Mason SCIENCE

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Mason Impact; Be the change you want to see in the world

by Fernando Miralles-Wilhelm

“Be the change.” Some may recognize this charge, originally offered by Mahatma Gandhi, who in 1947 led the people of India to independence from British rule.

“Go out and change the world.” I offered this directive to prospective graduates at the Monday, May 10 2021 in-person College of Science mini degree celebration event attended by about 500 students, family, friends, staff, and faculty. Although a broad challenge, we will see our newest Mason Science ambassadors implement it in a variety of ways due to a variety of influences.

Take the impassioned, inspirational speech delivered to the crowd live by Sean Whitmer who will receive his master’s degree in forensic science from George Mason University this spring. He shared his personal journey at Mason to find his major, acquire and develop his scientific skillset, and ways he used those skills to encourage others. Our audience represents the potential for a bright future. Some will go on to help one another, while others may go on to drive great change in their community, their scientific field, perhaps even around the world.

Read full message

MASON SCIENCE COMMUNITY

Forensic science graduate urges class of 2021 to fight for what they want



Forensic science master's graduate, Sean Whitmer, addressed the class of 2021 during the College of Science mini graduation celebration on Monday, May 10. Take a moment to hear his speech, advice for his classmates, and his thanks to Forensic Science Associate Professor Kelly Knight.

Listen to the speech



Environmental science class puts sustainability in action

by Colleen Kearney Rich

During the month of April, the students in Mason's Sustainability in Action course (EVPP 480) were incredibly busy making a difference on and off campus. During Earth Month they worked on their required Sustainability Transformation Action Research Team projects for the class.

Learn about the course

RESEARCH & DISCOVERY

Clayborne to study response properties of porphyrin molecules

by Elizabeth Grisham



Andre Clayborne, Assistant Professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry, is set to begin a collaborative research project with co PI Kim Michelle Lewis, Professor of Physics at Howard University, that aims to accelerate the discovery and use of porphyrin molecules for quantum information technologies using data-centered graph-based neural networks and cognitive computing.

More on this research

Jafri conducting study of in silico prediction of cancer drug susceptibility

by Elizabeth Grisham



Saleet Jafri, Director, Neuroscience Program; Professor Bioinformatics/Computational Biology, is studying cancer drug susceptibility. His project is based on the development of a computational method that uses machine learning applied to feature sets derived from molecular simulation to predict the functional consequences of genetic variation.

More on this research

IN THE NEWS

Lovejoy warns the next decade is crucial for our planet's future

by Salley Ho



Environmental Science and Policy Professor Thomas Lovejoy tells *Green Queen* that greenhouse gas emissions need to be cut in half over the next ten years in order to stop and repair damage to nature.

Full article

Mason researcher appears on the *Today Show* to discuss air flow in public spaces during COVID-19

Physics and Astronomy Professor Rainald Löhner discusses indoor air flow in spaces like offices, rideshare services, movie theaters and retail stores. His advice? Continue to wear masks and open



windows when you can.

Watch the segment

Happening at Mason

BOV approves budget with no undergrad tuition increase



On May 6, Mason's Board of Visitors approved a $1.249 billion budget that keeps undergraduate tuition flat, with modest increases in graduate tuition and student fees. Student aid will increase by at least 10 percent, and targeted investments will be made in student services and staff and faculty support.

Learn more about the budget

Events

College of Science Faculty Meeting
May 14, 2021 | Noon to 1 p.m.
Check email for meeting access information.

Commencement 2021
May 14, 2021 | 2 p.m.
George Mason University will conduct its 54th Spring Commencement virtually. The ceremony is set for 2 p.m. Friday, May 14, 2021. The university-wide commencement ceremony will be live-streamed.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security Centers of Excellence Summit
Wednesday, May 19, 2021 through Thursday, May 20, 2021
Learn, connect, and network with COE researchers, industry, and DHS representatives. Register today for this free and virtual event.

See Full Calendar

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