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 safety requirements we all must follow. I am greatly encouraged by the enthusiasm and commitment of our students, their families, our faculty, staff and administrators to deliver on our mission. I hope you take advantage of the opportunities to stay connected with our community throughout this semester.

We've Got Your Back

Dr. Kamaljeet Sanghera, Executive Director of the Institute for Digital InnovAtion (IDIA), has been named Interim Director of the Center for Systems Science. She will serve in that capacity until her permanent appointment is made. Dr. Sanghera has been with Mason since 2010 and is currently the Associate Director for IDIA. She has a long history of working with Mason, including serving as the Director of the National Science Foundation’s Center for BioTechnology and Biomedical Sciences and Director of the Center for System Science.

ScienceConnect2020

The fourth annual ScienceConnect is taking place on September 1. This virtual event will feature a range of different sessions, including presentations by Mason faculty and staff. The event is open to all Mason Science students, as well as their families and their instructors. You can find more information about the ScienceConnect event on the Mason Science website.

Message from the Dean

In his message to the Mason Science community, Dean Fernando R. Miralles-Wilhelm wrote, "We've Got Your Back." He thanked all of the Mason Science faculty and staff for their hard work and dedication during these uncertain times. He also encouraged everyone to continue working together to make Mason Science the best it can be.

In this issue, you will find information about the upcoming VA Women Building Bio conference, which will be held on September 16. You can find more information about this conference on the Mason Science website. There is also an article about the recent study by College of Science professors on the spread of the coronavirus. This study indicates that contact tracing is effective in controlling the spread of the virus.