Mason SCIENCE

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Wednesday, May 26, 2021 **science.gmu.edu**

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The Marvels of Science (at Mason)

by Fernando Miralles-Wilhelm

Science can be interesting and inspiring for the curious, the explainers, the problem solvers, and the futurists.

Take the cicadas around us now. You don't need to be a scientist to wonder out loud about the spaceship like droning sound permeating the airwaves thanks to these 17-year marvels. Our scientific experts at Mason, like Department of Biology entomologist Rebecca Forkner or Jim McNeil at Mason's Smithsonian-Mason School of Conservation, have channeled their passions for science to build successful careers exploring this world of wildlife.

Or Department of Environmental Science and Policy Professor, Cindy Smith, whose scientific curiosity is so fueled by this natural phenomena, she wrote an ebook about it and recently took to ABC-TV to explain it.

Bugs not your thing?

Read full message

MASON SCIENCE COMMUNITY

Mason was a perfect fit for neuroscience major

by Damian Cristodero



Malek Salhab, a neuroscience major and member of Mason's Honors College, who will attend medical school at Virginia Commonwealth University as an early selection candidate on scholarship, said Mason did not disappoint.

Read his story



Biology graduate Jasmine James is virtually unstoppable

by Colleen Kearny Rich

Biology major Jasmine James almost didn't come to Mason. In fact, Mason wasn't even on her radar when choosing a college. It was a friend at her high school in Boston, Massachusetts, who was interested and convinced James to come along to a session with an admissions counselor.

Read her story

RESEARCH & DISCOVERY

Ghimire researching topological properties of intercalated transition metal dichalcogenides

by Elizabeth Grisham



Nirmal Ghimire, Assistant Professor, Physics and Astronomy, is currently working to synthesize and characterize topological materials related to transition metal dichalcogenides intercalcated with magnetic ions. Ghimire received $81,003 from the U.S. Department of Energy for this project. Funding began in February 2021 and will end in late January 2022.

Read his bio

IN THE NEWS

Aguirre discusses updated COVID-19 mask regulations



Environmental Science and Policy Chair Alonso Aguirre provided his perspective on the CDC's update on mask regulations for those vaccinated from COVID-19 on *Telemundo Washington DC*.

View the segment



Dust storms and Valley fever in the American West

by Lia Poteet, NASA Earth Science Division - Applied Sciences

Atmospheric, Oceanic and Earth Sciences Associate Professor Daniel Tong recently discussed his research linking dust storms and the transmission of Valley fever.

Full article

Happening at Mason

Student Office 365 migration



This June, MasonLive student email and Microsoft services will be migrated to Office 365. This migration will improve collaboration, enhance user experience across campus, and provide additional resources to students.

This migration does not affect your faculty and staff email, as your @gmu.edu account will remain your primary account. If you currently have accounts on both the MasonLive and Office 365 system, your information (email and calendar) and OneDrive files will be automatically migrated to Office 365. To prepare and find the latest details on the change, visit the Student Office 365 Migration Roadmap.

Learn how this impacts you



Annual leave rollover for faculty extended to end of summer

Mason announced that annual leave rollover for faculty will be extended to August 24, 2021. Faculty includes: administrative/professional faculty, 12-month instructional/research faculty, 12-month postdoctoral research fellows, and 12-month research staff. Please direct questions to payroll@gmu.edu.



STEMNoire 2021

June 24, 2021 to June 26, 2021

Mason's Colleges of Science and Engineering have combined to sponsor the 2021 STEMNoire conference, a research and holistic wellness program intentionally created to connect, uplift, and empower women of the African diaspora in the STEM. Through our sponsorship, a limited number of free tickets are available for faculty, staff, and students to attend. Contact tmason11@gmu.edu to request your ticket.

Aspiring Scientists Summer Internship Program (ASSIP) Research Symposium

August 12, 2021

ASSIP participants will present their final projects worked on throughout the summer program.

Females of Color and those Underrepresented in STEM (FOCUS) Camp (virtual)

August 2, 2021 - August 6, 2021

Participants (6 through 8 graders) will engage in four different interactive and hands-on STEM workshops and on the last day, present what they learned in these workshops in a conference-style setting.

Females of Color and those Underrepresented in STEM (FOCUS) Academy (virtual)
August 9, 2021. - August 13, 2021
High school students will participate in STEM workshops as well as enhancement sessions including college and SAT prep, goal setting, fitness classes, a farewell party, and more.

See Full Calendar

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