AUSTIN MICHAEL REESE

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EDUCATION

University of Maine **Orono, ME**
M.A., Global Environmental Policy — Expected May 2027 | GPA: 4.0

University of Pittsburgh **Bradford, PA**
B.A., History, Political Science & International Affairs — May 2025
Summa Cum Laude | GPA: 3.86 | First-Generation College Graduate

FELLOWSHIPS & SPECIALIZED TRAINING

Competitive Scholarship Recipient, Vermont Law and Graduate School **Summer 2026**
Selected for a merit scholarship for residential coursework in food, agriculture, aquaculture, and ocean and coastal law (Declined).

Diplomas in International Environmental Law & Freshwater Resources, UN InforMEA **July 2026**
Completed comprehensive United Nations learning paths on global environmental governance and the international legal frameworks governing freshwater resources.

Certifications in Watershed & Agricultural Management, FAO eLearning Academy **July 2026**
Completed specialized Food and Agriculture Organization coursework in resilient rivers, agricultural water savings, and aquaculture co-management.

Halloran Fellow, Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs **2024–2025**
Received entrepreneurial training and mentorship; coordinated community engagement events and developed strategic partnerships with local civic leaders.

SELECTED SCHOLARLY WORK & PRESENTATIONS

Master's Thesis (In Progress)
Reinsurance and International Media Attention: A Cross-National Study of Major Wildfires:
Conducting a quantitative cross-national analysis of whether global reinsurers' public communications shape subsequent wildfire coverage in their home-state media, accounting for disaster severity, insurable value, and colonial and commercial ties.

Selected Publications & Papers Under Review
- *A Question of Scale: Rethinking Authority in Yukon River Chinook Salmon Governance* (Under review, American Review of Canadian Studies)
- *Hydraulic Sovereignty: Kinzua Dam and the Geography of Sacrifice* (Under review, Water History)
- *The River Remembers: Water Chemistry as Transboundary Environmental Archive* (Under review, Environment and History)
- *Democracy Is Strengthened by Diversity, Debate* (Published Op-Ed, Bangor Daily News, Nov. 2025)
- *Nonprofit Is a Tax Category, Not a Seal of Approval* (Published Op-Ed, Bangor Daily News, Sept. 2026)

Selected Working Papers & Manuscripts in Revision
- *Two Geographies of Racial Environmental Inequity* (Manuscript in revision for Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development)
- *Food Apartheid as Mobility Regime: Evidence from Three Rust Belt Cities* (Working paper)

Selected Conference Presentations
- *Whose River? The Kinzua Dam and the Structural Erasure of Treaty Value.* Sustainability & Water Governance Conference; UMaine Graduate Student Symposium (2026)

SELECTED LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

President, Graduate Student Government, University of Maine **2026–2027**
Lead graduate student representation in institutional governance; advocate for student interests across administrative and policy processes.

Commuter Student Senator & Alumni Ambassador, University of Pittsburgh at Bradford **2023–2025**
Represented commuter constituency in Student Government; organized networking events and engaged alumni as a Blue and Gold Society ambassador.

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

City of Bangor **Bangor, ME**
Planning Intern (Fall 2026 – Present)
Support municipal planning, climate action, and sustainability initiatives; conduct research, spatial analysis (GIS), and data visualization to inform local environmental policy and urban development projects.

Marilyn Horne Museum **Bradford, PA**
Museum Ambassador (Summer 2023 – Summer 2025)
Interpreted historical and cultural materials for diverse public audiences; led guided tours connecting archival content to contemporary issues.

Tasta Pizza **Bradford, PA**
Full-Time Cashier (2020–2023)
Provided customer service and processed transactions in a high-volume local business while maintaining a positive attitude and work ethic.

Kinzua Vending **Bradford, PA**
Delivery Driver & Stocker (2014–2023)
Maintained and restocked vending machines across public housing, nursing homes, school districts, and industrial sites; managed inventory and tracked sales data.

SKILLS, HONORS & INTERESTS

Research & Data: Python, R, Stata, Excel; ArcGIS, Historical GIS; panel data econometrics, cost-benefit valuation, and qualitative coding.

Languages: Spanish (Intermediate); Portuguese (Intermediate).

Honors: Model United Nations (Best Position Paper, 2023; Distinction for Statecraft and Diplomacy, 2023).

Arts & Performance: Multi-instrumentalist (piano, viola, woodwinds); extensive audition-based choral and musical theatre performer in university and community productions.