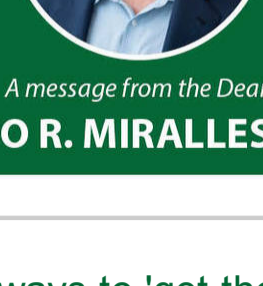


## In this Issue

- [Message from the Dean](#)
- [Mason Science Community](#)
- [Research & Discovery](#)
- [In the News](#)
- [Happening at Mason](#)
- [Events](#)



A message from the Dean

## FERNANDO R. MIRALLES-WILHELM

## Discovering STEM pathways to 'get there'

by [Fernando Miralles-Wilhelm](#)

When you ask an aspiring undergraduate student the age-old question, "What do you want to be when you 'grow up?'" some of the answers are changing. And we at Mason Science are encouraging those options to evolve.

There are many people who still respond with traditional responses like doctor, engineer, or astronaut with a desire to heal, build, or explore. And our Mason Science learning and research experiences help these students acquire the necessary scientific skills to succeed along these paths.

Yet, to be in the 'success business,' it is our responsibility at Mason Science to present pathways to both current and future scientific fields and provide unique, meaningful, even personalized opportunities for individuals to 'get there,' as one shapes wherever that professional destination may be.

And, as I mentioned in a [previous blog](#), it's especially our responsibility to present pathways to individuals who may not already be exposed to emerging or lesser-known scientific fields including computational data, geoinformation, climate, forensics, or materials science to our future workforce.

[Read full message](#)

## MASON SCIENCE COMMUNITY

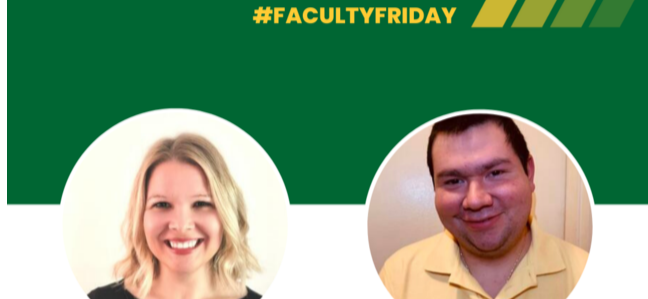
### Sharing Mason Science transfer program successes with the National Academies

by [Tracy Mason](#) and [Kerin Hilker-Balkissoon](#)

In June, [Kerin Hilker-Balkissoon](#), Mason Science Director of Educational and Career Pathways, spoke about Mason's transfer programs on a National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine panel within "[Building Defense Research Capacity at HBCUs, TCUs, HSIs, and ANNHISs Town Hall 3](#)". The talk focused specifically on how investment in the STEM transfer pipeline is a sound approach to career equity and supports the development of a regional defense labor force.



[More on this work](#)



**Allison H. Tomson**  
Professor  
Department of Biology

**Kevin Quant**  
Lab Manager  
Adjunct Faculty  
Department of Biology

### #FacultyFriday highlights anatomy and physiology scientists

The final #FacultyFriday of the month features our Anatomy and Physiology (A&P) scientists [Allison Tomson](#), Professor, and [Kevin Quant](#), Lab Manager and Adjunct Faculty, [Biology](#). As the new coordinator of BIOL 124/125 A&P, Professor Tomson is working hard to make these courses and labs the best they can be. Professor Tomson's passion for teaching is driven by the students and their desire to learn. [View the original Instagram post.](#)

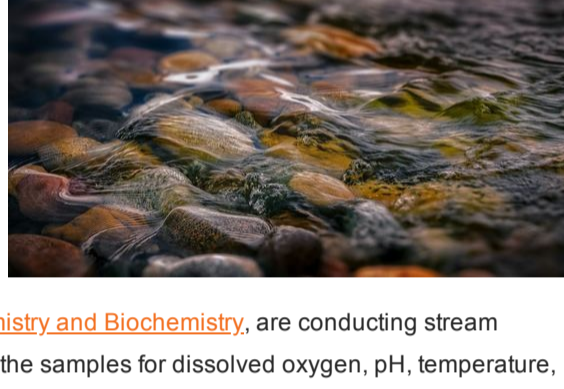
[See recent faculty highlights](#)

## RESEARCH & DISCOVERY

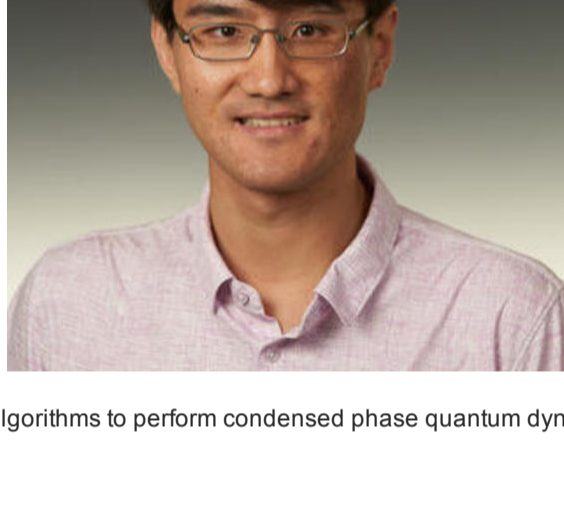
### Mason scientists conduct stream monitoring for the City of Fairfax

by [Elizabeth Grisham](#)

[R. Christian Jones](#), Professor/Director, [Potomac Environmental Research and Education Center](#) (PEREC), [Environmental Science and Policy](#), and [Benoit Van Aken](#), Associate Professor, [Chemistry and Biochemistry](#), are conducting stream monitoring for City of Fairfax. They are analyzing the samples for dissolved oxygen, pH, temperature, specific conductance, turbidity, nitrate, total phosphorous, and E. coli. *Photo by Robert Zunikoff on Unsplash.*



[More on their analysis](#)



### Wang conducting finite temperature simulation of non-markovian quantum dynamics

by [Elizabeth Grisham](#)

[Fei Wang](#), Assistant Professor, [Chemistry and Biochemistry](#), received funding from the National Science Foundation for the project: "Finite temperature simulation of non-Markovian quantum dynamics in condensed phase using quantum computers." For this research, Wang will develop efficient quantum algorithms to perform condensed phase quantum dynamics simulations on quantum computers.

[More in this research](#)

## IN THE NEWS

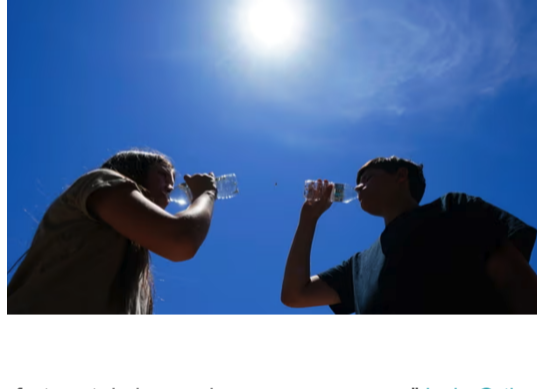
### The invisible consequences of heat on the body and mind

by [Rebecca Leber](#)

Daniel Vecellio, Postdoctoral Researcher with the [Virginia Climate Center](#) is quoted in a Vox story about the unseen mental, emotional, and physical toll the extreme heat takes. *Photo by Lauren Tamaki for Vox.*



[Full article](#)



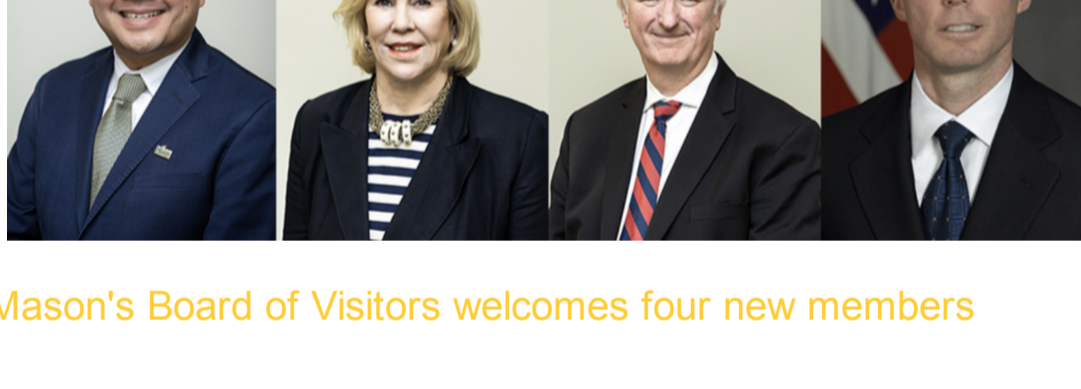
### 'A bad perfect storm': the US cities where temperatures have sizzled for 70 days

by [Betsy Reed](#)

*The Guardian* recently reported on the heatwave effecting much of the U.S. with some areas experiencing record high temperatures. "It's unfortunately becoming more common," [Luis Ortiz](#), Climate Researcher, [Atmospheric, Oceanic, and Earth Sciences](#) told the news outlet. *Photo by Ross D Franklin/AP.*

[Read full article](#)

## Happening at Mason



### Mason's Board of Visitors welcomes four new members

The George Mason University Board of Visitors last week officially welcomed four new members, including two alumni and a member returning to the board after two decades. The board also elected new officers. Gov. Glenn Youngkin announced the new appointees in late June. They are Armand Alacbay, JD '04; Dorothy "Deecy" Gray; Jeffrey Rosen; and Charles "Cully" Stimson, JD '92. Appointees to the 16-member BOV serve four-year terms.

[More on the new board members](#)



### Sign up for Mason Mobile ID

The Mason Mobile ID is a digital identification that is stored on a mobile device (iPhone, Apple Watch or Android). It allows users to verify their identity electronically without the need for a physical Mason ID. **IMPORTANT TO KNOW: The Mason Mobile ID is OPTIONAL but you may only choose the digital Mobile ID or the physical ID.**

The Mason community (students, faculty, and staff) has the choice between a physical Mason ID or the Mason Mobile ID. Once users activate their Mason Mobile ID online, their existing Mason ID card will automatically deactivate. To switch from the Mason Mobile ID to a physical Mason ID card, please visit the Mason Card Office. There is a \$25 fee for card replacement.

[Learn more about Mason Mobile ID](#)

## Events

**Student Parent Outdoor Fun Day**  
August 5, 2023 | 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. | Sub 1 Quad  
*Contemporary Student Services is excited to host a Student Parent Outdoor Fun Day. They will provide food and have a variety of activities. Undergrad and grad students are welcome and please feel free to bring your support system, family, and kids.*

**The Science of Cars**  
August 13, 2023 | Noon to 4 p.m. | Fairfax Campus, Lot L  
*Join the College of Science for its second "The Science of Cars Car Show" on the Fairfax Campus in Parking Lot L, benefiting the Elissa Williams Memorial Scholarship Fund to support Mason Science graduate students. The event will showcase more than 200 cars, food trucks, raffles, and other activities.*

**Faculty/Staff Enrichment Day: Call for proposals**  
August 18, 2023 | No later than 5 p.m.  
*The event in October on Mason's Fairfax campus will provide opportunities for personal and professional growth by exploring new paths and unlocking hidden potential within ourselves and our work. The Organizational Development and Learning team in Human Resources is seeking innovative workshop proposals.*

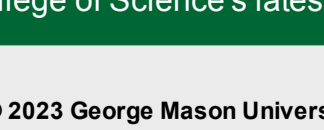
**AOES welcome and welcome back**  
August 25, 2023 | 10 to 11 a.m. | Exploratory Hall, 1309  
*Say hello to incoming and current AOES students at the start of the 2023 fall semester.*

**SSB Fall 2023 New Student Orientation**  
August 25, 2023 | 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. | Discovery Hall Auditorium and Virtual  
*Say hello to incoming and current SSB students at the start of the 2023 fall semester.*

**Save the date: mark your syllabus for ScienceConnect 2023**  
September 12, 2023 | 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. | Fairfax Campus  
September 14, 2023 | 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. | SciTech Campus  
*Encourage your students to attend. Meet Mason Science students while discussing your programs and sharing research and professional opportunities with free food and chances to win Mason Science SWAG.*

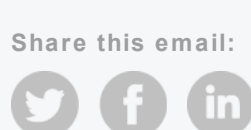
[See Full Calendar](#)

## Stay Connected



[Read the College of Science's latest annual report](#)

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