



Office of the Presidents



Important Message from the College

April 1, 2020

Dear Mitchell College Students and Families,

With so much happening in the world around you, it is helpful to **stay connected** to what is familiar. For many of you that means keeping ties to the great support services that Mitchell offers – and although we miss seeing all of your faces in person, we have adjusted, retooled and are finding success meeting with you in your homes, in the virtual space.

Just like when we are on campus, your “go-to” person is your **Academic Advisor**, who **helps navigate** the online learning community, **identifies issues** with technology, resources or support, and **connects you** to support services. Contact your advisor via phone, email or through Starfish to meet by phone, Zoom or other platforms. Your advisors want to hear about what’s going well and what’s not going so well. (Tip: Also link to Support Services in your MoodleRooms.)

For emotional and behavioral support, make an appointment through Starfish for one-on-one counseling via video conferencing with Dr. Douglas Dufore with **Mitchell College Health and Wellness**. Interested in joining a **Social Drop-in Group**? Email him at dufore_d@mitchell.edu to say you want to participate.

For social support, **The Mystic Program** helps its students navigate the college experience through one-on-one meetings via phone, Zoom, or other means of communication, and virtual group activities, such as study halls and game nights. Mystic Program students should email Katrina Feyerherm at feyerherm_k@mitchell.edu to make meeting appointments.

The **Bentsen Learning Center (BLC)** provides remote learning support between Learning Specialists and students through audio/video contact for BLC sessions, including Zoom, Google Duo, FaceTime, email, phone and text. BLC assistance is also available during the May and June MiniMesters. Choose the option for BLC services during registration.

Tutoring includes access to professional tutors in their respective disciplines. Make an appointment through Starfish. **Tutor.com** gives you 24/7 access to tutoring. Use your Mitchell College email to create an account through your student portal. The **Writing Zone**, staffed by professionals with master’s degrees in writing, can be utilized by all students via a Writing Zone drop box, accessible through Open LMS/Moodle. Students can upload papers to receive comments during posted hours.

Accessibility Services can assist with the transition to online learning through emails, phone calls, and Zoom meetings. If you have accommodations or adaptive technology, continue to communicate with faculty about your needs, particularly with the new online learning format. Watch for important updates about final exams and Session II accommodation letters. Questions? Please contact Antaya Lee, accessibility services coordinator, at 860-701-5790 or lee_a@mitchell.edu.

We're meeting every day and hear great things about how you are all adapting to this new way of online teaching and learning and know that Mitchell's excellent support services can only help to enhance your experience. Please reach out if you have any issues. We are all here to help!

Catherine Wright, Ph.D.
Interim Co-President

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

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