Mason SCIENCE

Understand. Innovate. Succeed.

Thursday, October 7, 2021 **science.gmu.edu**

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In the ‘success business’ built on transparency, with opportunities to engage

by Fernando Miralles-Wilhelm

Last week I gave my first State of the College speech as Dean and leader of Mason’s science community. I was excited to share what I knew, what we had learned over the past year and where we hope to go in the short- and long-term future. Those who attended saw some of the data we are using to establish parameters for our priority efforts including compensation shifts, enrollment growth focus areas, and inclusive excellence opportunities.

Unlike a presidential State of the Union address with lots of partisan applause and one way dialogue, I shared information and took questions; some I had answers to, and others I’m cycling back with additional information in future faculty and staff sessions.

In the spirit of true transparency, I will continue to share what I know. Some attendees mentioned this was the first time they had seen such data (when I provided our standings in relation to other R-1s and Top 50

R-1s, our aspirational peers). Please know that our college leadership is working with the various teams at Mason to provide more updates and information as they become available. I shared my candid, honest impressions about our strengths, along with opportunities to change and evolve, based on our current conditions. I identified bold goals for the future of our 'success business,' including Crashing the Top 100.

Read full message

MASON SCIENCE COMMUNITY



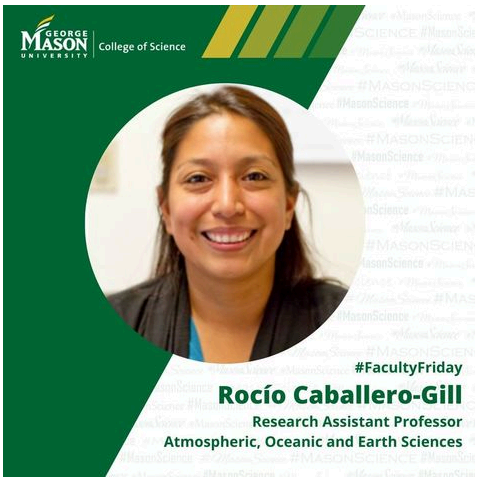
Science, Not Silence

by Zander Leon

In March 2020, four physics and astronomy students from under-represented groups came together to create a support system for other students along their academic journeys within the field. This effort created the student organization known as SPECTRUM: the Society for the Promotion of Equal Chances To Represent Underserved Minorities. SPECTRUM aims to foster a diverse and inclusive community among all Mason physics and astronomy students, faculty, and staff.

Learn about SPECTRUM

Mason Science #FacultyFriday highlights AOES research assistant professor



Our Hispanic Heritage Month celebration continues as we highlight Rocío Caballero-Gill, Research Assistant Professor, AOES. Caballero-Gill is a geologist whose research focuses on climatic and oceanographic change in the geologic past. Currently, she is part of the CycloCohort Program - an early-career springboard for inclusion, diversity, equity and justice focused leadership in geoscience and astronomy. She is also the co-founder of GeoLatinas, an organization that empowers Latinas to pursue and thrive in careers in earth and planetary sciences.

More on Caballero-Gill

RESEARCH & DISCOVERY



Baek and Tong developing emissions inventories

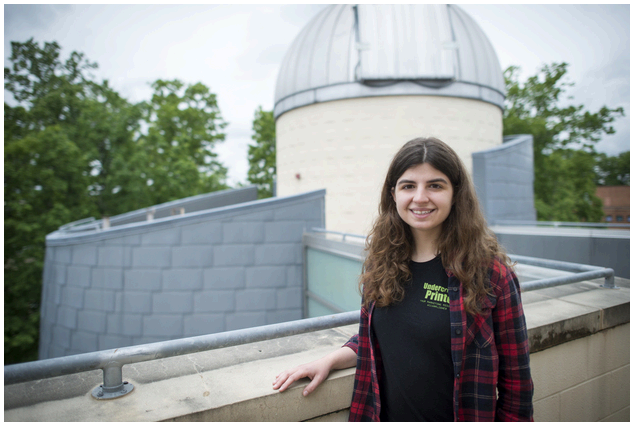
by Elizabeth Grisham

Bok Haeng Baek, Research Professor in Mason's Center for Spatial Information Science and Systems (CSISS), and Daniel Tong, Associate Professor, Atmospheric, Oceanic and Earth Sciences (AOES), are incorporating field measurement data and remote-sensing satellite data collected during the pandemic period to calibrate human-activity-based emissions inventory using Community Multiscale Air Quality (CMAQ) Modeling System simulations.

Explore this research

IN THE NEWS

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center features Mason alumna



Jenna Cann earned her BA and PhD in Physics from Mason, as well as a National Science Foundation Fellowship. She is now a postdoc at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, which recently featured her work as an early career scientist, what inspires her, and her path to becomming an astrophysicist.

Read the spotlight

Happening at Mason

Join the College of Science team for the Mason Nation Thriving Together 5K



Join our **College of Science team** this **October 15 to 17, 2021** for a virtual 5K to celebrate Mason's Family Weekend, Alumni Weekend, and Exercise is Medicine Month. Whether you decide to walk with a small group or on your own, we hope you will sport your College of Science gear and show off your Mason Pride. Be sure to register in advance for this **free** event and enter team name "College of Science."

Register to participate



Attend the mural dedication at the Potomac Science Center

Join TakeOne, a visiting artist from Hungary, for a dedication celebrating his most recent and largest photorealistic mural at Mason's Potomac Science Center. The dedication will take place **October 9 from 3 to 5 p.m.** with a chance to meet the artist. Commissioned by Murals at Mason, the piece will feature four different species native to the Potomac River area: a yellow swallowtail butterfly, a tree frog, a wood duck, and a North American river otter.

Register to attend

Events

CSS/CSI Colloquium: Complexity and Artificial Society Modeling Challenges
October 8, 2021 | 3 to 4:30 p.m.
Andreas Tolk, Senior Principal Chief Scientist, The MITRE Corporation, Adjunct Professor, Old Dominion University and Fellow of the Society for Modeling and Simulation will speak on "Lessons Learned from the C19HCC M&S Support – Complexity and Artificial Society Modeling Challenges."

Neuroscience Seminar Series with Holger Dannenberg
October 11, 2021 | 4 to 5 p.m.
The Neuroscience Seminar Series is back in a virtual format this Fall 2021. Learn about topics and issues related to neuroscience research from experts in multidisciplinary fields. Seminars are free and open to everyone.

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.

Breakfast with President Washington

October 15, 2021 | 9 to 10:45 a.m. | SciTech Campus

Students, staff, faculty, and SciTech community members are invited to gather on the front patio of Katherine G. Johnson Hall to greet Dr. and Mrs. Washington as they arrive on campus. Wear your Mason green and gold, grab your pom-poms, and help celebrate this new era in Mason's history.

See Full Calendar

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