In this Issue

- Message from the Dean
- Alumni News
- Mason Science Research Spotlight
- Mason Science News
- Events and Announcements

Message from the Dean

Dear Friends,

I hope this message finds our Mason Science friends and alumni well and enjoying these last days of summer.

As we prepare for students to return to campus on August 23rd, students, faculty, and staff are excited to be back on campus, resuming some in-person learning and research (with online options also available)—while also keeping a close eye on the increase in COVID cases due to the Delta variant. Over the past 18 months, Mason has done an admirable job, proactively responding to a rapidly changing environment, preventing even a single known case of

Subscribe to our email list.

Dean Fernando Miralles-Wilhelm

classroom transmission and keeping overall COVID cases to a minimum.

In an effort to continue to protect our community, Mason recently announced that we are joining the growing community of universities that require all students, faculty, and staff to get vaccinated in order to work, study, and live on campus. This requirement is consistent with Mason's longstanding history of requiring students to be immunized against diphtheria, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles (rubeola), German measles (rubella), mumps, Hepatitis B, and meningitis.

President Gregory Washington had the full support of the Executive Council, as well as an overwhelming majority of faculty in taking this extraordinary step for the sake of the health and safety of every Mason Patriot, as well as our surrounding communities.

As a scientist—and as a Dean whose first priority is the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff—I fully support this vaccination mandate. My family and I are fully vaccinated, and we have encouraged our friends and loved ones to make scientifically informed decisions, for their own safety and the safety of others.

Thank you in advance for your continued support and friendship, and for your commitment to maintaining your own health.

Sincerely,
Fernando

Alumni News

College of Science Alumni Chapter Board Elected

As of June 1, 2021 the new Alumni Chapter Board has been elected. We are so excited to introduce you to them here. If you have any questions for any members of the Alumni Chapter Board or would like to join future meetings, please contact us at cosalum@gmu.edu .

President

Mark Monson, '74

BS Biology

Vice President

Paul Lewis, '05

PhD Environmental Science and Public Policy

Treasurer

Adam Carpenter, '19

PhD Environmental Science and Public Policy

Member-At-Large

Richard Friesner, '15

PhD Environmental Science and Public Policy

Member-At-Large

Michelle Ryan, '15

PhD Environmental Science and Public Policy

Not Pictured

Nick Walker, Member-At-Large

BA Integrative Studies, '09 & PhD Environmental Science and Public Policy, '19

Emma Gregory, Chair of the Mason Environmental Alumni Network

Subscribe to our email list.

BS Environmental Science, '20

The Mason Environmental Alumni Network is now live!

The Mason Environmental Alumni Network is now active and open to any interested Mason alumni. Our goal is to build a community of Mason alumni, from both inside and outside the College of Science, who are pursuing careers and other opportunities to help our environment, ecosystems, sustainability, climate, and related things we cherish. The goals of this community are to improve the sharing of ideas and resources, increase collaboration and change-making capacity, and provide encouragement, support and mentorship for current students and life-long alumni learners. If you are interested in joining, please fill out this information form. Questions? Email committee chair, Emma Gregory at ecoalumn@gmu.edu .

Solomon is first junior faculty member in Chemistry to secure NSF Career Award

Lee A. Solomon, an assistant professor in Chemistry, has secured the National Science Foundation's Faculty Early Career Development Award. He is the first junior faculty member in Chemistry to receive the grant totaling more than $450,000.

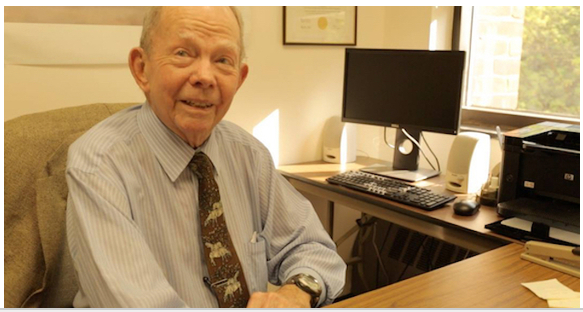
Read More

Mason Science News

Padhu Seshaiyer Named to new state STEM Education Advisory Board

George Mason University's Padmanabhan (Padhu) Seshaiyer is one of 10 people named to the new Virginia STEM Education Advisory Board that will advise Gov. Ralph Northam.

Read More



In Memoriam: Lee Talbot

Lee Talbot, 90, a professor in the Department of Environmental Science and Policy, died at home on April 27, 2021 following a battle with

A global ecologist and geographer with more than 50 years of experience in national and international environmental affairs, biodiversity conservation, management of wild living resources, environmental policies and institutions, and environment and development, Talbot is widely recognized as the author/co-author of the U.S. Endangered Species Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, CITES and the World Heritage Convention. A senior environmental advisor to World Bank and United Nations organizations, he supported ecological research and advising efforts in 134 countries.

The noted environmental researcher and adventurer also endowed a scholarship to help environmental science students. Click here to support students through the Lee and Marty Talbot Foreign Student Endowed Scholarship.

More About Lee Talbot's Life

Events & Announcements

Green Jobs Forum & Career Fair with Resilient Virginia

Thursday, August 26, 2021, 1-6:30pm ET

Registration is now open for the Leaders in Energy 8th Annual Green Jobs Forum and Career Fair with Resilient Virginia. At the Forum, you will be hearing from recruiters and those who have landed or created green jobs. There will also be opportunities for job seekers to meet with companies and organizations throughout the event and at the live streamed Career Fair.

The Leaders in Energy Forum will take place on Thursday, August 26th, from 1:30 – 4:00 pm EDT, followed by the Career Fair from 4:30 – 6:30 pm EDT. The events will be conducted as part of the Resilient Virginia Conference (virtual) from August 25-27, 2021.

Register

Future Potomac Science Center Pier Named in Honor of Dr. Don Kelso

On May 22, a group of over 30 former students, colleagues, and family gathered with Kelso at the Potomac Science Center to celebrate and thank him for his positive influence on their lives. The campaign to fund and build the **Don Kelso Learning Pier** is set to begin in September of 2021. If you'd like to support the pier campaign philanthropically, or would like to share your story of how Dr. Kelso impacted your time at Mason, please contact Audrey Kelaher at akelahe@gmu.edu.

Dr. Don Kelso and his wife Sandy Kelso enjoying the event program

Dr. Don Kelso at the future learning pier site, with the Don Kelso Learning Pier Committee members

Dr. Don Kelso surrounded by his wife, children and grandchildren at the future learning pier site

Event Highlights

Watch the Event Recording

To stay up-to-date on our events, you can follow our **calendar here**.

E-mail us for more information.

If you have a question you'd like us to answer in a future newsletter, please write to us!

Follow us on social media:

George Mason University | College of Science | Exploratory Hall | 4400 University Drive, MS 5C3 | Fairfax VA 22030 USA

**The George Mason University Foundation is a registered 501 (c)(3), EIN: 54-1603842.*
Your gift is tax deductible to the full extent allowed by the law.

Have you moved, changed your phone number and/or email address?
Update your information.

Share this email:

Manage your preferences | **Opt out** using **TrueRemove®**

Got this as a forward? **Sign up** to receive our future emails.

View this email **online**.

4400 University Drive Exploratory Hall 3200
Fairfax, VA | 22030 US

This email was sent to .
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

Subscribe to our email list.