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Wednesday, September 1, 2021 **science.gmu.edu**

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A message from the Dean

FERNANDO R. MIRALLES-WILHELM

COVID-19 FDA Vaccine Approval - Mile 18

by Fernando Miralles-Wilhelm

Over the past year, George Mason University scientists have carried out research on vaccine development in collaboration with four different countries in our BRL3 labs, our researchers have spent countless months developing novel and non-invasive saliva-based antibodies testing; fluid dynamic modelling of airborne virus particulates; in depth data science behind virus sentiment on social media and analysis of people movement and hospital bed availability; and even standing up vaccine distribution and testing sites for our communities.

As Dean of the College of Science, one could say I've had a rather unique and predominantly scientific view of the COVID-19 pandemic race.

A significant scientific milestone was reached Monday, August 23 when the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine, Comirnaty, garnered full FDA approval. According to the FDA press conference, after testing on 40,000+ individuals, rigorous review of virus manufacturing facilities and analysis of

symptomatic outcomes, the vaccine was 91% effective in stopping the spread of COVID-19 for those age 12 and older who received it.

But, here's more data...

Read full message

MASON SCIENCE COMMUNITY

Welcome Visiting Robinson Professor Hakeem Oluseyi

by Pamela Shepherd

The Office of the Provost recently announced astrophysicist, cosmologist, inventor, educator, science communicator, author, actor, and humanitarian Hakeem Muata Oluseyi as a Visiting Clarence J. Robinson Professor. Robinson Professors are distinguished professors in the liberal arts and sciences dedicated to undergraduate teaching and whose teaching and scholarship concern broad and fundamental intellectual issues.

Full announcement

Mason Science #FacultyFriday to highlight CDS assistant professor

The Society for Modeling and Simulation International (SCS) awarded Hamdi Kavak, Assistant Professor, Computational and Data Sciences (CDS), the 2021 Young Simulation Scientist Award. The award recognizes scientists and engineers under the age of 35 who demonstrate excellence and leadership qualities in the field of modeling and simulation. He is the first from Mason to receive this award.

Learn about the award

RESEARCH & DISCOVERY

Solomon developing environmentally responsive peptide material capable Of oxygen delivery

by Elizabeth Grisham

Lee Solomon, Assistant Professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry, and his collaborators are developing a blood substitute made from a novel peptide material which binds heme B—the same protein cofactor found in human hemoglobin.

More on the study

IN THE NEWS

Mason Science Dean receives Intergovernmental Personnel Act assignment with NASA

by Elizabeth Grisham

SpaceRef recently highlighted College of Science Dean Fernando R. Miralles-Wilhelm's appointment to an Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) assignment as a Senior Research Advisor with the Minority University Research and Education Project (MU REP) to support NASA's strategy for STEM Engagement.

More on his assignment

Happening at Mason

Mason Athletics launches new mobile app

Stay up-to-date on Mason athletics alerts, schedule, exclusive content, and gameday details by downloading the new George Mason Patriots app. To download the app to your smartphone or tablet, visit the Apple Store or Google Play and search for George Mason Athletics.

Download the app

Get discounts just by being a Mason employee

In partnership with Fairfax City and surrounding businesses, Mason faculty, staff, students, and retirees have access to a number of discounts. These include restaurants, fitness courses, hotels and travel, clothing, and more. Check out all available discounts online through Patriot Perks.

Start saving

Public Night - Evening Under the Stars
September 2, 2021 | 7 to 10 p.m.
Join the Mason Observatory for a lecture by Dr. Matthew Kenworthy from Leiden University.

CMAI Colloquium with Professor Meenakshi Singh
September 3, 2021 | 10 to 11 a.m.
Join Professor Meenakshi Singh for a lecture on "Investigating quantum speed limits with superconducting qubits." Registration required.

ScienceConnect
September 14, 2021 at Mason's Fairfax Campus and September 16, 2021 at Mason's SciTech Campus

Meet students, discuss your programs, and share research and professional opportunities with free food and chances to win Mason Science SWAG. Registration required.

Faculty Meeting featuring Q&A with Dean Miralles-Wilhelm
September 15, 2021
Submit your questions to Dean Miralles-Wilhelm by Friday, September 10, 2021: https://gmu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8exTTOtnDz4IVA2.

Mason Vision Series
September 27, 2021 | 7 p.m.
Join University Professor in AOES and Managing Director of COLA, Jagadish Shukla, for his lecture on "Climate Change: Science, Politics and Ethics."

Harvard Radcliffe Fellowship application: Science, Engineering, and Mathematics
September 30, 2021
Radcliffe fellows are exceptional scientists, writers, scholars, public intellectuals, practitioners, and artists whose work is making a difference in their professional fields and in the larger world.

See Full Calendar

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