The Regional Research Institute

The RRI conducts and promotes interdisciplinary research on the economic and social development of lagging regions. As a center of regional research excellence for five decades, the RRI is 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 economies. 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.

Contact Us to request more information

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West Virginia University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution. West Virginia University is governed by the West Virginia University Board of Governors and the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission.
Meet our Staff

Randall Jackson, RRI Director
Péter Járosi, Research Assistant Professor
Doris Berns, Accounting Assistant
Caigan McKenzie, Administrative Assistant

RRI Affiliates

Shaoming Cheng, Florida International University
Christa D. Court, University of Florida
Henk Folmer, University of Groningen, The Netherlands
Frank Giarratani, University of Pittsburgh
Mulugeta S. Kahsai, Virginia State University
James LeSage, Texas State University, San Marcos
Nancy Lozano-Gracia, World Bank, Washington DC
Stuart McIntyre, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK
Santiago Pinto, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond
Gianfranco Piras, The Catholic University of America
Sergio Rey, Arizona State University
Junbo Yu, Jilin University, China

Meet our Faculty

Research Associates

Lindsay Allen, Health Policy
James Anderson, Forestry
Robert E. Blobaum, History
Eric Bowen, BB&E
Cheryl Brown, Resource Economics
Peter Butler, Landscape Architecture
K. Victor Chow, Finance
Christiadi, Bureau of Business & Economic Research
Jamison Conley, Geology & Geography
Lynne Cossman, Sociology
Brian Cushing, Economics
Gerard D’Souza, Resource Economics
Jinyang Deng, Recreation, Parks & Tourism
John Deskins, Bureau of Business & Economic Research
Stratford M. Douglas, Economics
Levan Elbakidze, Agricultural & Resource Economics
Gregory A. Elmes, Geology & Geography, Emeritus
Xiaoli Etienne, Agricultural & Resource Economics
Tesfa G. Gebremedhin, Resource Economics
Hodjat Ghadimi, Design & Landscape Architecture
Joshua Hall, Economics
Trevor M. Harris, Geology & Geography
Brad R. Humphreys, Economics
Kenneth Martis, Geology & Geography, Emeritus
Robert Maxon, History
Timothy T. Phipps, Resource Economics
Peter V. Schaeffer, Resource Economics
Steven W. Selin, Forestry
Heather M. Stephens, Agricultural & Resource Economics
Timothy A. Warner, Geology & Geography
Rachael W. Woldoff, Sociology & Anthropology
Feng Yao, Economics
Charles Yuill, Resource Management
Paul Ziemkiewicz, Water Research Institute

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.
15-seat computer lab
Conference room
Extensive reference materials and reading room

Funding Opportunities

NSF, DOE/NETL, ARC, USDA, EDA and industry support
RRI graduate student support on research projects
Competitive GRA stipends
Collaboration on external funding proposals in a wide range of substantive areas that require components addressing socio-economic impacts and human dimensions of global change