Mason SCIENCE

Understand. Innovate. Succeed.

Wednesday, November 9, 2022 **science.gmu.edu**

In this Issue

- Message from the Dean
- Mason Science Community
- Research & Discovery
- In the News
- Happening at Mason
- Events



Celebrating our People

by Fernando Miralles-Wilhelm

Each year, George Mason University honors employees for their time working at the university and/or the Commonwealth of Virginia. On Tuesday, it was my privilege to attend my first in-person University Day Service Awards breakfast celebration to honor those staff and faculty celebrating 5-, 10-, and 15-year anniversaries. In addition to the hundreds of folks with me in Dewberry Hall for this exciting tribute, to engage and connect in our hybrid, new normal, many virtual attendees also assembled to view the live-streamed event.

Please review the list of honorees and join me in celebrating and thanking them for their valuable service to the Mason Science community.

Read full message

MASON SCIENCE COMMUNITY

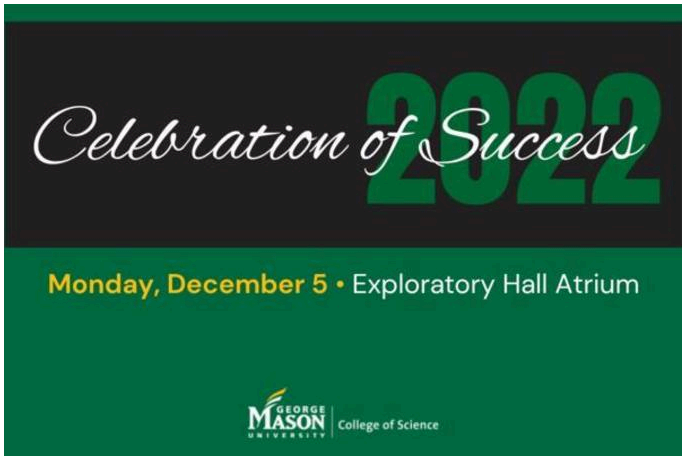
Students go batty with their capstone project

by Damian Cristodero



Environmental and sustainability studies majors Amanda Tisdale and Emma Kendrick, as well as environmental science major Bryan Childers decided to build bat boxes for a capstone project in their EVPP 480 Sustainability in Action class. They also staged a bat box building event on October 28 next to Wilkins Plaza on the Fairfax Campus, where anyone could grab a hammer and start building to a soundtrack that included Warren Zevon's "Werewolves of London," the Talking Heads' "Psycho Killer," and Michael Jackson's "Thriller." *Photo by Cristian Torres/Strategic Communications.*

More on their project



Join us for the 2022 Celebration of Success

Please join us **Monday, December 5 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in Exploratory Hall Atrium** for the annual College of Science Celebration of Success, recognizing faculty and staff for their service during the 2022 calendar year. With a theme of "Season's Eatings" we will celebrate while enjoying food, beverages, a chance to win a number of fabulous prizes, and some sweet treats. You must register to attend. **Please note that this is a faculty and staff only event.**

Please take a moment to nominate the colleagues you feel deserve recognition for their contributions to the Mason Science community. Submit nominations by 11:59 p.m. on November 21. Visit the Celebration of Success web page for a full list of awards.

Ready to show off your baking skills? Enter to participate in this year's bake off. Check out the website for a complete list of entry categories (includes gluten free options) and information on how to enter.

Additional event information

#FacultyFriday highlights GGS advisors



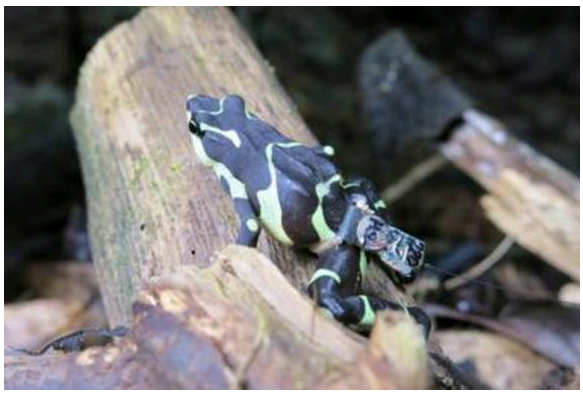
We kick off our Department of Geography and Geoinformation Science (GGS) spotlight by highlighting all our GGS advisors: professors Ruixin Yang, Nathan Burtch, Maction Komwa, and Christine Rosenfeld. These faculty members thoroughly enjoy advising students thanks to the interaction as mentors for students, the participation in engaging dialogue, building academic plans, watching students grow and blossom over time, and seeing the students achieve their own definition of success. View original Instagram post.

View recent faculty highlights



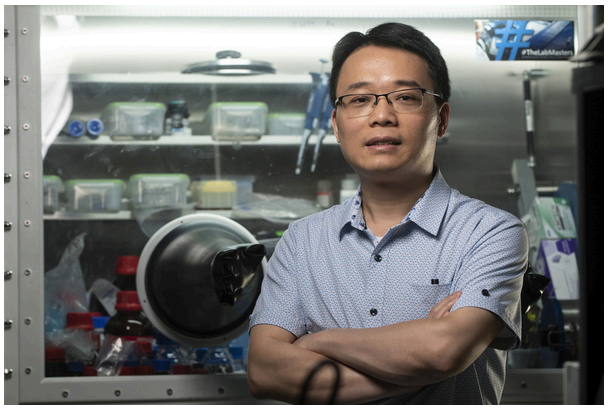
A critical review and validation of an immune response assay for amphibians

by Elizabeth Grisham



Scott Glaberman, Assistant Professor/Associate Chair for Research, Environmental Science and Policy; Faculty Fellow, Potomac Environmental Research and Education Center, received $30,000 from the U.S. Geological Survey for: "Critical Review and Validation of an Immune Response Assay for Amphibians." There is the potential to renew these funds up to $200,000 over five years.

More on the study's goals



Powering up rechargeable batteries

Chao Luo, Assistant Professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry and a team of researchers found that organic electrode materials and potassium resources could serve as a means to produce faster-charging, high temperature batteries. This has the potential to greatly improve power of energy storage devices in electric vehicles, grid-scale electrical energy storage, and high temperature regions. *Photo by Evan Cantwell/Creative Services.*

View the study's findings

IN THE NEWS

Vessel traffic noise found to influence the stress response of gray whales.

Mason science's Kathleen Hunt, Assistant Professor, Biology, collaborated with a team of researchers to study gray whales off the coast of Oregon and identify what, if any, affect local vessel traffic has on their stress levels. The study, published in *Scientific Reports*, found a strong correlation between the whales'

stress hormones and vessel traffic. *Photo by Venti Views on Unsplash*.

Explore their findings



Happening at Mason

Caring for our Mason Community



George Mason University President Gregory Washington recently shared his thoughts on tragedies this fall that affected our community, nation, and our world. In his response, he also shares how Mason plans to respond to them. *Photo by Sierra Guard/Creative Services.*

View the president's full message



Mason launches College of Public Health

Mason's College of Health and Human Services recently rebranded to the College of Public Health to address a critical need for skilled health professionals and research across the state. The announcement appeared in Virginia Business, Fox5 DC, Yahoo! Finance, DCist, the Sun Gazette, and WSET-TV13. *Photo by Ron Aira/Creative Services.*

Explore the College of Public Health



Events

C-RASC Lunch and Learn

November 10, 2022 | noon to 1 p.m. | Virtual

Participate in a discussion of the STAR-TIDES network including the role of academia, NGOs, government, and the private sector. STAR-TIDES is a global knowledge-sharing network that focuses on building sustainable resilience, promoting human security (freedom from want and freedom from fear), and creating life-changing social and economic opportunities.

College of Science Giving Day

November 10, 2022

Mason is half way through the Season of Giving campaign and still going strong with many more giving days to come. Consider supporting the College of Science this week during Giving Day.

College of Science Faculty Meeting

November 10, 2022 | 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. | Exploratory 3301 and Virtual

Workshop: Incorporating Systems Thinking within Environmental Curricula

November 11 | 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. | Potomac Science Center

Workshop participants will share their own best practices in teaching students about systems and identify opportunities to integrate systems thinking within courses and throughout program curricula. The event is part of a George Mason University Curriculum Impact Grant-funded project.

Evening Under the Stars

November 15, 2022 | 7 to 9 p.m. | Research Hall 163 and Virtual

Join the Department of Physics and Astronomy for a talk from Dr Stefanie Milam, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center.

GIS Day

November 16, 2022 | 1 to 3 p.m. | Exploratory Hall, second floor common area

Join the Department of Geography and Geoinformation Science in celebrating GIS Day.

The Role of Science and Scientists at U.S. EPA: A Roundtable Discussion

November 17, 2022 | 4 p.m. | Virtual

Access this special panel event online and hear from experts in their field.

Galileo's Science Cafe

November 17, 2022 | 6 to 9 p.m.

Join this month's event with a lecture from Klaus-peter Koepfli on how genomics helps save endangered species. Registration required.

See Full Calendar

Stay Connected

Read the College of Science's latest annual report

© 2022 George Mason University
College of Science
science.gmu.edu

Share this email:

Manage your preferences | **Opt out** using **TrueRemove®**
Got this as a forward? **Sign up** to receive our future emails.
View this email **online**.

4400 University Drive
Fairfax, VA | 22030 US

This email was sent to .
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

Subscribe to our email list.