Focus on your horizon

I've thought about this a lot over the past week while we are in a topsy-turvy, disorienting journey. As it becomes clear that the U.S. election will not be fully resolved any time soon and COVID-19 is spiking strongly again in many communities, I feel like I need to pick a point on the horizon to help me walk. 

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I will often fanatically keep my eye on the horizon, avoiding any conversations or distractions that might take my focus away. For me, it is important to remind myself that there are things happening in the world that I cannot control, but there are things happening in the world that  I can control. I find that my ability to control what is happening in the world around me is diminished by focusing too much on the world itself.

Focus on your horizon.

Karen Akerlof's class "EVPP 336: Human Dimensions of the Environment" - the university's first designated Community Engagement and Civic Learning CECiL - encourages participants to reflect on their own actions throughout the Mason community.

"Mason Chooses Kindness" kicks off this November with a series of events designed to encourage students to fill out IRB-approved surveys on how COVID-19 has impacted their lives. Faculty are encouraged to share the survey link with their students and remind them that the course will have received IRB approval for a student-centered survey on how COVID-19 has impacted their lives.

For details, email or.

Learn more

Friday, November 20, 2020 | 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Health Disparities Multidisciplinary Research Roundtable
Mason Science Series: PEREC Protecting the Potomac
featuring College of Science alumna Doni Nolan

Undergraduate researches species of anadromous fish present in the Potomac River. The research focuses on river herring, two anadromous fish species of anadromous fish migration. Participating in the research are Kim de Mutsert, Natalie Burls, and Tracy Mason. The research is an effort to understand the impacts of the 2019 die-off on river herring populations.

On August 12, 2019, Cowalpache, a species of fish, experienced a die-off event, which led to the death of hundreds of thousands of fish. The die-off event was caused by low oxygen levels in the Potomac River, which resulted in the death of thousands of river herring. While the cause of the die-off is still unknown, researchers are working to better understand the factors that contributed to the event. The research will be published Thursday, January 21.

In this Issue

Research & Discovery
Message from the Dean
Stay Connected

Awards by
Dean's Awards

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