



## Office of the President



*May 8, 2020*

### **Dear Mitchell College Class of 2020,**

We are on the eve of what would customarily be a joyous time on our beautiful campus, with family, friends and our college community gathering to celebrate you – the Class of 2020 – as you mark the end of your time at Mitchell College and the beginning of new life adventures.

The onset and unpredictability of this pandemic, which none of us could have foreseen, has caused us to re-think our traditional May Commencement. You have worked hard to complete the requirements to earn your degrees from Mitchell and undoubtedly want to keep that excitement going! Our planning team has carefully considered the options for honoring your journey and celebrating your achievements and has decided that a virtual ceremony, marking you as an official graduate of Mitchell College, will best serve our senior class.

The **virtual ceremony** will take place on **Saturday, June 27, at 11 a.m.** and will include many of the traditional elements of a program that would usually be staged on the College Green – caps and gowns, speeches, music, conferral of degrees and proud family and friends. We understand that a virtual event won't allow for the in-person contact that so many of you are missing with the campus community – your classmates, professors, advisors, coaches and other staff. To fill this void, we plan to host a celebration on campus for your class later in the year, at a time when it will be safe to gather together again, when you can return as Mitchell College alumni!

In the meantime, watch your email for more details about the virtual ceremony – what you will receive in the mail (your cap and gown and your diploma) and what we will ask you to submit.

As we live through this unprecedented time, you, the Class of 2020, are writing an important part of Mitchell's history. You will be remembered for your adaptability, resilience and positive attitude. You have made the best of an unplanned, complex and continually evolving situation and are embracing the essential abilities that are at the core of a Mitchell education.

Why?

You're Mitchell Mariners and you have represented your school well!

**Catherine Wright, Ph.D.**  
*Interim President*