Dear Friends,

As we prepare for students to return to campus this August, it is with excitement and careful planning that we are looking forward to the next academic year. Over the past 18 months, we have seen incredible resilience from our Mason community, particularly our students, faculty, and staff. We are proud of all you have accomplished during this unprecedented time.

Mason has done an admirable job, proactively preparing for the return of students. However, the Delta variant is entering the U.S. and we need to be vigilant in following all public health guidelines to prevent the spread of this virus. This includes being fully vaccinated, wearing a mask indoors on campus, and maintaining physical distance. As vaccine providers, we are excited to be back on campus, resuming some aspects of our pre-pandemic normal.

In the past few weeks, Mason President Gregory Washington had the full support of the Executive Council, as well as the Board of Visitors, in announcing a vaccination requirement for students, faculty, and staff. Proactive health measures, vaccination, and other prevention measures will help our environment, ecosystems, sustainability, climate, and related things we care about.

Mason has a long-standing history of requiring students to be immunized and the requirement for faculty and staff to get vaccinated in order to work, study, and live on campus. This requirement is consistent with Mason's longstanding history of requiring students to be immunized and is part of keeping a healthy, safe environment. Mason is joining the growing community of universities that require all students, faculty, and staff to be vaccinated.

In an effort to continue to protect our community, Mason recently announced that we will require all students, faculty, and staff to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 in order to attend classes and work on campus for the fall semester. This requirement includes proof of vaccination before the start of the semester and the ability to provide documentation of an approved medical or religious exemption.

As of June 1, 2021 the new Alumni Chapter Board has been elected. We are so excited to work with the new board and would love to hear from you! Whether you are part of the Alumni Chapter Board or would like to join future meetings, please contact us at ecoalumn@gmu.edu.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

The Mason Environmental Alumni Network is now active and open to any interested Mason students, alumni, and friends. As of June 1, 2021 the new Alumni Chapter Board has been elected. We are so excited to work with the new board and would love to hear from you! Whether you are part of the Alumni Chapter Board or would like to join future meetings, please contact us at ecoalumn@gmu.edu.