Mason SCIENCE

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Mentorship: Seek one. Be one.

by Fernando Miralles-Wilhelm

Mentorship is a critical component of success in academia; for students at all stages, for staff looking to advance in responsibility and influence, as a junior faculty member, throughout one's journey to tenured faculty, while performing research, and also to hone leadership skills. Our Mason Science community offers countless mentorship opportunities for all who seek to grow.

According to the Association for Psychological Science, "Academic Mentorship is a secret weapon in achieving career success. Mentors can provide you with advice regarding research ideas, graduate school advice, professional guidance, and much more. Engaging in a mentorship relationship can lead to a host of positive outcomes such as academic success, career development, and psychological well-being."

Our Dean's Fellow Faculty Leadership Development Program advances institutional excellence by fostering a climate of inclusive and diverse leadership. The year-long program is designed to enhance the career development of Fellows by providing a leadership assignment and development experience to

promote the next generation of diverse faculty leaders.

I am excited to announce the four faculty I have selected for this mentorship opportunity: Tina Bell, assistant professor, Biology and Mason STEM Accelerator faculty; Tim Leslie, associate professor, Geography and Geoinformation Science and former College of Science faculty chair; Peter Plavchan, associate professor, Physics and Astronomy, Director of Mason's Observatories; and Chaowei Yang, professor, Geography and Geoinformation Science and Director of the NSF Spatiotemporal Innovation Center.

Read full message

MASON SCIENCE COMMUNITY

College of Science names new Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

by Tracy Mason



After a national search, Dr. Paula Danquah-Brobby begins her role as the new Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) for the College of Science at George Mason University, effective February 14, 2022. As you may know, she emerged from the search as the college's top choice, bringing significant energy, passion, and experience to this new position.

Get to know Paula



#FacultyFriday features AOES associate professor

"Better forecasts. Better decisions," is the motto for today's #FacultyFriday feature, Kathy Pegion, Associate Professor, Atmospheric, Oceanic and Earth Sciences. Pegion currently leads the Subseasonal Experiment (SubX) - a national, multi-institutional, and multi-agency research project that focuses on understanding and improving predictions on the subseasonal (2 to 4 week) timescale. In addition to leading the project, she developed and maintained the real-time forecast visualization tools and performed the comprehensive skill evaluation. When not conducting research, you can find her enjoying the outdoors.

Read Kathy's bio

RESEARCH & DISCOVERY

Are sharks an untapped tourism market?

by Chelsea Gray and Cindy Smith



Environmental Science and Policy doctoral candidate, Chelsea Gray, is a self-proclaimed shark fanatic. With Associate Professor Cindy Smith, she recently published a case study on Basking shark tourism in Donegal, Ireland. Gray has been actively involved with the Irish Basking Shark Group (IBSG) and the campaign to list basking sharks under the Wildlife Act. *Photo: Chelsea Gray.*

Learn more her research

IN THE NEWS

A unique path to a career in physics

by David Appell



In June, Hakeem Oluseyi, Astrophysicist, Visiting Robinson Professor, released *A Quantum Life: My Unlikely Journey from the Street to the Stars.* Written by Oluseyi and Joshua Horwitz, the publication follows Oluseyi's journey from his childhood in the deep south to earning his PhD in Physics from Stanford University to later working at elite organizations including MIT and NASA.

Read Physics World's review

Happening at Mason

Save the dates: Memorial Dedication and Vision Day, Mason's 50th Anniversary

by Colleen Kearney Rich



Save the date this April for two events part of Mason's 50th Anniversary celebration. First, attend the Enslaved People of George Mason Memorial Dedication on April 4, 2022 at 1:30 p.m. on the Wilkins Plaza. Later that week, take part in the 50th Anniversary Commemorative Celebration on April 7, 2022 from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

April 7 will also be this year's Giving Day, which has been retooled for the milestone and is now called **Mason Vision Day.** This event presents an opportunity for Mason community to come together each year to identify and support a deserving campus initiative.

More on the celebration

Events

Geology Seminar: Park, Theoretical Seismology and Crustal Structure
February 17, 2022 | 4:30 to 5:45 p.m. | Virtual
Join Jeffrey Park, Yale University, for a lecture on "Theoretical seismology and crustal structure."

Galileo's Science Café
February 17, 2022 | 6 to 9 p.m. | Verizon Auditorium, SciTech Campus and Virtual
Join Shobita Satyapal for her lecture "In Search of Elusive Giants: Detecting supermassive black holes in the centers of galaxies."

Virtual Visiting Filmmakers Series: S. Leo Chiang, Our Time Machine
February 17, 2022 | 7:30 to 9 p.m. | Virtual
Attend a virtual screening of "Our Time Machine," a documentary about a joint project between a son and his father suffering from Alzheimer's disease.

Climate Action Plan Townhall
February 18, 2022 | Noon to 2 p.m. | Virtual
Join the fourth Climate Action Plan Town Hall and help Mason develop a new Climate Action Plan.

Applied and Computational Mathematics Seminar
February 18, 2022 | 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. | Virtual
Join Yanxiang Zhao, George Washington University, for a lecture on "Supervised Optimal Transport."

See Full Calendar

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