

From: "Mrasek, Jean" on behalf of "Boschini, Chancellor Victor"

Date: Thursday, March 19, 2020 at 2:03 PM

Subject: MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR: Latest Update - Spring Semester



March 19, 2020

Dear Horned Frogs,

Over these long and uncertain weeks, my days have been brightened by notes and emails from many of you. It seems like each day also brings news that pushes us closer to significant decisions that affect you, and our full campus community. I write today to inform you of our most recent, and very difficult decision, *to move forward with online classes and virtual instruction for the remainder of the semester*. I believe this is the safest and smartest decision for all of us.

The uncertainty of the spread and duration of COVID-19 in our area means that we must chart a responsible path forward for you, your parents, our faculty and staff, and our full community. In addition to your notes of encouragement, I've also listened to your concerns about health, friends, and academic aspirations. All of this has weighed heavily on me, and caused me to pause and really listen to my instincts and act accordingly.

We don't have every answer today but please know that we are working around the clock to ensure this goes as smoothly as possible. I have seen first-hand the thorough planning our faculty and staff have done to take the Texas Christian University academic experience online. You'll soon start receiving activities and news from Student Affairs to keep you connected during our time apart. It would be difficult to replicate the singular experience that the TCU campus offers, but we are going to do everything we can to maintain our purple connections. We will be together in spirit, if not in person.

I know you have many questions. In particular, we have not made a decision about commencement at this time but will do so soon. We remain hopeful that we are able to celebrate commencement for those seniors who have given us so much joy during their time with us at TCU.

The following is a helpful link right now, and you can expect more details from TCU leaders over the next few days:

[Keep Learning](#)

We are here for you. Our campus is not “closed.” In fact, we are working night and day to make sure student services continue and are available in even more venues, since face-to-face is difficult to achieve with our new social distancing reality.

I want you to be on campus; I want you to be with the lifelong friends you’ve made. In the presence of our new reality however, I rely on your positivity, creativity, loyalty and sense of self to help us get through this together. In the midst of these unprecedented events, I believe we will be pulled closer together.

Overall, what I really want to say to all of you is that I am so sorry about all of this. I know this is not the way that any of us would have wanted to finish your Spring Semester at TCU. I am especially sorry for our seniors who now instead of long last looks at Frog Fountain and Amon G. Carter Stadium, senior dinners and reunions with friends from freshman year, tearful bittersweet goodbyes to special professors, they will now have an “electronic end” to their college careers. I realize the pain this will cause – and to the Class of 2020, I sincerely apologize. I promise you that if there was anything different I could do – I would.

Sincerely,
Victor J. Boschini, Jr.