



OFFICE OF
LATINX, ASIAN, AND
NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS

CELEBRATE

Hispanic Heritage Month Event

What: Wright State University Virtual STEMM Panel

When: Noon to 1:30 p.m., Monday, Sep. 21, 2020

Where: WebEx virtual meeting

at <https://wright.webex.com/meet/mia.honaker>

or participate by phone by dialing 1-415-655-0003

then enter access code: 478 945 093

Hispanic Heritage Month Virtual Discussion Panel: Engaging Latinos in STEMM

The Office of LatinX, Asian, and Native American (LANA) Affairs, Wright State University in Dayton Ohio invites you to attend our Virtual STEMM Panel where you'll be able to hear inspiring stories from Latino/Hispanic students and leaders in government, industry, and academia throughout the Ohio Miami Valley. Learn about the amazing career opportunities in Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, and Medicine, and be encouraged by the incredible internship and scholarship opportunities for STEMM students.

Attendees can participate by phone, tablet, or computer. Panelists will offer a brief introduction and then engage with questions, answers and discussion about entering the STEMM professions, developing a rewarding career, and most importantly, bringing up the next generation.

Panelists

Aurea Rivera, Riverside Research – Ms. Rivera is Senior Technical Project Manager at Riverside Research. In 2013, following a highly distinguished career with the US Air Force where she



retired a Senior Leader, she launched Imagineering Results Analysis Corporation that applies engineering, science, and information technologies to a variety of applications. She is a staunch proponent of STEMM and can always be found coaching and mentoring young engineering students. Ms. Rivera also holds multiple certifications in project management and is a registered Professional Engineer in the State of Ohio.

Miguel Maldonado, US Air Force Research Lab (AFRL) – Mr. Maldonado currently serves as special Liaison for the US Air Force Research Lab to Headquarters, Air Combat Command. He



previously served as the Chief of the Fuels and Energy Branch of the Propulsion Directorate at the Air Force Research Lab. Miguel also led the Air Force Research Lab's Diversity Council, served as Region 6 Vice President of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE), and co-founded the SHPE Southwest Ohio Professional Chapter.



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Dr. Silvia Newell is an Associate Professor at Wright State University in Dayton, OH. She has a Ph.D. degree in Geosciences from Princeton University and did a postdoc at Boston University. She has worked on biogeochemical cycling of nitrogen in aquatic environments from Gulf of Mexico and the Arabian Sea to Lakes Erie and Taihu. Currently, her work at Wright State focuses on nitrogen as a driver of harmful algal blooms in eutrophic Lake Erie, Lake Okeechobee, Lake Taihu (China), and Estonian lakes, as well as local research on the Great Miami River and Ohio wetlands. She is the President of the Lake Erie Area Research network and the co-Chair of the Great Lakes HABs Collaborative.



Dr. Samuel Rivera is a Research Engineer at Matrix Research in Beavercreek, Ohio who specialized in problems of machine learning and pattern recognition. After graduating as an Electrical Engineer from The Ohio State University in 2012, he spent two years as a postdoctoral researcher studying cognitive development and the mechanisms underlying concept and language learning. He now does applied research within industry that leverages his machine learning and data science expertise.



Dr. Megan Rúa is Assistant Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at Wright State University. Dr. Rúa earned a Bachelor of Science in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from Rice University and a Ph.D. degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She completed NSF funded postdocs at the University of Mississippi and the National Institute of Mathematical and Biological Sciences in Knoxville, Tennessee. Her research seeks to understand the ecological and evolutionary processes that structure plant microbial relationships. Research from her lab currently focuses on capturing microbial function to restore degraded soils in both natural and applied settings. She is a 2019-2020 awardee of the Wright State University Presidential Early Career Award.



Dr. Michael A. Saville is currently Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering at Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio. He completed the Ph.D., M.S., and B.S. degrees in electrical engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL, the Air Force Institute of Technology at Wright Patterson AFB, OH, and Texas A&M University in College Station, TX, respectively. He teaches courses in electromagnetics, radar and senior design. His current research includes machine learning and radar imaging. He has over 50 published articles and serves as an Associate Editor for PIERS Journal and IET Electronics Letters. He previously served 27 years in the US Air Force; first as an enlisted electronics technician, and later as a commissioned officer in engineering jobs of radar, electronic warfare systems, engineering management, and Deputy Head, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Air Force Institute of Technology. Dr. Saville is a Senior Member of IEEE, a registered Professional Engineer, a Life Member of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE), advisor to the student chapters of Tau Beta Pi and SHPE, and a Past President of the SHPE Southwest Ohio Professional Chapter.



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PANEL

Moderator: Dr. Mike Saville (Wright State University)

Panelist: Mr. Miguel Maldonado (AFRL)

Panelist: Dr. Silvia Newell (Wright State University)

Panelist: Dr. Sam Rivera (Matrix Research)

Panelist: Ms. Aurea Rivera (Riverside Research)

Panelist: Dr. Meghan Rúa (Wright State University)

AGENDA

Noon [10 min]: Attendees login, arrive virtually

12:10 [3 min] Dr. Saville opens event, provides format instructions and introduces panel.

12:13 [3 min]: Ms. Aurea Rivera gives personal introduction

12:16 [3 min]: Professor Meghan Rúa gives personal introduction

12:19 [3 min]: Mr. Miguel Maldonado gives personal introduction

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12:22 [3 min]: Dr. Samuel Rivera gives personal introduction

12:25 [3 min]: Professor Silvia Newell gives personal introduction

12:28: [40 min] Open Q&A from virtual attendees with moderation by Dr. Saville.

13:08 [5 min] Dr. Saville thanks panel, solicits feedback from attendees, closes event.