Dear Readers,

I am writing to update you on a few upcoming events and developments at George Mason University.

**MASON SCIENCE COMMUNITY**

- **There's still time to vote.** The Mason Science Community is invited to vote for the College of Science's Outstanding Faculty, Outstanding Program, and Outstanding Student By-Polls. Voting closes at midnight May 6, 2021. Visit the College of Science’s Event Calendar to learn more.

**RESEARCH & DISCOVERY**

- **Researchers test Mason wastewater** for early symptoms of COVID-19. Researchers from the Center for the Advancement of Well-Being have been testing wastewater samples from the university's two residence halls to catch potential outbreaks early. Read the full story here.

**IN THE NEWS**

- **Lovejoy warns that the Amazon rainforest has reached a critical point.** Dr. Thomas Lovejoy, who coined the term "biodiversity" in 1980, recently interviewed on CBS News about changes to the Amazon rainforest and the recent fire season. Read the full interview here.

- **Dean's Blog: Proud of our team.** Dean Gerald Weatherspoon shares his pride in the team's accomplishments over the past week, including a Kentucky Derby victory by Medina Spirit and Professor Jagadish Shukla's election to the National Academy of Sciences. Read the full blog post here.

- **The university-wide commencement ceremony will be virtual.** The Commencement 2021 ceremony is set for 2 p.m. on Friday, May 14, 2021. More information is available here.

Please stay connected and visit our website for more updates.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]