

Letter from the Interim President, 4/3/20

Dear Students,

First, let me say welcome to the first week of online instruction! I know these are very challenging times, and for many of you, this online instruction is not what you signed up for, but I want to thank each of you for your grit and determination to take on this challenge and persevere.

Lewis and Clark's plan is to continue your instruction online for the remainder of the semester. As you have heard by now, the Governor has extended his stay-at-home order through April 30. For those of you who cannot complete all of your course requirements online, this does add another layer of challenges. Please know, your faculty and administrators are working on plans to make sure that you not only finish your course and program requirements, but that the quality of instruction they provide to you in this online environment continues to meet your expectations of Lewis and Clark's quality academic instruction. We appreciate your patience in this very challenging time. We will continue to communicate with you via your Lewis and Clark email address during this campus shut-down. Please continue to communicate with your faculty and instructors regarding your coursework and assignments, and please forward any questions or concerns you have.

Last week you should have received the weekly email newsletter for students known as Trailblazer Times. This document is full of resources you will need as you complete your coursework online throughout the rest of the semester. We have moved everything we can at L&C into a virtual environment. You can still access the family health clinic, talk with a mental health counselor, register for classes with your advisor, or file for financial aid. We are available and we stand ready to continue to serve our students regardless of our physical locations. You'll find a list of resources available to you also at www.lc.edu/coronavirus. Please check back frequently as we are loading information here daily.

Remote Library services continue to be available to students. Assistance is available through the Library's online chat feature at www.lc.edu/library. Students may also receive help with research projects by contacting Greg Cash at gcash@lc.edu or Liz Burns at lburns@lc.edu.

We have also made the decision this week to officially cancel the May 20, 2020 commencement. We are looking at a later date in the year to hold this ceremony. We thank those of you who are planning to graduate and took part in the survey. We know graduation is a celebratory time, and we want to make sure we continue to applaud your achievements. Please stay tuned to your email for an announcement about that future date.

Student activities is also planning some contests and ways to keep our students engaged in a virtual environment, so stay tuned to your inbox and our social media channels for more information.

In the meantime, we encourage you all to stay home and follow the CDC guidelines for social distancing. We are anxious to welcome you back to campus, but we will wait until a time when your personal safety won't be compromised. Stay healthy and safe!

Dr. Lori Artis
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