

Greetings,

I hope this message finds you and your families doing well in the midst of such a challenging time. No one could have imagined that we would be dealing with a pandemic of this magnitude in this way, but here we are. This would have been a time for your students to lay out on Foss Hill, enjoying the sun and the beautiful landscape that comes with the arrival of spring. Or perhaps your student was abroad taking in the sights and sounds of an awe-inspiring learning experience that was painfully cut short. They would have also been preparing to say to goodbye to friends in the upcoming weeks. Sadly, they all had to say goodbye to many friends a lot sooner than planned with ambiguity as to when they would be able to say hello again in person. My sincere hope now is that you're all safe, healthy, and weathering the uncertainty of this global pandemic with resolve and compassion. And it's important now, maybe more so than ever, for us to continue to support each other moving forward.

I also write to you with the usual reminders about the end of the semester. Classes will end on Wednesday, May 6, followed by reading period and final exams from Thursday, May 7 through Monday, May 11, and Tuesday, May 12 through Friday, May 15. Your students are in the throes of pre-registration and scheduling for their last year on campus as well. To receive one's diploma, a student must meet all four of [Wesleyan's degree requirements](#): 32.00 credits without oversubscription, completion of a major, residency (six semesters for most students, but four or five if a junior or sophomore transfer), and a GPA of at least 74.00. While most students know exactly where they stand in relation to these requirements, if you sense that your student is not entirely sure, please urge them to make a [virtual appointment](#) with me as soon as possible. Resolving outstanding issues now can spare a lot of anxiety and frustration later.

Additionally, a new grading policy has been implemented in the wake of the pandemic that is available as a resource for students during this challenging time. For this semester, students will be permitted to select the [credit/no credit \(CR/U\)](#) option for *any* of their courses. Students now have until the last day of classes (May 6) to confirm their grading mode with instructors, and all academic programs (majors, minors, certificates) will accept credit earned with this option towards requirements for their respective programs.

Some of your students are planning to pursue thesis projects next year, and we want to support them as they embark on this intensive educational experience. My colleagues and I hosted a "Preparing for Your Thesis Virtual Info Session" earlier this month. Students may now access the recording of that session on our [class blog](#). The next few weeks still offer opportunities for your students to speak with their faculty advisors and/or thesis advisors about their plans for the summer and fall semester. The [Gordon Career Center](#) is also an invaluable resource for your children as they consider options for this summer, next academic year, and opportunities for their time after graduation. I'm a willing sounding board as well, so don't hesitate to direct your students to me if they have any questions or concerns.

These are uncertain times, and that has an impact on the Wesleyan's plans for next year. The university recently announced that all summer courses will be offered online. You may access more information about course offerings [here](#). My colleagues and I will be working with students, faculty, and staff over the summer in preparation for whatever we may face moving forward. I encourage you to visit the university's [COVID-19 website](#) for important updates about Wesleyan's response to the pandemic and its plans for the upcoming year.

I will be in touch with you again this fall, but I invite you to contact me with any questions or concerns in the days, weeks, and months to come. I can't promise you I will have answers for every query, but I will try my best to get them or direct you to a more appropriate resource.

Wishing you peace and good health,

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