Mason SCIENCE

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Wednesday, April 7, 2021 **science.gmu.edu**

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A message from the Dean

FERNANDO R. MIRALLES-WILHELM

Time to celebrate

by Fernando Miralles-Wilhelm

477 days. It's been that long since we've been able to celebrate directly with our students at an in-person graduation event.

Thanks to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have kept safety precautions as our focus and have had to limit contact at our traditional graduation festivities for the health and well-being of our Mason Science community. Instead of the traditional degree celebrations and Mason commencement ceremonies, for the past year, we've pivoted to a virtual format encouraging online and social shout outs to acknowledge our graduates' awards and significant accomplishments.

We continue to follow CDC precautions, yet based on current State of Virginia recommended protocols, we now have an exciting opportunity to welcome our students back to campus for graduation—and we want to make the most of it.

speak to your Class of 2021 students directly or use this slide in the class discussions or via email to let them know **5 p.m. EST on Friday, April 16**, is their deadline to choose between two options.

Read full message

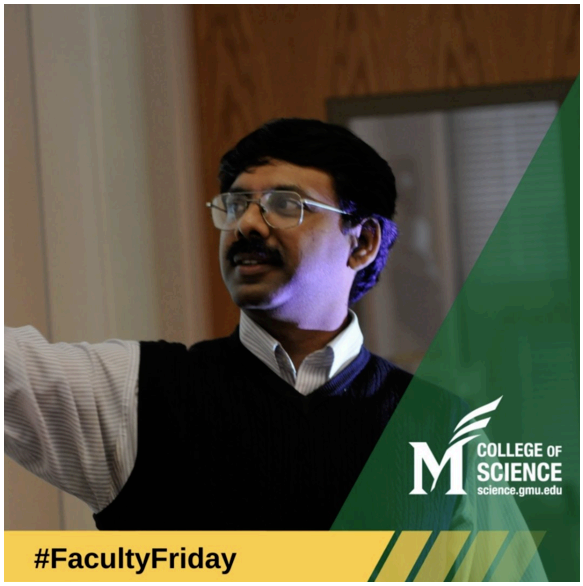
MASON SCIENCE COMMUNITY

ESP student's academic excellence, conservation research led to Goldwater Scholarship

by John Hollis

Jackie Luu, a junior Environmental Science and Policy major from Glen Allen, Virginia, is Mason's first-ever Barry M. Goldwater Scholar from the Department of Environmental Science and Policy within the College of Science.

Read her story



#FacultyFriday highlights award-winning mathematician

In honor of Mathematics and Statistics Awareness Month, #FacultyFriday highlights Padmanabhan Seshaiyer who recently received the NCWIT Aspirations in Computing Educator Award for his efforts to promote equity in computing. Congratulations to Seshaiyer for this award and thank you for your innovative work.

See his bio

RESEARCH & DISCOVERY

Liotta Conducting Virologic Analysis Of SARS-CoV-2

by Elizabeth Grisham

Lance Liotta, Co-Director, Center for Applied Proteomics and Molecular Medicine (CAPMM), is conducting virologic analyses of SARS-CoV-2 on non-infectious/pre-inactivated clinical samples using FDA-cleared (Emergency Use Authorized) commercial PCR platforms.

Full story

IN THE NEWS

Deutsche Welle features Mason Scientist in mini-documentary about Mars

The German international broadcaster, *Deutsche Welle*, interviewed Physics and Astronomy Associate Professor Erdal Yiğit for a mini-documentary about Mars. Yiğit recently published a study in *Geophysical Research Letters* highlighting the connection between Martian dust storms, waves, and atmospheric loss. Sharing the video for the Turkish speakers in our Mason Science community.

Watch the video

Happening at Mason

Mason announces in-person celebration options for spring commencement

Mason is delighted to invite the Spring 2021 graduating class and all 2020 graduates to the Fairfax Campus to celebrate in-person graduation recognition events during the **week of May 10**. Graduates may choose one of two in-person options, and their family and friends are also invited to attend. The official University Commencement will be held virtually at **2 p.m. EDT Friday, May 14**, and all 2021 graduates are encouraged to participate.

Graduation Info

Appointments available for Mason faculty and staff to receive COVID-19 vaccine

Mason is arranging appointments for Mason faculty and staff to receive their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine on **Saturday, April 10** and **Wednesday, April 14** at Mason's EagleBank Arena in Fairfax, VA.

Schedule an appointment

Events

Term Faculty Community Conversation
April 8, 2021 | 3 to 4 p.m.
Refer to email for the meeting password.

Giving Day 2021
April 8, 2021
This year's giving day for Mason Science will focus on supporting scholarship and funding for our graduate student population.

Resistance and Resilience: Student Activism and Well-being
April 8, 2021 | 4 to 5:30 p.m.
This event is hosted by the Human Rights and Global Justice Initiative. Hear from four Mason student activists on their powerful experiences and stories. Registration Required.

You Won a Grant. Now What?

April 9, 2021 | 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Research Development Services will hold the first of a planned series of lunch and learn seminars and Q&A for faculty following the Research and Scholarship at Mason orientation. Join the first lunch and learn, "You Won a Grant. Now What?"

Mason's Online Pandemic Modeling Forum

April 9, 2021 | 3 to 4:30 p.m.

Join Murat Tasci, Senior Research Economist, Research Department, Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland for his talk on "Unemployment in the Time of COVID-19: A Flow-Based Approach to Real-time Unemployment Projections."

Mason Science Faculty Meeting

April 14, 2021 | 3 to 4 p.m.

Refer to email for the meeting password.

See Full Calendar

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