Mason SCIENCE

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Wednesday, March 31, 2021 **science.gmu.edu**

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A message from the Dean

FERNANDO R. MIRALLES-WILHELM

Our Promise

by Fernando Miralles-Wilhelm

April 1, 2021 marks an exciting milestone. Over the past two months, many committees within our college have worked purposefully and tirelessly to define our current state and put forth our proposed College of Science Inclusive Excellence Plan which we will share with you along with Mason's ARIE leadership tomorrow. As a result of significant stakeholder input, this proposed plan also envisions our aspired end state along with ways we will measure our progress once we put our ideas and initiatives into action.

I believe it is important to clarify the process we took to get here, to not our first draft but rather a 'zero draft' as we are now to a point where we are seeking the collective and ongoing input on this plan from our broader Mason science community.

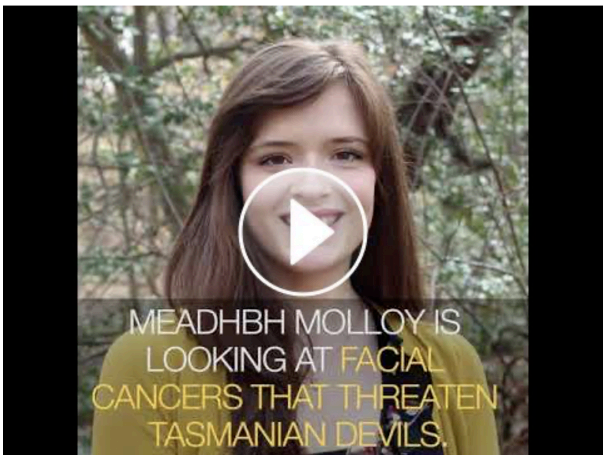
Read full message

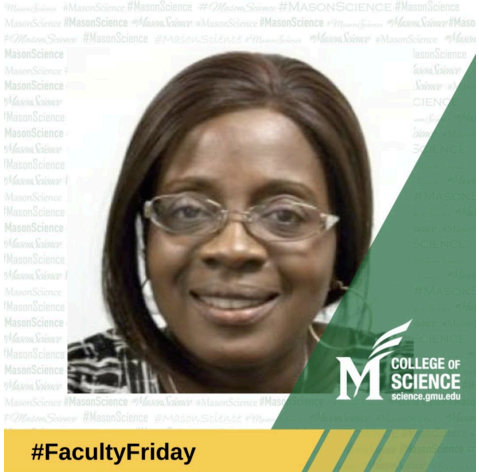
MASON SCIENCE COMMUNITY

ESP PhD students tackle critical conservation challenges

Five Mason PhD students in the Department of Environmental Science and Policy received grants to tackle a wide range of conservation efforts around the world.

Watch the video





#FacultyFriday highlights the work of Gwendolyne Fondufe

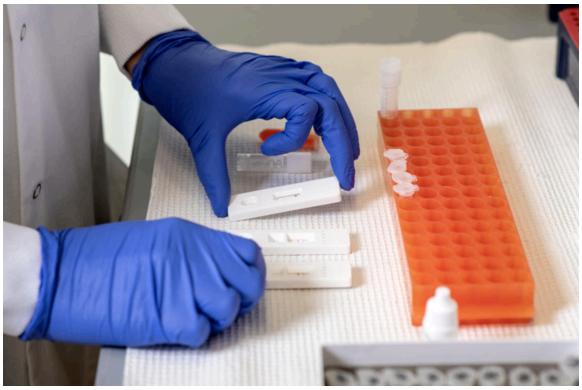
Last week's #FacultyFriday highlighted Department of Biology Assistant Professor Gwendolyne Fondufe, who teaches courses in introductory biology and is a member of the department advising team. Her research focuses on the effect of crop mixtures on aphid vectors and the spread of soybean mosaic virus and maize dwarf virus. She previously collaborated on research projects at the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture in Nigeria and the Illinois Natural History Survey.

See her bio

RESEARCH & DISCOVERY

New life sciences hub will connect students with opportunities and support early stage companies

by Colleen Kearney Rich



George Mason University and the Prince William County Department of Economic Development will lead the Northern Virginia BioHub, one of five clusters that will exist throughout the commonwealth by Virginia Bio-Connect. The project, which is directed by the Virginia Biotechnology Association and supported by a two-year, $3.2 million initiative funded by a GO Virginia statewide competitive matching grant, is a collaboration designed to increase connectivity and awareness of the existing programs, resources and communities in the commonwealth that support the life sciences industry.

Full story

IN THE NEWS

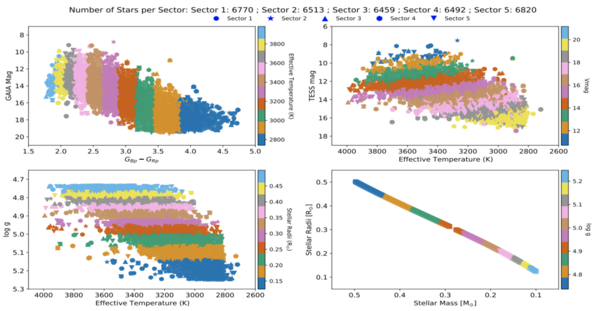


FIG. 4.— Stellar parameters of all M-dwarfs in TESS sectors 1 – 5 that follow our selection criteria as described in Section 2.

Mason Scientists publish paper on their analysis of 33,054 M-dwarf stars

Astrobiology highlighted the work of Mason Scientists who recently published their study *NEMESIS: Exoplanet Transit Survey of Nearby M-Dwarfs in TESS FFIs I*. The study was led by Dax Feliz, a graduate student at Vanderbilt University and Visiting Graduate Student Fellow at Mason, alongside Department of Physics and Astronomy Assistant Professor Peter Plavchan. The study was co-authored by graduate student Kevin Collins and undergraduate student Mary Jimenez.

Read the article

Happening at Mason

Mason Academic Advisor Network (MAAN) offers students opportunity to share their thoughts

Please encourage students to attend tomorrow's event hosted by MAAN or complete the survey below for

moving forward. Those able to come to campus will receive snacks and swag.

Fairfax Campus:
Noon to 6 p.m.
The Hub (Side Pocket)

Arlington Campus:
3 to 5:30 p.m.
Van Metre Plaza

Survey

East Coast Optimization Meeting 2021
April 1-2, 2021
The annual East Coast Optimization Meeting (ECOM) introduces students and early-career researchers to the current trends in optimization and creates a strong networking environment among academia, industry, and the national laboratories. Registration is required.

Term Faculty Community Conversation
April 8, 2021 | 3 to 4 p.m.
Refer to email for the meeting password.

Save the Date: Giving Day 2021
Thursday, April 8, 2021
This year's giving day for Mason Science will focus on supporting scholarship and funding for our graduate student population.

Resistance and Resilience: Student Activism and Well-being
April 8, 2021 | 4 to 5:30 p.m.
This event is hosted by the Human Rights and Global Justice Initiative. Hear from four Mason student activists on their powerful experiences and stories. Registration Required.

Mason Science Faculty Meeting
April 14, 2021 | 3 to 4 p.m.
Refer to email for the meeting password.

See Full Calendar

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