The campus is abuzz with excitement as Mason Science officially kicked off the fall semester. In celebration of this momentous occasion, the College has organized a series of events that are sure to excite and engage our community.

### Mason Science Community

We're excited to announce the virtual Women Building Bio conference, scheduled for Thursday, September 3, 2020, from Noon to 1 p.m. This event is designed to highlight the contributions of women in the fields of biology and bioinformatics. The conference will feature presentations and discussions led by distinguished speakers from Mason and beyond. Join us online to learn more about the work of these remarkable women and to connect with fellow bioinformatics enthusiasts.

### Research & Discovery

In the latest issue of Happening at Mason, you'll find updates on the latest research conducted by our faculty and students. Read about the discovery of AU Mix B, a planet about the size of Neptune, and its orbit around a nearby star. This finding is the result of an extensive search using the Spitzer Space Telescope and TESS— groundbreaking work that expands our understanding of the cosmos.

### In the News

The world is facing an uncertain future, but at Mason, we continue to push forward in our pursuit of knowledge and discovery. Read about the efforts of our professors and students to combat tuberculosis, the world's leading infectious disease. Learn about the innovative test developed by Mason scientists and the efforts of our students to advance the field of medicine.

### Message from the Dean

Welcome to the Fall 2020 semester, Mason Science faculty and staff. My sincere thanks to all of you for your ingenuity and tireless efforts to modify our safe, engaging learning environment based on the uncertain times we find ourselves in. It takes courage and fortitude to continue your educational instruction and research in these challenging times.

And I want to thank you for doing your part. We've got your back. Take some time to celebrate the start of the fall semester—also to reconnect with other science faculty and staff. We hope to 'see' all faculty and staff at the college's annual event which brings bio- and systems biology together. Just use our promo code WBB2020.

We've got your back.