



Office of the Presidents



Important Message from the College

March 26, 2020

Dear Mitchell College and Thames Community,

While you have probably heard “We’re all in this together” many times lately, you deserve great thanks for your understanding and flexibility, given all of the changes over the last two weeks.

As you can imagine, we are balancing what we want to do with what we need to do: we want to bring all of you back to campus, but we need to keep you, the rest of the Mitchell family, and the wider community healthy and safe. **To that end, we have made the decision that our students will complete Session I and Session II with remote instruction and student support services.** This decision is based on Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont’s executive order, effective March 23 through April 22, directing employees of non-essential businesses and non-profits to “Stay Safe, Stay Home,” making it impossible to return to campus during this time.

We know that all of our residential students have questions about when they will be able to pack up and move their belongings out of campus housing. The health and safety of our Mitchell community – students, faculty, staff and families – is of paramount importance to us during these historic times and will guide our decision. **We are developing a plan for move-out and will communicate it to you soon; as the future of this pandemic is unknown, it will be several weeks, or more, before we can allow students back on campus to retrieve their belongings.** In addition, we are formulating a process to provide prorated adjustments for room and board payments and will share more details as soon as they are finalized.

More than anything, we want to celebrate the achievements of our senior class and honor the accomplishments of our other students, so we will postpone Commencement 2020, the Academic and Student Affairs Awards Ceremony and the Thames End of Year Celebration. Watch your email for updates. All other on-campus life programs and events for the remainder of the academic year are, regrettably, canceled.

As a reminder, please visit the [FAQ](#) page for answers to a range of questions, from how to forward student mail to how to register for Fall classes. The FAQ page is updated regularly.

Please stay healthy and take care of those around you. You are in our thoughts every day.

Catherine Wright, Ph.D.
Interim Co-President

Mary-Jane McLaughlin, M.S.
Interim Co-President

