Our mission is to promote scholarly research focusing on theories and history of regional development, methods for studying regions, and policies for stimulating their development. We seek to advance understanding of socioeconomic processes and our ability to explain regional differences in rates of growth and levels of development. RRI activities are both national and international in scope. Our interests span the globe, with a special focus on our own Appalachian region.

Meet our Staff

Randall W. Jackson, Director
Doris Berns, Accounting Assistant
Caitlin Brown, Graduate Research Assistant
Christa Court, MPR Global, Industry Liaison
André Golgher, Visiting Scholar, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Brazil
Mulugeta Kehsai, Post Doctoral Research Fellow
Brandon Kiger, Graduate Research Assistant
Donald J. Lacombe, Research Associate Professor
Caigán McKenzie, Administrative Assistant
Mark Middleton, Graduate Research Assistant
Mason Pierce, Graduate Research Assistant
Mingna Li, Visiting Scholar, Changchun University, China
Gianfranco Piras, Research Assistant Professor
Qinglan Qian, Visiting Scholar, Guangzhou University, China
Hoda Sabeti, Graduate Research Assistant
Juan Tomás Sayago-Gómez, Graduate Research Assistant
Zheng Tian, Graduate Research Assistant
Dong-liang Yang, Visiting Scholar, Jilin University, China

Meet our Faculty Research Associates

James Anderson, Forestry
Cheryl Brown, Resource Economics
J. Wesley Burnett, Resource Economics
K. Victor Chow, Finance
Christiadi, Bureau of Business & Economic Research
Jamison Conley, Geology & Geography
Brian Cushing, Economics
Gerard D’Souza, Resource Economics
Jinyang Deng, Recreation, Parks & Tourism
Stratford Douglas, Economics
Gregory Elmes, Geology & Geography
Jerald J. Fletcher, Resource Economics
Tesfa Gebremedhin, Resource Economics
Hodjat Ghadimi, Design & Landscape Architecture
Trevor Harris, Geology & Geography
Michael Hendryx, Community Medicine
Kevin Leyden, Political Science
Kenneth Martis, Geology & Geography
Robert Maxon, History
A. Michal McMahon, History
Ann Oberhauser, Geology & Geography
Susan Partington, Human Nutrition and Foods
Timothy T. Phipps, Resource Economics
Amanda Ross, Economics
Peter V. Schaeffer, Resource Economics
Steven W. Selin, Forestry
William N. Trumbull, Economics
Timothy A. Warner, Geology & Geography
Charles Yuill, Resource Management

What We Offer, Facilities, and Funding Opportunities

What We Offer

The Web Book of Regional Science
Working Papers
Post-Doctoral Research Fellowships
Visiting Scholars
Seminars
Workshops and Short Courses

Facilities

The recently renovated 5th floor of the Chestnut Ridge Research Building is the home of the Regional Research Institute at WVU. It houses a 15 seat computer lab, a state-of-the-art conference room, and a reading room with an extensive collection of reference materials.

Funding Opportunities

RRI supports graduate students on research projects.

We also collaborate on external funding proposals in a wide range of substantive areas that require components addressing socio-economic impacts and human dimensions of global change.

GRA stipends are competitive.

GRAs participate in faculty research funded by NSF, ARC, USDA, EDA, DOE/NETL, and industry.
The Regional Research Institute conducts and promotes interdisciplinary research on the economic and social development of lagging regions. As a center of regional research excellence for more than four decades, the RRI has served as an internationally recognized center for the advancement of regional science—an interdisciplinary field at the intersection of geography, economics, and planning.

Our research focuses on theories and history of regional development, methods for studying regions, and policies for stimulating their development. We seek to advance our understanding of socioeconomic processes and our ability to explain regional differences in rates of growth and levels of development. RRI activities are both national and international in scope. Our area interests cover the globe, with a special focus on our own Appalachian region.

The Institute is committed to scholarship at its highest levels. We have a core of regional science faculty within the Institute, faculty research associates across campus, and an extended network of scholars throughout the United States and abroad.