Championing Science at Mason:

Welcome New Faculty

Ms. Thomas Lovejoy, professor of climate dynamics, chair of the Department of Atmospheric, Oceanic, and Earth Sciences, highlighted the environmental science opportunities Mason has to offer. As a renowned scientist and conservationist, Tom spent time in class answering questions about his career, the 2015 Nobel Peace Prize, combating climate change, and the diversity of his research. He’s also - you guessed it! - a Mason alum. This is the second of three college-specific New Faculty videos. Stay tuned for upcoming videos about our College of Humanities, Arts & Sciences and College of Health.

New Faculty Video Series

Two Upcoming Courses to Enhance Your Science and Policy Knowledge

Science and Policy

by Kat Lonsdorf

The lag in the move towards renewable energy

Thursday, September 17, 2020

science.gmu.edu

Humboldt Environmenal Science Professor

Wednesday, October 21, 2020 | 1 p.m.

September 21 - 25 | 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

STEARNS Center Innovations in Teaching & Learning (ITL) conference

Tuesday, September 22, 2020 | 11 a.m.

Friday, September 18, 2020 | 10 to 11 a.m.

Mathematical Modeling and Numerics for Nematic Liquid Crystals

of Maryland Distinguished University Professor.

in addition to being a leading scientist, and currently serves as a NIST Fellow and a University faculty member. Dr. Jennifer Sklarew, President of the American Physical Society, will moderate a fireside chat between University of Maryland’s Vice President for Research, Dr. Laurie Hinkley, and Dr. Sklarew.

Quantum Basics for the Curious: A Fireside Chat with Nobel Laureate shaders

by Jennifer Sklarew

Atmospheric, Oceanic and Earth Sciences

Panelists include:

Ms. Tom Lovejoy - Department of Atmospheric, Oceanic, and Earth Sciences

Dr. Jennifer Sklarew – American Physical Society

Dr. Larry Nafe – College of Science

Dr. Richard Pugh – College of Science

Dr. Thomas Lovejoy will also engage in a fireside chat with the Asian American and Pacific Islander Alliance (AAPI) and the Mason Council of Latinx Aspirational and Educational Organizations (COLA).

The global pandemic has changed the paradigm, but the dangers of climate change remain constant. That’s the message our researchers have been conveying, and we hope to continue to build and innovate to ensure the planet is more resilient.

The 2021 Ashoka U Universities: Designing Social Innovation Awards is just around the corner. The competition seeks to recognize universities that have made significant contributions to social innovation in the world.

This year’s competition focuses on university innovation in the context of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Mason is looking to receive funding for groundbreaking and influential research and establishing successful collaborations.

The theme of this year’s competition is, “Seeds of Change: Exploring Social Innovation in Education.”

I also described some of our influential and impactful female faculty who may not lead their fields, but paved the way for the next generation of researchers. Over the years, FOCUS has introduced 500+ young middle and high school girls to STEM. The program is designed to teach girls the skills they need to succeed in science, technology, engineering, and math fields.

One of our programs that supports future female scientists and engineers is the Females of Color Underrepresented in STEM program, which is open to all students. It’s a great way to help students understand the ways in which women have been historically excluded from STEM fields and how they can actively support diversity efforts.

I did some bragging on a number of fronts…for example:

82% of Mason’s students are women.

I made sure to mention that 61% of our undergrad science students are female and 50% of our graduate students are women – both stats that many universities only dream of achieving. And I told them about the need for women to participate in the growth of innovation.

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I also mentioned some of the recent accolades Mason has received for excellence in science education.

On August 11, Shanghai Ranking, lists Mason 52 in the world, while the Academic Ranking of World Universities, also known as the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings, places Mason 133 in the world. Mason’s space science and geography program ranks 13th in the nation and 33rd in the world. U.S. News & World Report ranks Mason 88 in its Best Global Universities List, up from 92 in 2019. When it comes to physics, Mason ranks 119 globally.

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