Scientist in the Spotlight: Epidemiology and Mechanical Engineering

August 31, 2018

Epidemiology
Nick Generous, with the Lab's Information Systems and Modeling group, will be available to chat about how new social media tools help researchers improve disease forecasting. Understanding influenza or other infectious disease dynamics and forecasting their impact is fundamental for developing prevention and mitigation strategies. To do this, researchers at Los Alamos (including Generous) combined modern data assimilation methods with Wikipedia access logs and CDC influenza-like illness reports to create a weekly forecast for seasonal influenza. These techniques can be applied to other illnesses as well.

Mechanical Engineering
Isaac Salazar, a mechanical engineer at the Lab, will be here to talk about how experimental variables can be used to improve science. If that’s not enough, you can also make and fly a paper helicopter. (Yes, if you make one you can take it home with you to continue the fun and learning.)

Join us every second Saturday of the month for Scientist in the Spotlight, a program featuring scientists that have been certified for public outreach through the museum’s Scientist Ambassador Academy. These scientists will be in the Museum to talk with visitors for a couple of hours about their favorite science, technology, engineering, or math (STEM) subject. Conversations are intended for all ages and include interactive hands-on activities that make learning easy and fun. Learn more about the Scientist Ambassador academy.

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