As the CEO of the Rachel Carson Council, Dr. Musil speaks and organizes nationwide at campuses and civic organizations, is a key advocate on Capitol Hill, and has increased RCC membership, budget, and staff while developing an extensive and growing grassroots and campus network. He has designed and led RCC organizing efforts in North Carolina, spoken and organized in Florida at campus and community events to oppose the St. Lucie Nuclear Power Plant in collaboration with Beyond Nuclear, and is the co-author of *Pork and Pollution*, *Fowl Matters* and *Blast Zone*.

Musil has been a leader, activist, educator, and author in the national environmental, environmental health, peace and social justice movements for over three decades. He is one of the most respected and senior public interest advocates in Washington. He serves as the President of the Scoville Peace Fellowship; Chairman of the Board of the Council for a Livable World (C)(4) and PAC; Chairman of the Board of the Population Connection Action Fund (C)(4) and PAC; a Board member of Beyond Nuclear; and an Advisory Board member of the Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI). Musil is also an environmental educator who is a Senior Fellow and Adjunct Professor at the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies at American University where he teaches American environmental politics. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of Mitchell College in New London, Connecticut where he is involved in reviewing a new campus master plan and

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Mackay Pierce, Associate Director

Drawing from his experience as a campus organizer and leader, Mackay also serves as the Director of the Rachel Carson Council Campus Program and the RCC Fellowship Program. Originally from the heart of the Appalachian Mountains in Northeast Tennessee, he connects his passion for environmental protection to his love of the mountains he calls home. Mackay graduated from Roanoke College in 2017 with degrees in Environmental Studies and Sociology. While on campus, he helped found a student run campus organic garden and led nine Alternative Break trips focusing on environmental justice. Following graduation, Mackay worked for Habitat for Humanity in the Roanoke Valley as an AmeriCorps National Member. He has also previously worked for the Friends Committee on National Legislation on climate change and for various political campaigns. He is excited to continue to help students and faculty on college campuses engage with local and national environmental issues.
Isabella (Bella) Jaramillo, Assistant Director for Climate Justice

Isabella (Bella) Jaramillo serves as the Assistant Director for Climate Justice at the Rachel Carson Council. She is completing her MS in environmental metrology and policy at Georgetown University. She is a graduate of Florida State University where she received a BS in environmental science and policy. During her time at FSU, Bella founded a Surfrider chapter and held various leadership positions with environmental organizations. She is originally from Colombia, but raised in Miami. Growing up in Miami instilled a passion for ocean conservation, coastal resiliency, climate justice, and a deep appreciation for the intersection between science and policy. Bella enjoys spending time outdoors, reading, and being with her cat Matilda.

Claudia Steiner, Assistant Director of Communications and Development

An environmental advocate around the clock, Claudia serves as the Assistant Director for Communications and Strategic Development at the Rachel Carson Council. She recently graduated from the American University where she studied International Studies and Environmental Science. As an undergraduate, Claudia organized with the university’s student-led divestment movement, helping to secure full divestment from the fossil fuel industry in 2020. She is a
believer in the power of messaging and hopes to inform strong climate and environmental policy through communications. She hails from the eccentric town of Maplewood, New Jersey. Outside of work, you can find Claudia reading in Malcolm X Park, cooking vegan food, or patronizing any of DC’s many falafel shops.

Ross A. Feldner, Publications and Web Consultant

Ross Feldner is the lead, with Bob Musil, of the RCC Bird Watch and Wonder Program. Ross is a life-long birder and photographer who is the editor of the Friends of Patuxent National Wildlife Refuge newsletter. Ross also serves as a guide at the Patuxent National Wildlife Refuge, a frequent birding spot for Rachel Carson who first learned about the health effects of DDT at the laboratory there. He is also the owner/art director of New Age Graphics, a full-service graphic design firm in Wheaton, MD.

RCC Fellows, 2021-2022

RCC Fellow – Jennifer Coronel – Northwestern University

Jennifer is a recent graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a Bachelor of Science in Natural Resource and Environmental Sciences with a concentration in
Human Dimensions, along with two minors in Sustainability and Business. She is pursuing her Master of Science in Energy and Sustainability at Northwestern University. Jennifer has long been a passionate environmentalist since growing up in the lower-income areas of Chicago exposed her to environmental injustices at a young age. She continues to advocate for environmental equity in her community as she works to bring nature to barren neighborhoods.

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RCC Fellow — Sahil Inaganti — Tulane University

Sahil is a junior at Tulane University pursuing majors in Environmental Studies, Public Health, and Political Economy with minors in Urban Studies and Management. Originally from Allentown, Pennsylvania, Sahil is passionate about addressing issues of environmental injustice that involve public health. He has interned at the Tulane Environmental Law Clinic where he analyzed emissions in Louisiana’s Cancer Alley and has conducted research on the effect of COVID-19 in exacerbating health disparities. At Tulane, Sahil is president of the School of Public Health’s Student Government and co-founder of the Health Equity Fellowship, a leadership development program for first-year students interested in advancing health equity. He is also a trip leader for Tulane Outdoor Adventures where he leads students on outdoor trips across the Gulf South.
Yasmeen Mir is a senior at the University of Missouri Columbia. With previous experience in journalism and a current major in Anthropology, she seeks to take an interdisciplinary approach to environmental justice. She grew up in Kansas City, Missouri, volunteering with Community Gardens and various community organizations. In the past, she has worked on New Orleans area campaigns against petrochemical factories along the Mississippi River corridor. In her college career, she has focused on topics like political ecology and green economies that help inform the way she thinks about future solutions. She has spent time doing policy research with the City of Kansas City and the ACLU of Missouri about the inequities of her home state. Yasmeen brings her skills as a journalist and creative writer to environmental justice.

Edgar is a senior majoring in Biological Anthropology and minoring in Biology at Appalachian State University. Edgar has long held a passion for conservation and primates. From Jeff Corwin to Jane Goodall and Rachel Carson, environmental leaders have inspired Edgar that there is still hope for us and the wildlife that shares the earth with us. Edgar is working to support his community in efforts to address environmental justice issues, while hoping to build a career helping other communities do the same.
Sara Heimlich is a senior at Tulane University majoring in Environmental Studies and Political Science, with minors in History and Psychology. On campus, Sara is a DJ for WTUL New Orleans 91.5FM, a member of the student government’s sustainability committee, and an intern with the Tulane Admissions Department. She is interning for the Alliance for Affordable Energy, a local nonprofit that advocates for fair, affordable and environmentally responsible energy policy in New Orleans. She is also a Clean Energy Advocacy Intern with the Vermont Law School’s Institute for Energy and the Environment, doing research on state-by-state solar regulations. Sara loves to explore New Orleans, backpack, and camp whenever she gets the chance.

Gabriela Duncan is a junior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, majoring in Interdisciplinary Studies: Environmental Justice with a minor in Geography. After graduation, she hopes to go to law school to focus on environmental law and specialize in environmental justice cases, a love sparked by her divestment work. Gabriela is also engaged in research with Dr. Gabriela Valdivia about mutual aid organizing in Ecuador during the stay-at-home orders of
COVID-19. Outside of EJ work, Gabriela enjoys meeting prospective students as an Admissions Ambassador, playing the saxophone as a Pep Band/Marching Band member, dancing to reggaeton, cooking, and traveling.

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**RCC Presidential Fellow – Audrey Magnuson – Duke University**

Audrey Magnuson is a senior at Duke University majoring in Public Policy with minors in Environmental Science and Art History. She is passionate about leveraging quality environmental policy to better her community in North Carolina and beyond, particularly in environmental justice. She hopes to earn a law degree after completing her Duke education. In her free time, Audrey is a yoga and Pilates instructor and loves to spend time looking for new hiking trails or creating new recipes in the kitchen. On campus, she also leads an all-women’s dance company and directs communications for a student-led sexual violence prevention initiative.

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**RCC Presidential Fellow – Isabel Wood – Duke University**

Isabel Wood is a junior at Duke University majoring in Environmental Science and Policy with a certificate in Documentary Studies. She feels passionate about science communication, the preservation of biodiversity, and environmental justice. Outside of the classroom, Isabel is a
Vice President of the Duke Undergraduate Environmental Union (UEU) where she works on environmental literacy topics and The Enviro-Art Gallery. She is also in Duke Mock Trial and works for the Wright Lab, a research lab focused on climate change and ecology. Isabel is excited to be one of this year’s Presidential Fellows with the RCC. She believes that learning to communicate about the environment in the way that Rachel Carson did and the way that the RCC continues her legacy is key to solving many environmental issues.

RCC Fellow — Ethan Vitaz — Pitzer College

Ethan Vitaz is a senior at Pitzer College studying Environmental Analysis with a focus on Sustainability in the Built Environment. He is primarily interested in using regional food systems as a tool to mitigate catastrophic climate change, increase resiliency, and restore ecological health. He is also interested in the importance of building regional power to demand suitable solutions to the issues we face today. He believes that addressing our ecological crises requires returning stolen land to the Indigenous people that have cared for the land for centuries.

RCC Fellow — Willow Gatewood — Catawba College

Willow Gatewood is a junior at Catawba College studying
Environment and Sustainability, with minors in Creative Writing and GIS. She is currently an intern and work-study for the Catawba College Center for the Environment and involved in environmental and climate advocacy groups such as Citizen’s Climate Lobby, 350.org, and Fridays for Future. Her passions lie in regenerative, sustainable living, environmental justice, and helping others see the connections between human-made systems and ecosystems through writing and art. After completing her undergraduate degree, she plans to pursue a Master’s towards a career in ecosystems conservation, with a focus on educating others. She also aspires to pursue Indigenous studies to bring more Indigenous science and knowledge to the fields of conservation and ecology. In her free time, she can be found exploring the woods around her home in Cascade, Virginia, reading, gardening, or tucked away in a quiet place writing, painting, and playing guitar.

RCC Fellow — Kisara Dang — University of Texas at Austin

Kisara Dang is a junior geography, sustainability, business, and humanities major at the University of Texas at Austin from Kerrville, Texas. Her humanities degree focuses on the spatial and social implications of environmental policy. Her passions lie in research and teaching others about interdisciplinary and intersectional environmentalism. Ultimately, Kisara hopes to become a professor of environmental policy. Kisara has also worked as an intern at the City of Austin Urban Forestry Department as well as a Mickey Leland Environmental Intern at the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality. On campus, she is a team member of projects related to campus sustainability including awards for the President’s Award for Global Learning and the University of Texas Green Fund Award.
RCC Fellow – Jelina Liu – George Washington University

Jelina is studying Political Communication at the George Washington University in Washington, D.C. She has a diverse media background, but her current focus is documentary filmmaking while looking for ways to combine advocacy with media production. Jelina is originally from Northern California and is the Western U.S. coordinator for the College Climate Coalition, a global coalition of college fossil fuel divestment campaigns. She spent summer 2021 in Minnesota on the frontlines of the Line 3 pipeline battle and hopes to continue participating in similar direct action campaigns. Her favorite nature spot is the beach.

RCC 2022 Stanback Interns

Kaylee Rodriguez

Kaylee Rodriguez is a rising senior at Duke University pursuing a major in Public Policy, a minor in Environmental Science and Policy, and a certificate in Policy, Journalism, and Media Studies. She is a Miami-native and her proximity to the ocean and Everglades sparked her interest in the natural world. She feels passionately about environmental journalism and education and believes that every area of policy will be influenced by the climate crisis. Last summer, Kaylee interned
with immigration lawyers at Catholic Legal Services and volunteered part-time with her state senator Annette Taddeo. On campus, she is co-director of Camp Kesem and a Political Engagement Project fellow. She hopes to transform her love for the environment and civic engagement into tangible policy solutions and climate action.

Christina Boxberger

Christina is a senior at Duke University majoring in Environmental Science with a minor in Psychology. Born and raised in Durham, she is devoted to enjoying and protecting North Carolina’s ecosystems. She is most interested in environmental education, climate resilience, and urban ecology – places where humans and the environment come together. Outside of class, Christina serves as co-president of her student dance ensemble, is a DJ at Duke’s radio station, and helps collect stories and oral histories from Environmental Justice communities. She’s looking forward to working more on climate justice issues with RCC!

Lily Samuels – Climate Justice

Lily Samuels is a freshman at Duke University, intending to double major in Environmental Science & Policy and Economics
with a minor in Computer Science. She was born in Beaumont, Texas, but moved abroad to Africa, China, and Kuwait. Moving to many different environments and experiencing many different cultures deepened Lily’s concern for global unity when developing technology for a clean future and sustainable economy. She is specifically interested in applying research and programming skills to investigate and support sustainable solutions that impact political and corporate environmental strategy. As a Stanback Climate Justice Fellow at the Rachel Carson Council, she is excited to broaden her understanding of current environmental legislation and political action through valuable experiences researching legislature relevant to the climate crisis, environmental justice, national emissions, and renewable energy.

Lydia Sellers – Communications

Lydia Sellers is a rising senior at Duke University majoring in Environmental Science and Policy with a concentration in Marine Science and Conservation, minoring in Cinematic Arts, and pursuing a certificate in Documentary Studies. She has a passion for environmental injustice, science communication, and environmental education involving plastic pollution. Outside of the classroom, she enjoys hiking, practicing yoga, and dancing with Duke’s salsa team. She is a Rachel Carson Scholar at Duke and her research interests lie in how to effectively communicate environmental issues with both nonscientific and scientific audiences to foster change and diversity. She hopes to pursue a future in the field of environmental education and communications.
Stephanie Murphy

Stephanie is a Master of Environmental Management candidate at Duke University, where she specializes in environmental economics and policy. Prior to beginning her master’s, Stephanie spent 3 years working on federal ocean policy and program management at the Consortium for Ocean Leadership in Washington, D.C. As a Program Associate, she primarily worked to advance interagency ocean observation initiatives, including conducting research and coordinating stakeholders for the Interagency Ocean Observation Committee and the Integrated Ocean Observing System Association. Stephanie stays active at Duke as Chair of Strategic Action for the Oceans@Duke student club and as an upcoming editor for the Duke Environmental Law and Policy Forum. Her specific interests include environmental security and federal governance of the ocean and climate in the face of climate change. In her free time, Stephanie enjoys yoga, podcasts, and taking any opportunity to go diving and snorkeling.

Joy Reeves – Climate Justice

Joy Reeves is a Duke University student from Frederick, Maryland, pursuing a Masters of Environmental Management degree. Passionate about climate advocacy and scientific communication, she is the author of Growing Up in the
Grassroots: Finding Unity in Climate Activism Across Generations, published in July 2020. Joy has also held internship positions at League of Conservation Voters, the Student Conservation Association, and the Wright Lab at Duke University, where she conducted research on the effects of saltwater intrusion and sea level rise on the coast of North Carolina. During her undergraduate career, she received her degree in Environmental Science & Policy with a minor in Visual Media Studies, as well as a Udall scholarship for environmental leadership and public service. She aspires to merge her background in visual communications with her passion for clean energy justice with a focus on solar energy policy.

Annie Wollmuth – Divestment

Annie is a rising junior at Duke University majoring in Environmental Engineering and Environmental Science and Policy. She is passionate about the intersection between technical solutions to climate change and their implementation into legislation. She is also part of the Duke Climate Coalition where she works on the divestment team and the education and empowerment team, working to pressure the Duke administration to fully divest! In her free time, she loves to make ceramics and is on the club soccer team.
Maggie Dees is a sophomore in the honors program at Virginia Tech majoring in environmental science. She is from Salisbury, NC, and feels passionate about environmental justice and conservation. Maggie is active with the Environmental Coalition, the United Feminist Movement, and the Alpha Delta Pi sorority outside of the classroom. Maggie has interned with the Natural Resource Defense Council researching the effects of wildfires on public health and the start-up non-profit One Green Thing while serving on its youth advisory board. Maggie is excited about this opportunity with RCC and furthering her commitment to advocating for the environment and for environmental equity and justice.