

**Do you have a scientific question that could engage the campus community in the research process? If so, your project could be this year's highlighted project through the [Citizen Science Campus](#)!**

Citizen science and other participatory sciences are the range of approaches in which science and society co-produce new knowledge. Many disciplines have their own forms of participatory research, and these research methods can be an effective way to gather data for complex and widespread challenges. We want to turn NC State's campus into an incubator for participatory science projects and embed these opportunities into campus life.

We are excited to announce a call for proposals for the Citizen Science Incubator, a program for identifying 1-2 focal projects of the year for the Citizen Science Campus. The selected Citizen Science Incubator project(s) will be featured in two unique campus programs:

- [Pack Science Challenge](#), a university-wide challenge that engages students and community members as collaborators in ongoing research about their environment
- [Wicked Problems, Wolfpack Solutions](#), a multidisciplinary online course created to engage all incoming first-year and transfer students and their families in thinking about grand challenges.

Projects can apply to be featured in one or both of these programs, depending on their aims, scope, and study design. At most one project will be selected for each of these programs, with the potential for a single project to be selected for both if it is well suited for implementation in both formats.

### ***Who should submit a proposal?***

This opportunity is open to all faculty, staff, postdoctoral scholars, graduate students, and undergraduate students at NC State. NC State community members from any disciplinary background with a participatory science-based project idea are encouraged to submit a proposal. We welcome proposals from individuals or teams.

While there are no requirements for the topical focus of the project, interdisciplinary questions and/or teams are strongly encouraged. This year's Wicked Problems, Wolfpack Solutions course theme is "(Y)Our Changing World," which dives into the grand challenges of climate change and global change broadly. It is preferred, but not required, that projects align with this theme.

### ***What do you receive through this opportunity?***

The primary benefit awarded through the Citizen Science Incubator is **increased access to potential participants for your participatory science project** to drive forward your research. The Wicked Problems, Wolfpack Solutions course is offered to all incoming undergraduate students – approximately 7,000. The Pack Science Challenge is a university-wide challenge with potential to reach across the entire campus community.

In addition to this audience access, the Citizen Science Incubator project(s) will receive access to a variety of support structures, including:

- Logistical guidance from the Citizen Science Campus
- Advertising support
- If applicable, support from the [Libraries' Data and Visualization Services](#) team to help create ways for people to engage with the data

- Funding for promotional items
- \$1,000 - \$2,000 for undergraduate research assistant(s)\* on the project<sup>†</sup>
- \$500 - \$1,000 for research supplies<sup>‡</sup>
- Assistance from graduate students in PSC 551

Please note that the selected project's lead/primary investigator (PI) will be responsible for implementing the participatory science project.

\* The undergraduate student must be selected from a pool of students who recently completed Wicked Problems, Wolfpack Solutions. This student pool includes 1,000+ undergraduates from all colleges and academic homes. We will facilitate the application process; selection will be at the project PI's discretion.

<sup>†</sup> \$1,000 each in undergraduate funds will be allocated to the Pack Science Challenge and WPWS; if a single project is selected for both, \$2,000 will be allocated to the project.

<sup>‡</sup> \$500 each in research supply funds will be allocated to the Pack Science Challenge and WPWS; if a single project is selected for both, \$1,000 will be allocated to the project.

### Application:

The application will ask you to address the following sections:

1. **Project description.** Describe your proposed project. Why does it require a participatory science approach? What are the scientific aims? What will be done to address these aims? *Limit 500 words.*
2. **Methods.** What is the field protocol for data collection? How will you analyze the data? If you are interested in integrating your project into both the Pack Science Challenge and WPWS, be sure to delineate how both on-campus and remote participants can meaningfully engage, including any protocol differences. *Limit 500 words.*
3. **Communication plan.** How will updates about and results from the project be reported back to the participants? How will they be disseminated to the public? *Limit 250 words.*
4. **Alignment with priority areas.** Does your project align with the broad themes of climate change and/or global change? If yes, please explain this alignment. If not, please describe how your project is interdisciplinary in nature, addresses a grand challenge, and/or answers an important question about our campus and NC environment. *Limit 250 words.*
5. **Project status.** Is this a new or existing project? *Multiple choice: new, existing.*
  - a. If "new" how will your research benefit by inclusion in the Citizen Science Incubator? Please specify publications, grant proposals, or other anticipated outcomes. *Limit 100 words.*
  - b. If "existing," what is the current status of the project? Are there any data? Would this be a continuation of the project, or a new direction that reflects modifications to the protocol and/or aims? How will your research benefit by inclusion in the Citizen Science Incubator? *Limit 100 words.*
6. **CVs.** Please include the CV (any format) for the PI and up to 2 additional collaborators and/or key personnel.

### Submission Instructions:

Proposals should be submitted [here](#). **All proposals must be received by 11:59pm on the deadline of Friday, May 30, 2025.** Decisions are anticipated by early July.

Please contact Caren Cooper ([cbcoope3@ncsu.edu](mailto:cbcoope3@ncsu.edu)) with any questions.

