Welcome to the Fall 2020 semester, Mason Science faculty and staff. My sincere thanks to all of you for your hard work and dedication throughout the uncertain times. Yet, move forward we will.

Dr. Kamaljeet Sanghera, Mason's Institute for BioHealth Innovation and the College of Science are sponsoring the upcoming VA student from the College's FOCUS program.

The Mason Science community is invited to celebrate the fall semester by participating in the fourth annual ScienceConnect. This year's theme is "ScienceFest," combining departmental activities and special events.

On Wednesday, September 2, from 2 to 6 p.m., the event will feature a panel discussion on "Forming Successful Learning Pods: Insights from Public Health Education." Attendees will have the opportunity to network with other science faculty and staff, as well as engage with Mason Science students.

In addition, District Trivia will be held from 5 to 6 p.m., allowing participants to test their knowledge and compete for prizes.

The event will be held at the Science Bldg, MA Science Center, and registration is required to attend.

In the News

**TAKE A BREAK**

The pandemic has highlighted the importance of mental health and well-being. In this edition of Mason's In the News, we highlight stories related to mental health and how Mason is supporting its students and faculty.

- **Mental Health Series**
  - "The Power of Play for Mental Health" by Buzz McClain
  - "The Importance of Sleep for Mental Health" by John Hollis

- **Focus on Student Success**
  - "Aspiring to Greatness: Student Success Stories" by Juliana DeSalle

- **Innovative Research**
  - "New Vaccine Could Treat Tuberculosis" by Aishwarya Ranganathan
  - "AU Microscopii" by Paul Scott Anderson

**Upcoming Events**

- **Fourth Annual ScienceConnect**
  - September 2, 2020
  - 2 to 6 p.m.
  - "Forming Successful Learning Pods: Insights from Public Health Education"

- **Fourth Annual ScienceConnect**
  - September 3, 2020
  - Noon to 1 p.m.
  - "Technology Experts"