You've Got Your Back

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 guidelines from the CDC and Virginia Department of Health. We're all working hard to ensure that our students, their families, our faculty, staff and administrators can continue to meet the challenges of the coronavirus pandemic.

And I want to thank you for doing your part.

We'veGotYourBack

In Recent News

**NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS)**

The TESS mission completes its primary mission as NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite and enters its extension mission. TESS, launched in March 2018, will search for exoplanets around 200 of the closest stars to Earth. By surveying the sky for two years and identifying 200 exoplanets, TESS will help us learn more about the universe.

**Mason Scientists Develop Urine Test to Detect Tuberculosis**

Mason scientists develop a urine test that detects tuberculosis (TB) in humans. The test was developed by a team of researchers led by Dr. Kamaljeet Sanghera, Associate Professor of Information Science and Technology. The test is being tested on a group of 200 students from the College's FOCUS program.

**Argonne National Laboratory and the John von Neumann Fellowship at Sandia National Laboratories**

Dr. Kamaljeet Sanghera, Associate Professor of Information Science and Technology, has been selected as a member of the John von Neumann Fellowship at Sandia National Laboratories. She will work on research in applied mathematics at Argonne National Laboratory and the John von Neumann Fellowship at Sandia National Laboratories.

**Student Wins Prestigious Fellowship**

Alumna earns numerous postdoc offers this past spring. Her cutting-edge research and academic excellence have landed her prestigious fellowships in the country—the Wilkinson Fellowship at Argonne National Laboratory. She also was the runner-up for two of the more prestigious fellowships in the country—the Wilkinson Fellowship at Argonne National Laboratory and the John von Neumann Fellowship at Sandia National Laboratories.

**NASA Awards $4.6 Million for Student-Faculty Collaborative Research**

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) awarded $4.6 million to Mason through two contracts to conduct collaborative research between faculty and students.

**Student Wins Prestigious Fellowship**

Alessandra Luchini, Mason doctoral student, has been selected as a Wilkinson Fellow at Argonne National Laboratory. She will work on research in applied mathematics at Argonne National Laboratory and the John von Neumann Fellowship at Sandia National Laboratories.

**Student Wins Prestigious Fellowship**

In this Issue

**Message from the Dean**

By: Amy Adams and Tracy Mason

Happening at Mason

Mason President and Science Dean Announce Center for Quantum Building (CQ) Named the Amanda and Joseph Forster Center for Quantum Building

Washington, D.C. — Mason President and Science Dean announced the Amanda and Joseph Forster Center for Quantum Building on Wednesday, September 2 from 2 to 6 p.m. The center will be dedicated to advancing quantum science and technology at Mason.

**LGBTQ+ Students Selected for Commonwealth of Virginia’s Diversity Scholars Program**

Seven LGBTQ+ students were selected for the Commonwealth of Virginia’s Diversity Scholars Program. The program provides a full scholarship to all students who are LGBTQ+ and accepted to Virginia colleges.

**USC — Seventy-Two Scholars Selected as USC Presidential Fellows**

The University of Southern California has selected 72 students as Presidential Fellows for the 2020-2021 academic year. The fellows will receive full tuition, health care, and a stipend.

**Women Building Bio Conference**

Women Building Bio conference will be held on September 16.

**Contact Tracing Effective in Controlling Spread of Coronavirus**

A recent study by College of Science professors Ali Zomorodian and Haluk Caglayan indicates that contact tracing is an effective way to control the spread of the coronavirus. The study was published this month in the journal of the American Physical Society.

**Music Concerts — Travelers Great Distances, Infecting New Populations**

Music concerts—and travels—great distances, infecting new populations. A recent study by College of Science professors Ali Zomorodian and Haluk Caglayan indicates that contact tracing is an effective way to control the spread of the coronavirus.