Mason SCIENCE

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Wednesday, February 15, 2023 **science.gmu.edu**

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Early career ASSIP research experiences set a success trajectory

by Fernando Miralles-Wilhelm

At Mason Science, research opportunities are available early and often.

As you may know, George Mason University is a globally ranked R-1 research university, with five expanding learning locations in northern Virginia and one campus in South Korea. Science research is at the core of Mason's past and growing research success.

Recently, the National Science Foundation (NSF) released reports of its scientific research funding, noting that Mason has the highest research growth in the past ten years among Virginia institutions and is No. 10 in research growth among U.S. public universities.

Entrepreneurs, researchers, technologists, business leaders, and various federal and national organizations work alongside Mason Science faculty and innovators in partnerships that expand

opportunities for the broader community. These collaborations have resulted in our college's formation of over a dozen interdisciplinary centers, institutes, offering programs that are often completely unique or the first of their kind.

Read full message

MASON SCIENCE COMMUNITY

Emergency donations for survivors of the Turkey/Syria earthquake



The undergraduates of the Geology Club in AOES have generously put together a disaster relief initiative in light of the horrific earthquakes that occurred in the Turkey-Syria region last week. **The donation box is available from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Exploratory Hall 3450**. Most urgent needs include dry baby formula, diapers (adult and baby), shelf stable and canned foods, towels, power banks, flashlights, hygiene products, and menstrual products. **NOTE: AT THIS TIME CLOTHING IS NOT ACCEPTED**. A student involved in club leadership has family connections that allow her to deliver items directly to the Turkish Embassy.

Also, as follow up from the college's recent MLK service project to support President Washington's food donation challenge, a HUGE THANK YOU to those who donated a total 100 pounds of food to the Patriot Pantry on campus. If you would still like to donate, you can find out how to do so and what they need on their website.



Participate in one of several AJEDI related workshops

There's still time to sign up for the next **Compassionate Conversations Workshop** on **February 24, 2023** from **1 to 2:30 p.m.** Join Dr. Erikca Brown, Office of DEI Inclusive Education Manager

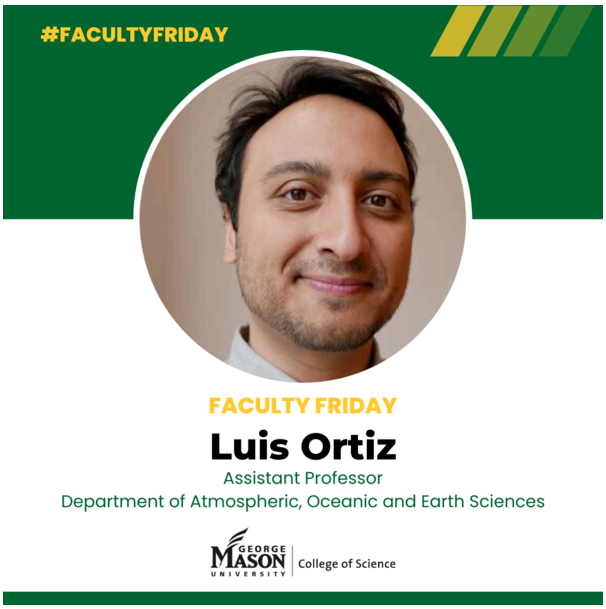
and Dr. Paula Danquah-Brobby, Director of AJEDI in a faculty and staff workshop on the skillful ways people can talk together to feel understood and better able to understand one another.

Can't attend? Consider joining the **Spring 2023 UndocuAlly Trainings** on **February 24, 2023** from **10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** where you will learn the history of our undocumented communities, past and present legislation, and the lived realities and barriers our undocumented communities are fighting through with strength and resilience.

If you missed the Mental Health Crisis on College Campuses webinar in January, you can still view the recording. Once you click on the link, you will be directed to complete a very short informational form (name, email address, etc.), and then you will be able to access the video.

#FacultyFriday highlights AOES assistant professor

This past #FacultyFriday featured new AOES faculty member, Dr. Luis Ortiz, Assistant Professor. Ortiz's research centers on advancing our understanding of how cities interact with the atmosphere in the context of a changing climate, and the impacts these interactions have on people and infrastructure. View the original Instagram post.



See recent faculty highlights



Mason scientists release several conservation research studies

This past month, Dr. David Luther's Lab published three articles related to biodiversity, with two focusing specifically on tropical ecology. Luther, Assistant Professor, Biology said his PhD students and former postdoc led the research.

An exploratory analysis of behavior-based and other management techniques to improve avian conservation translocations assesses management techniques that improve the reintroduction of

threatened species into the wild and should have broad interest to a wide audience in the field of conservation, animal behavior, and ornithology.



Effects of forest fragmentation on avian breeding activity assesses the effects of forest fragmentation on tropical species.

Low species turnover of upland Amazonian birds in the absence of physical barriers assesses community similarities in bird populations in the Amazon in continuous forest and notes that even very large tracts of land can be susceptible to species loss in the Amazon.

Have exciting science news to share? Click on the link or send the details to cosnews@gmu.edu so we can promote your work.

Share your research updates

IN THE NEWS

Master's student develops passion for conservation at Mason

by Ryan McIntyre



Environmental Science and Policy master's student Ryan McIntyre writes about his experience while at the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute in the latest issue of *Smithsonian Magazine*. McIntyre notes that his time as a student in the Smithsonian-Mason School of Conservation is "where I first found my footing as a conservationist. It was the first place I felt that my skill as a naturalist, honed from many summers as a trail guide, was truly valuable, and the first place I was challenged to seek out career goals more specific than “well, I’d like to be outside”. *Photo: Ryan McIntyre demonstrates the tools he uses when studying the characteristics of forest patches to research orchids with SMSC. Photo by Shelby Burgess/Strategic Communications.*

Read the story

Happening at Mason



Join Mason Science's Women Leaders in STEM Mentorship event February 24

Join us for a series of mentorship workshops on **Friday, February 24, 2023** from **3 to 4:30 p.m.** in **Exploratory Hall 3301** to learn ways to describe yourself and your value in a positive, powerful way and create a community in which everyone can thrive. At the event you will learn:

- Why mentorship is important
- What types of mentors could benefit you
- Steps for identifying a mentor
- Tips for being a good mentor or mentee

This is a learning experience for all identities, including allies. Every student, staff, and faculty member is welcome to participate to empower yourself and others. While this topic will be discussed from the lens of women in STEM, those who do not identify as women are welcome to attend.

Register to attend

Encourage your students to attend Mason's Spring Career Fair



Mason's Spring Career Fair is Feb 22 and 23, and this is your opportunity to meet with employers, connect with alumni,

find opportunities, and plan for the future. More than 200 employers will be taking over the entire lower level of the Johnson Center for two days in search of Mason talent to fill full-time positions, part-time jobs, and internships. To help you get ready, University Career Services is hosting two days of Resume Clinic and a Prepare for the Fair Workshop before the big event. Find out who will be there.

Event details



Galileo's Science Cafe
February 16, 2023 | 6 to 9 p.m. | Verizon Auditorium, SciTech Campus or Virtual
Join MDraction Komwa, Assistant Professor, GGS and Paul Thangata for a lecture on Consolidated Research Project on the food systems transformation summit dialogues in Ghana, Rwanda and Malawi. Registration required.

Important Conversations in the Classroom: Preparing Your Course and Yourself
February 20, 2023 | 3 to 4 p.m. | Virtual
In this workshop, they will discuss how to design (or redesign) your course and prepare yourself to facilitate important or "hot topic" conversations in the classroom. This may include conversations around race, sexuality, religion, politics, or similar. Registration required.

Working Moms Support Group: 20th Anniversary Celebration
February 21, 2023 | Noon to 1 p.m. | Merten 1201
The Working Moms Support Group is one way faculty, staff, and students can come together, discuss the issues confronting working parents, and spur changes on campus. Check out the full schedule. Or, join the Microsoft Teams group for more information.

Evening Under the Stars
February 21, 2023 | 7 to 9 p.m. | Mason Observatory and Virtual
Join the next Evening Under the Stars for a public talk followed by telescope viewings, weather permitting. For the foreseeable future, all Evening Under the Stars events will be held both in-person and virtually. All are free to attend.

UL Faculty Engagement Series 2022-2023: Faculty/Staff and Student Well-Being
February 22, 2023 | 11 a.m. to noon | Johnson Center room B
Mason has made an institutional commitment to the well-being of our community members. In this session, we will explore these issues and share best practices that support individual and organizational/unit-level well-being.

See Full Calendar

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