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Powerful Partnerships: FARO

by Fernando Miralles-Wilhelm

Ever since our early childhood days, we've been taught to share our toys and play well together. For many of us on a sports team, or in a musical band or orchestra, as Aristotle described, we learned the whole can be much greater than just the sum of its parts.

Fast forward your life to your time at Mason where innovative collaboration is strongly encouraged and seeking various perspectives is more than just a cultural value. Strong collaboration can be a critical component to your and our college’s success.

Some of Mason's College of Science valued collaborators include NASA; NOAA; NSF; NIH; EPA; The United Nations; the U.S. Army; U.S. Departments of State, Transportation, Homeland Security, and Justice; Facebook; the Smithsonian; Side-out Foundation; Fairfax and Prince William counties; MITRE; Black Sky; Northern Virginia Community Colleges; Nobel Life Sciences; and Ceres Nanoscience.

Based on our forensic program events last week, we can add one more innovative, impactful
I joined our forensic science colleagues at the ribbon cutting of our FARO Forensics Lab, the first partnership of its kind in the world, and the public unveiling of Mason’s outdoor Forensic Research and Training facility, one of only eight in the country. The connection of their forensic technology and our scientific training and research expertise at our cutting-edge facilities will influence the next generation of criminal investigators for decades and positions our program as a premiere entity. Now that is powerful collaboration.

But that's not all who make this partnership great.
Mason PhD’s effort to save endangered black rhinos

by Elizabeth Grisham

Camille Goblet, PhD candidate, Environmental Science and Policy, is conducting genomic analysis of managed Eastern Black Rhinoceros (Diceros bicornis) populations in institutions of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA). This project will aid in management and conservation of the critically endangered black rhinoceros by performing genetic analyses of individuals within the North American population.

Researchers developing stable cell line for new equine vaccines

by Elizabeth Grisham

Ramin Hakami, Associate Professor, School of Systems Biology, and researchers in his lab are purifying exosomes from the EIAV-gp90 cell line. They are doing so to demonstrate that exosomes have gp90 on the surface and can be used to develop a new type of vaccine for horses.

Plavchan speaks to bridging technology gaps between professors and their students

by Monica Chin
The Verge recently published an article highlighting generational differences in the way professors and students handle files and navigate data, sometimes causing challenges in the classroom. Peter Plavchan, Associate Professor, Physics and Astronomy, said he now dedicates class time to leading students through the process of creating an organized database structure to ease data sharing and analysis.

Register to attend the Interdisciplinary Computing Research Symposium

Faculty from across the university will come together this October for the Interdisciplinary Computing Research Symposium on October 8 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The symposium aims to facilitate connections and dialogue between faculty, who will be able to share their research with the Mason community.

Events

Deadline to Order Regalia for President Washington’s Investiture
September 30, 2021
The deadline for faculty to order regalia, at no charge, for the Investiture of Gregory Washington as George Mason University’s eighth President is tomorrow, Thursday, Sept. 30. To rent regalia, email sm366@bncollege.com or visit the bookstore on the Fairfax Campus.

Hispanic Heritage and Disability Awareness Month: Case Studies Roundtable
October 7, 2021 | 3 to 4 p.m.
SPECTRUM will present a number of case studies with time for discussion on resolution with specific emphasis on Hispanic Heritage Month and Disability Awareness Month. Register to attend. Have a question you’d like answered at the event? Submit your questions in advance.
Climate Dynamics Seminar: Current Climate Conversation
October 8, 2021 | 2 to 3 p.m.
Join the Department of Atmospheric, Oceanic and Earth Sciences for a quasi-monthly discussion of recent climate and weather events. Come with an interesting news item, share your thoughts, or just come to listen.

Coded Bias Screening and Discussion
Wednesday October 13, 2021, 7 to 9 p.m., JC Cinema
Join Mason faculty and students to watch and discuss the documentary Coded Bias, which investigates bias in Artificial Intelligence algorithms and facial recognition software. Registration required.