

# THE JACKSON FOUNDATION

*Tackling tough problems. Fostering effective leadership.*

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## Bold action needed on climate

Innovation. Communication. Collaboration. According to Admiral James Stavridis (ret.), these forces are required to address the climate crisis.

Together with the World Affairs Councils of New Hampshire and Seattle, the Foundation held a number of public discussions this fall on a topic that matters deeply to us – climate and security. The panels featured a range of voices from Congress, the military, the defense community, science, and local government.

Along with Admiral Stavridis, several speakers highlighted the need for innovation. Sherri Goodman, national security executive, said “There is a whole suite of technologies that we haven’t fully seized . . . now we need to apply that innovative, competitive edge into the energy and climate future.” Defense expert John Conger concurred, “We can say we’ll get to zero emissions, but we don’t have the solutions yet. We need to dramatically increase our research and development.”

We heard about the value of using different approaches to engage the public on climate as well, such as the health perspective, economics, and religion. Scientist and security authority Dr. Annalise Blum hopes to see increased ties between scientists and policy makers to ensure that scientific advances make it into decision-making.

And given the complexity of the problem, collaboration is vital. The government at every level – federal, state and local – must work together to coordinate a response. Norfolk Councilwoman Andria McClellan suggested, “We need to come together in a regional, collaborative way, that’s number one.” She also raised a significant challenge that planners and elected officials must face – namely the “R” word (retreat). As coastal communities face sea level rise, residents may need to relocate to higher ground. McClellan explained, “If you’re an elected official, no one likes to talk about it.”



*Clockwise from left: Former Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus, CEO of the Warrior-Scholar Project Maura Sullivan, climate author Jeff Goodell, and Norfolk City Council member Andria McClellan discuss the climate crisis.*

The move toward a cleaner economy necessitates change. Several panelists stressed that the federal government should provide transition assistance to those impacted, such as training programs and other aid. In addition to providing training programs for displaced workers in the fossil fuels industry, former Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus suggested that other supports are needed, like rent, food, public transportation, and childcare. He said, “Help them there; that’s an investment that will pay off.”

Distinguished author and climate change scholar Jeff Goodell offered some hope. About energy and climate change, he said, “It’s really hard to bend our minds around the scale of the problem, but the opportunities for creativity, innovation, entrepreneurialism, and jobs are mind-boggling.”

We are proud to have partnered on these timely programs highlighting climate and security, which you can view at the [World Affairs Council of New Hampshire events website](#). ■



*As I approach the end of my first year, I reflect on how much has changed since I started. At this unprecedented time, I appreciate how the Jackson Foundation’s long-term strategies are creating change when we need it most.*

*The Foundation was an early supporter of linking climate change with national security. Now President-elect Biden has announced that John Kerry, the new presidential envoy on climate, will have a seat at the National Security Council—the first time for climate and security to be connected on this level. I doubt this would have happened without the efforts of the Foundation and its partners.*

*Likewise, two of the Foundation’s human rights partners have significantly advanced their work. The University of Washington’s Center for Human Rights recently [published a major report on solitary confinement at the Northwest Detention Center](#). *Seattle Times*’ coverage of the report will increase much-needed accountability. And the administration is set to announce the latest Global Magnitsky sanctions designations against human rights abusers, which Human Rights First helped to produce.*

*These Foundation initiatives, together with the Jackson Leadership Fellows, are creating powerful change and they need your support. While we are fortunate to have endowed funds, [annual giving is essential to support our programs](#). I hope you will join me to sustain the Foundation’s future.*

*Best wishes to you all for 2021,*

Katy Terry  
Executive Director

## UW Evans School awards Jackson Fellowships in Environmental & Natural Resources Management

To develop the next generation of environmental policy leaders, the Foundation has long partnered with the University of Washington’s Evans School of Public Policy and Governance to award graduate student fellowships. We are pleased to feature this year’s recipients of the Jackson Fellowships in Environmental Management:



**Sophia Alcaraz:** We need people who understand both the science behind climate change as well as how to change systems, policies, and influence government. That is why I picked the MPA Program in the Evans School at the UW. Combined with my science background, I believe the MPA program will offer me the necessary tools to confidently enter the public sector and create the changes that I know our planet and all of its inhabitants need to thrive.



**Isaac J. Arnal:** I chose the Evans School because it is a phenomenal program that will provide me with amazing tools to make me a more effective public policy leader. I am extremely excited to begin specializing in environmental policy and learn new and innovative ways to improve the health of our earth.



**Tessa Nania:** I studied biology at the University of Puget Sound. I adored exploring the effects of human behavior on wildlife and ecological systems, but I didn’t feel like my research would be used or even heard. This nagging feeling is what pushed me to shift my career path towards environmental policy. I am striving towards a career that can translate research into effective policy that mitigates human-wildlife conflict. The Henry M. Jackson Fellowship has made an incredible impact on my education. I am profoundly and perpetually grateful, and I am inspired by Jackson’s career working with national parks and protected areas.



**Jesse Sterge:** Thanks to the generosity of the Henry M. Jackson Foundation, I will someday have the privilege of ensuring equitable access to natural lands to all. I chose Washington because the program at the Evans School of Public Policy and Governance provides me with the necessary path to an education I want (the location isn’t bad, either). I consider this fellowship an immense achievement in my life and the award means I can further my education into a subject I am passionate about. ■

# Foundation Board News

Kiana Scott, Board member and Jackson Leadership Fellow, has been elected to serve as the Foundation's Vice President and the Programs Committee Chair. We appreciate the wealth of experience and perspective she brings to the leadership team. Kiana replaced Susan Wickwire, who stepped down this summer due to new career demands. We are grateful to retain Susan's wisdom and continued involvement as she joins the newly formed Jackson Foundation Council of Advisors.

This year, the Board of Governors voted to include the Jackson Leadership Committee (LC) as a formal committee of the Foundation. The LC is comprised of members from all of the Jackson Fellows cohorts and leads the Jackson Network's activities, now 53 members strong including the 2021 cohort. Priya Saxena, Board member and a 2019 Jackson Leadership Fellow, has been elected as the new Chair of this committee. ■

## Past, Present, Future: A Look at Putin's Russia

Together with Seattle's World Affairs Council, the Foundation held a fall program that examined Vladimir Putin's quick rise to power from KGB operative to Russia's president. The event featured former *Financial Times* Moscow correspondent Catherine Belton, whose book *Putin's People: How the KGB Took on Russia and Then Took on the West* explores how Putin's Russia actually operates and what this means for Russia's relations with the West.

In her comments, Belton highlighted Putin's broad support within Russia's security services, which proved instrumental to him being named president in 1999. According to Belton, during that era Putin had "talked the democratic talk well" and espoused liberal ideals. Yet Russia has become increasingly authoritarian, while Putin has grown adept at using his strategy of exacerbating weaknesses to tear his enemies apart.

Looking toward the future, Belton sees signs of weakness in Putin's regime. With oil prices dropping, the Russian economy stagnating, and the pandemic, she noted, "Putin is in uncharted territory." In addition, the poisoning of Alexei Navalny indicates that he was viewed as a substantial threat.

When asked about U.S. foreign policy toward Russia, Belton suggested, "Sanctions have been an effective tool and more sanctions would be a good recipe." But deeper change must come from within the Russian elite.

We appreciate partnering with the World Affairs Council to discuss this important topic in international relations. ■



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