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Wednesday, April 28, 2021 **science.gmu.edu**

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A message from the Dean

FERNANDO R. MIRALLES-WILHELM

What's next?

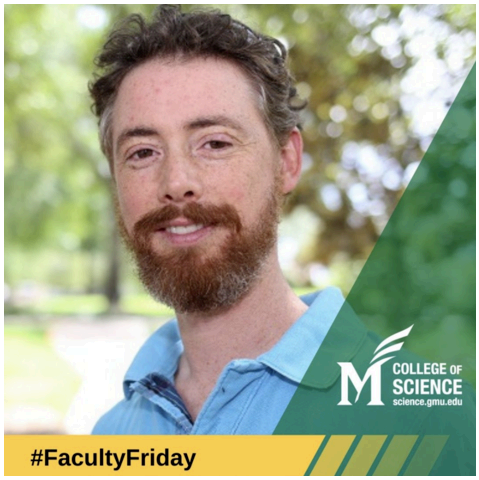
by Fernando Miralles-Wilhelm

Some say last week's trial of former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin was a 'historic milestone,' concluding with a jury verdict of guilty on all three murder charges. As I watched the news come out, I felt a mix of sadness, relief, and justice being served. My sense about George Floyd's tragic and horrible death is frustration at multiple levels: you don't lean with your knee on a handcuffed person's neck for more than nine minutes no matter who you are, who the person laying on the ground is, where you are, or whatever the circumstances may be; no matter what; period. I am comforted by the fact that the jury deliberated quickly and rendered an unequivocal verdict. It is a bit of hope that the future will bring us more justice, peace, and freedom.

In a recent article in The Hill, Amaka Okechukwu, a sociology professor here at Mason who specializes in race, ethnicity and social movement said, "While he was convicted of murder and held legally accountable ... the same day, Ma'Khia Bryant, [a 16-year-old Black] teenager in Ohio, is killed by the police." Okechukwu added, "I use that as just an illustration of the persistent and systemic nature of this

Read full message

MASON SCIENCE COMMUNITY

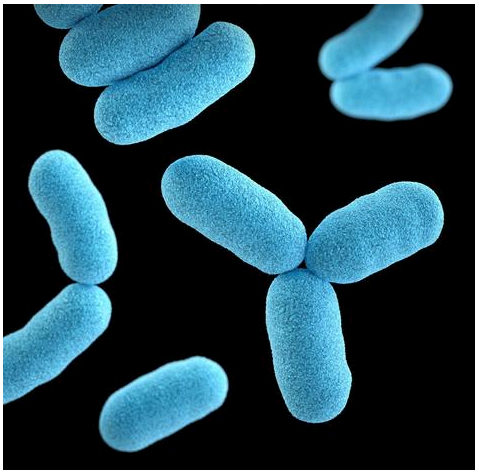


#FacultyFriday highlights the work of Scott Glaberman

Mason Science continues to celebrate Earth Month and our faculty by highlighting Scott Glaberman, assistant professor in the Department of Environmental Science and Policy. Glaberman is the primary investigator at the EvoTox Lab at Mason where his research focuses on evolutionary biology, ecotoxicology, environmental stress physiology, and more. Recently, Glaberman and his lab published a study on how color impacts attention towards 2D images in geckos.

More on Glaberman and the EvoTox Lab

RESEARCH & DISCOVERY



MBAC researchers help predict outcomes for Cirrhosis patients

Amirhossein Shamsaddini, Biology Professor and Associate Dean of Research Patrick Gillevet, and MBAC Technical Director Masoumeh Sikaroodi from the Microbiome Analysis Center at Mason contributed to a study that links antibiotic-resistant bacteria in the gut to worsened Cirrhosis outcomes.

More on the study

Mason start-up Ceres Nanosciences opens advanced particle

by Katie Maney

Ross Dunlap, CEO of Ceres Nanosciences and a member of the George Mason Research Foundation board opened a new facility at Prince William for Nanotrap® Magnetic Virus Particles, which improve diagnostic testing for viruses like SARS-CoV-2, influenza, and respiratory syncytial virus. The base technology underlying the Nanotrap® particle was created by Mason's Center for Applied Proteomics and Molecular Medicine (CAPMM) that includes Mason researchers Lance Liotta, Emanuel Petricoin, and Alessandra Luchini.

Full story

IN THE NEWS

Mason research influences courtroom setup during COVID-19

The *New York Times* recently reported how courtrooms are making changes to their spaces based, in part, by Physics and Astronomy Professor Rainald Löhner's study of courtroom air currents. Changes include Plexiglas booths for witnesses, a HEPA filter, and handsets that allow defendants and lawyers to speak confidentially while maintaining a safe distance.

Full story

Happening at Mason

Volunteers needed for Mason's Patriot Procession

The university still needs volunteers to help at the Patriot Procession taking place May 10 through May 14. They currently need volunteers to read names as graduates cross the stage and greeters to help guide graduates and their guests. If you're interested, please sign up. There are several shifts available throughout the week.

Sign up to volunteer

Events

AOES Geology Seminar
April 29, 2021 | 4:30 to 5:45 p.m.
Join affiliate faculty Jonathan Hammer for a lecture on the sedimentary processes.

Learning Assistant Virtual Poster Session
April 30, 2021 | 1:30 to 3 p.m.
Celebrate the work of Mason Science's Learning Assistants by attending a virtual poster presentation where they will share their teaching experiences. Register to attend.

Characterizing Political Narratives about COVID-19 on Twitter: Elise Jing
April 30, 2021 | 3 to 4:30 p.m.
Join Elise Jing, a Scientist at Sirius XM + Pandora whose research focuses on understanding narrative data through computational methods derived from natural language processing and text mining.

Save the Date: OSCAR Celebration of Student Scholarship and Impact Virtual Celebration
May 4 to May 7, 2021
Keep an eye out for opportunities to view presentations from student scholars from across the university.

See Full Calendar

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