

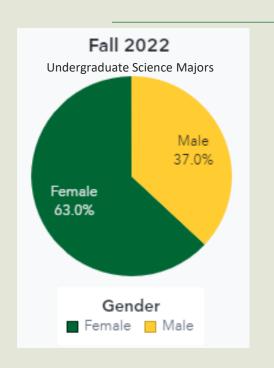
Support for College of Science Students

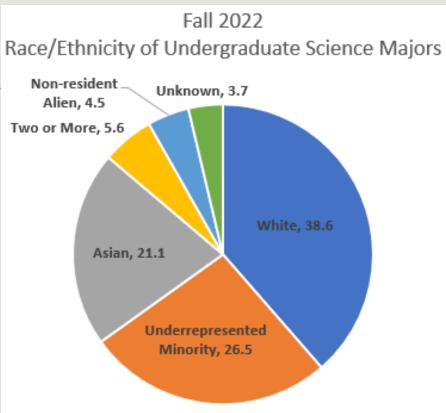
Undergraduate Council January 2023





An Approach as Diverse as Our Student Body





With a significant portion of our enrollment being in Mason Core courses, we perceive every Mason student as a College of Science student.

Our Student Support Toolbox

"Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes courage is the quiet voice at the end of the day saying, 'I will try again tomorrow'."—
Mary Anne Radmacher

- University resources (CAPS, Writing Center, MSSC, etc.)
- Advising
- Learning Assistants and the STEM Accelerator
- Summer Programs
- Mathematics Support
- Mentoring, Research, and Community
- Administrative Outreach
- Funding

Advising

- Undergraduate Coordinators assigned to each of our 13 majors along with faculty and staff advisors who assist with the advising of COS students.
- Midterm C- grade reports and academic standing for each dept/program for proactive advising.

Learning Assistant (LA) Program (STEM Accelerator)

- ~100 undergrad LAs each semester working with ~40 faculty in ~40 courses in 8 departments.
- 10 hours/week total commitment.
- Working with students in active-learning courses.
- Running review sessions and office hours outside of class.
- Weekly meetings with faculty mentors.
- Weekly pedagogy seminar for first-time LAs.



Summer Programs

- STEM Bridge Camp
 - Biology/chemistry and math/physics/engineering tracks.
- One week in the summer.
- Building a cohort.
- UNIV 108 follow-up section.
- Math Boot Camp: Preparing for Math Placement Test.

Mathematics Support

"Mathematics knows no races or geographic boundaries; for mathematics, the cultural world is one country."
- David Hilbert

- New Placement Test software with customized remediation and policy changes that allow additional attempts.
- Dedicated bootcamps at the beginning of the semester, available to students in the Calculus sequence, to help fill prerequisite knowledge gaps.
- Increased emphasis on active learning in the classroom.
- In-Person and Online tutoring available to all students in 100-200 level Math courses.

Mentoring, Research, and Community

- "I AM" Biology Peers Mentoring program pairs incoming freshman with experienced juniors and seniors to overcome the challenges of transitioning from high school to college life as a biology major.
- Aspiring Scientists' Summer Internship Program (ASSIP).
- Over a dozen science-related student organizations.



Administrative Outreach

- Dean-level communications to help students maintain degree progress:
 - Academic standing outreach and retention services.
 - Registration reminders.
 - Waitlist outreach.

Funding

- The COS Student Emergency Fund: To provide emergency funding to students at the discretion of the Dean. \$100k has already been distributed.
- Learning Assistants: Paid \$2k/semester (funded by college, departments, and grants)



Questions?