

April 15, 2020

Dear Parents of Students in the Class of 2023,

Clearly this is an unusual historical moment in which we find ourselves and I hope that you and your family members are doing well and staying healthy. It is hard to believe that it's been over a month since we transitioned to online learning. While we are apart, please know that all of the resources that are available to your students on campus are still accessible online, including [peer tutors](#), [academic peer advisors](#), the [Writing Workshop](#), instructors, faculty advisors and me. I continue to reach out to the class year via email and the [class blog](#).

Given the unique circumstances of this term, students may request a change from letter grades to CR/U for any course in which they were enrolled when the transition to distance learning occurred. All departments have agreed to accept CR/U grades in courses required for majors, minors, or certificates from the spring 2020 semester. Students and families should continue to visit this [site](#) for the latest updates and resources concerning Wesleyan's COVID-19 pandemic responses and protocols.

We are currently in the pre-registration period for Fall 2020 classes. I have recommended that students continue a focused exploration, as they begin to consider possible majors and keep an eye on gateway courses when pre-registering so as not to shut any future doors. I have also asked them to think about study abroad and/or research opportunities on campus as they sketch possible academic paths for the years ahead. Trying to find the balance between continued exploration and preparing for major declaration can be a challenge, especially if one has a number of different interests! However, that is the beauty of a liberal arts education—you can do a little bit of everything and still gain a depth of knowledge. If you have not already done so, talking with your student about your perspectives on this could be an instructive opportunity for you both.

Classes end on May 6 and wrap up with finals week from May 12 to 15. Finals week is preceded by four reading days that begin on May 7. Since time management issues often emerge in full force during this period, you may want to ask your student how they are planning for those final projects, papers, and exams, and remind them that [academic peer advisors](#) are available to help them with exam preparation, exam taking, and time management. The [Gordon Career Center](#) staff and resources are also accessible online and available to schedule meetings with students.

The cliché, "time flies," has never felt more the case. I remember just writing to you that your student would soon have a semester of college under the proverbial belt; in less than a month now, they will have two! The University will offer on-line summer courses and we are all looking forward to the eventual time when we can meet again in person.

Please encourage your students to contact me by email with any questions or concerns or schedule a Zoom meeting with me by using [my Google calendar link](#). I am available to meet

with students every weekday afternoon and will make special arrangements to accommodate geographical time zones.

It has been my pleasure to work with your students during their first year at Wesleyan, even though it has been quite unusual(!), and I am looking forward to the second year. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or concerns.

Take good care,

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