Mason Science
Understanding Innovates.

Message from the Dean

Dear Mason Science Community,

Today, I write to you and our Mason Science community as we begin a new academic year. The start of each academic year is a time when our campus comes together and the Mason community is reminded why we do what we do. These sentiments are especially poignant this year as we reflect on the past year and the ever-present challenges and opportunities it has brought.

Throughout 2020, we have looked beyond our unimaginable fear of a global pandemic, bolstered by the hope of a safe campus, classroom, and laboratory environment or the evolving ability to leverage technology to build meaningful virtual connections, all to provide a high quality science education, research, and outreach to the broader community.

Mandela also said, "Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world." And, "Your choices reflect your hopes, not your fears." Both quotes are from Mandela, the great anti-apartheid revolutionary, Nobel Peace Prize winner, and former president of South Africa.

"Hope" helps us stay the course even during uncertain and unprecedented times. These sentiments appear on our t-shirts, stickers, and social media channels as we continue to adapt to the changing realities of our world.

So, what does the future hold for Mason Science? As our faculty and staff, we are engaged in research and teaching that is critical and timely with respect to the biggest challenges we face in today’s world, such as climate change, pandemics, and cybersecurity.

We welcome you into our community and look forward to working together on these big important challenges. It is our hope that Mason Science can continue to be a source of innovation, inspiration, and hope in the years to come.

Many may recognize this quote from Nelson Mandela, the great anti-apartheid revolutionary, Nobel Peace Prize winner, and former president of South Africa. These sentiments appear on our t-shirts, stickers, and social media channels as we continue to adapt to the changing realities of our world.

At the beginning of this semester, we selected a few meaningful quotes to help guide us through these unprecedented times. These quotes include:

- "Your choices reflect your hopes, not your fears." - Nelson Mandela
- "In the midst of chaos and destruction, create order." - Mike Greene
- "When the world falls asleep, the stars shine for you." - Pablo Neruda

We hope these quotes provide comfort and guidance as we navigate the challenges ahead.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to Mason Science.

Best regards,

Dean Fernando R. Miralles-Wilhelm