Science instructional growth and creative engagement

To the Mason Science Community,

I am excited to share that Science instructional growth and creative engagement have been robust over the past year.

First, in terms of enrollment, the College of Science saw a 5.3% growth in enrollment compared to the Fall 2019 semester. This growth includes both undergraduate and graduate students. Additionally, the College generated an increase of over five thousand credit hours (7.2%) compared to the Fall 2019 semester. This growth can be attributed to several factors, including new programs such as climate dynamics (AOES), neuroscience, and forensics.

The College of Science is also experiencing double-digit growth across all undergraduate and graduate science programs, with the majority of growth coming from the traditional sciences like chemistry, systems biology, and physics and astronomy.

Another factor contributing to the growth is the college's increased presence in online education. The percentage of online students in the College of Science grew by 6.4% from Fall 2019 to Fall 2020, with 59% of undergraduate and 42% of graduate students taking at least one online course.

In terms of creative engagement, the college is experiencing significant growth in research activity. The percentage of sponsored research was 58% this fall compared to 32% in Fall 2019, with 659 sponsored research and creative activity proposals. This growth is a testament to the college's commitment to research excellence.

The College of Science is also making strides in diversity and inclusion. As part of the Women Building Bio conference, the college is sponsoring the event, waiving attendance fees for faculty, staff, and students so all can freely participate in the annual event which brings bio-science PhD student and ASSIP alumna, Marissa Howard and a high school student from the College's FOCUS program.

In summary, the College of Science is experiencing robust growth in enrollment and creative engagement, driven by both traditional and innovative approaches. The college remains committed to providing a top-quality education and fostering a diverse and inclusive community.

Yours truly,
[Signature]
[Name]