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## Climate Solutions Lab (CSL) Highlights 2025-26

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### Research

- CSL faculty advanced research on the political economy of climate change, examining topics that included environmental governance and clean energy opposition, NGOs engaged in climate advocacy, and corporate behavior under international agreements.
- CSL Director Colgan published three new peer-reviewed articles on climate politics, including new work in *International Organization*, the top journal in the field of international relations.
- Professor Hadden published *Crowded Out: The Competitive Landscape of Contemporary International NGOs* (with Sarah Bush, Cambridge University Press, 2025) and a related piece in *Foreign Affairs* arguing that the post-Cold War boom in international NGOs has ended — with direct implications for the future of climate advocacy organizations.
- Professor Rea published two pieces on environmental judicial politics, with implications for climate-linked judicial advocacy.

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### Education

- CSL faculty taught core courses on climate politics and environmental governance, including Colgan's POLS 1435 (Politics of Climate Change), Hadden's IAPA 1802D (The Environmental Movement in Comparative Perspective) and MPA 2476 (Global Environmental Policymaking, and Rea's SOC 2390 (Social Movements and Political Change).
- CSL faculty designed the new Energy, Climate, and Environment track for the MPA program, to be launched in 2026-27.
- CSL continued co-convening the Climate Pipeline Project, a multi-institution initiative to foster early-career scholars studying climate change in political science, with a May 2026 convening hosted at Columbia University.
- CSL created work opportunities for students, with five ongoing research assistant positions to provide hands-on research training and a student externship at an energy NGO.
- CSL held 15 events for students, faculty, and the broader community
- CSL supported postdoc M. Gherghina's research and hired a 2026-27 postdoc

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### Public Impact

- CSL launched the Iran War Energy Cost Tracker ([iranwarcost.watson.brown.edu](http://iranwarcost.watson.brown.edu)), which tracks the additional cost paid by U.S. consumers for gasoline and diesel since the Iran conflict began on February 28, 2026, compared against a no-war counterfactual baseline. The tracker received wide media coverage as a timely, accessible tool for communicating the real-world energy costs of geopolitical conflict.
- CSL co-convened the inaugural Brown University Climate Week and the Climate Career Fair in March 2026.
- Colgan provided media commentary on the US military actions in Iran and Venezuela on outlets including NPR, CBC, the Times of India, Heatmap, and Japan's *Mainichi Shimbun*.
- CSL's syllabus bank and teaching resources continued to serve instructors at universities worldwide seeking to develop or expand climate change courses in the social sciences.