruption and inequity. But it is also an intellectual process requiring constant efforts to experiment, discover and innovate. This seminar reviews what has been learned about the challenges of – and opportunities for -- linking knowledge with action to support sustainable development in our chaotic and polarized world.

The presenter, William Clark, is the Harvey Brooks Research Professor of International Science, Public Policy and Human Development at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. His research seeks to advance the goal of sustainable development: equitable improvements in people's well-being, achieved in ways that do not diminish the potential of people in other places or future generations to pursue their own well-being. In particular, he focuses on institutions and practices that facilitate linking knowledge with action in pursuit of sustainability.

**Join us at 3PM on April 24th at 245 Beacon Street in the Schiller Institute Convening Space (Rm 501)** to hear from Professor Clark and other panelists!

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**Want to Win Some Honey?**



# The Honey Raffle Is Back



Want to enter the raffle for a jar of honey made by the Fulton Hall Beehive? Post this on your Instagram story, screenshot it, and email it to [sustainability@bc.edu](mailto:sustainability@bc.edu) by **April 28**.

This year's campus partners for the Eagles Sustainability Competition are hosting another honey raffle this semester. Post to your Instagram and let the Office of Sustainability know by **April 28th** for a chance to win some honey made by the Fulton Hall beehive!

## Upcoming Campus Events

**Engineering A Quantum Future for  
Societal Impact**

***PUBLIC LECTURE***

**ENGINEERING A QUANTUM FUTURE  
FOR SOCIETAL IMPACT**

**QUANTUM TECHNOLOGY'S IMPACT ON  
HEALTHCARE, COMPUTING, THE ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT**

**THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2025**

**4:00 PM PUBLIC TALK**

**RECEPTION TO FOLLOW**

**MURRAY ROOM, YAWKEY CENTER**



**Liew Family Professor David Awschalom**  
**U. Chicago-Pritzker School V. Dean for Research**  
**Argonne National Laboratory, Senior Scientist**  
**Chicago Quantum Exchange, Founding Director**

Hosted By The Boston College Physics Department

More Information:

BC.EDU/PHYSICS  
PHYSICS@BC.EDU



**Thursday, May 1st at 4PM in the Yawkey Center**, learn about the impact quantum technology has on healthcare, computing, the economy, and the environment. This discussion is open to all students and faculty!

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**LEAPS Sustainability Conference**

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**SUSTAINABILITY**



# LEAPS

## CONFERENCE 2025

**TAKING LEAPS TOGETHER: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY EXPLORATION OF TEXTILE WASTE AND SOLUTIONS**



**Registration to receive the Zoom Link!**

Attendance is free of charge. For inquiries, please contact the event organizers at [leaps@aftermathlearninglab.com](mailto:leaps@aftermathlearninglab.com) or visit our website at [LEAPS.AftermathLearningLab.com](https://LEAPS.AftermathLearningLab.com).

LEAPS Conference 2025 aims to bring together policymakers, fashion industry leaders, textile recyclers, researchers, educators, students, and community members to exchange knowledge on research and innovations in global textile waste.

Attendee



<https://forms.gle/vbPNq8jE6zj5uPr5>

Conference Program



<https://aftermathlearninglab.com/leaps-2025-program>

**9am- 2pm EST | April 24**

Virtual on Zoom







Join **April 24th, 9AM - 2PM on Zoom** to discuss research and innovations in global textile waste!

This conference grew out of research conducted with the support of Schiller Institute seed grant funding and addresses textile pollution, a form of environmental racism, that severely impacts countries in the Global South. Awareness of its public health implications remains low, despite over 34 billion pounds of textile waste generated annually in the U.S. There is a gap in understanding how individuals, especially youth, can take meaningful political and community action to address this issue and bring about local and systemic change.

Additionally, if you would be interested in being a presenter, please contact [leaps@makefashionclean.org](mailto:leaps@makefashionclean.org)

[Register to Attend](#)

[Learn More](#)

Thanks for being a part of our Schiller Institute family and we hope to see you in two weeks when The Scoop comes out again! Make sure to send The Scoop to your friends and family, so they can be part of our community as well.

Was this forwarded to you? Don't miss out on The Scoop!

[Sign up here](#)



[✉ Forward](#)

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Chestnut Hill, MA 02467

Anything you want to let us know? reach out to us at:  
[schiller.institute@bc.edu](mailto:schiller.institute@bc.edu)

Thank you for your interest and support!

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