

Dear Parents of Students in the Class of 2022:

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones feeling healthy, safe, and encouraged. Over the past several months, I have met with countless students and families, representing diverse social identities, financial profiles, and geographical regions, who have shared with me their stories of struggle, resilience, and optimism. I am hopeful that as a community, we will maintain the strength of body and spirit so needed during these challenging times.

We have been working hard all summer and we are prepared to welcome back your student regardless of their choice to return to the physical campus or study remotely this fall. We are also looking forward to support those who have chosen to take a brief [Leave of Absence](#) for the fall semester. To learn more about the reactivation and community care guidelines in place for returning students, faculty, and staff, please visit [the campus reactivation website](#).

I am particularly excited about the Class of 2022's entry into their junior year. No longer novice to the world of college like their first-year peers, juniors have growing confidence in themselves and their academic path. While typically students in their junior year build a study abroad experience into their fall or spring college journey, the current public health crisis have necessitated some modifications to the plan. Until these opportunities may be revisited, please encourage your student to explore the robust set of [courses](#) available at Wesleyan that may continue to excite and broaden their academic and cultural interests and goals.

All juniors have either declared a major or have arranged a major deferral in order to complete prerequisite courses in the Fall. Although we have modified some aspects of [course preregistration](#), [Drop/Add](#), and other aspects of course management (e.g. online forms, office hours, social activities), most juniors are familiar with the basic infrastructure of the processes at Wesleyan and positioned well to manage the administrative tasks they must complete.

Please encourage your students to seek the assistance of the various resources available to them so that they may experience good success and minimal setbacks during this important year. Students should review their WesPortal for any updates and forms that require their attention. Especially important for 1<sup>st</sup> semester juniors is knowledge about their major advisor. Many students forget to review the link in their WesPortal where they may identify the name and contact information of the faculty member that their new academic department has assigned to advise them in their major. Besides discipline-specific advice, many faculty advisors are also great resources for career development as they are familiar with the graduate school and professional paths pursued by earlier graduates in their disciplines.

Students should send an email to their advisor and arrange a time for a virtual meeting. If for some reason, a student finds that there is no major advisor listed, please instruct the student to contact me. In fact, students should consult with me if they experience any sort of difficulty during their enrollment at Wesleyan. As a member of the Office of Academic Advancement and the Class Dean for your student, I will continue to be available throughout the year to discuss all matters and point students in the

direction of academic and personal support. COVID forced me to enhance my online presence, so now, rather than back and forth emails to identify a meeting time, students can sign up using [a calendar link](#) for individual advising meetings. Additionally, those meetings now take place over Zoom, where students can chat with me in the comforts of their rooms (on campus or at home) and students may invite parents to join in the discussion.

Please feel free to let me know if you, have any questions or concerns. I ask that you write the phrase "Parent Message" in the subject heading of your emails to me to draw my attention to your non-Wesleyan email address.

In the meantime, we are ready for the first day of classes on August 31 and the new and interesting adventure ahead! I wish you and your student a safe and enjoyable early Fall, and please do not hesitate to contact me, if you have questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

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