

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

March 18, 2020

Dear Seniors:

Your class started your freshman year the very same month I became President of Franklin Pierce University. For that reason and for all of the optimism, compassion, talent, and humor you brought to the campus for four years, you hold an incredibly special place in my heart. I know that this is an unimaginably difficult time of uncertainty for you. I know you are feeling the grief and strain of not knowing about the end of the semester and commencement. Please know how deeply I and the staff and faculty miss you and empathize with your worries and concerns.

In the coming weeks, the University's senior leadership team will continue to meet daily and respond to this evolving and unpredictable public health crisis. The plans that we have put in place thus far, as you all know, could change. The national and statewide situation remains fluid and we put the safety and well-being of our community above all other concerns at this time. Many of you have taken to social media and reached out to faculty and staff to express both your disappointment and your understanding. I know that we all appreciate hearing from you.

This University community will be working diligently on your behalf to maintain as much of your Senior Week and Commencement activities as we are safely able to manage. Currently, we have not made any changes to the Senior Week and Commencement, but we know that things can change. I wanted to connect with you, specifically as our Seniors, to let you know that we will be doing all we can to make sure you are recognized for your accomplishments and that we maintain the celebration of your graduation. At the point that we have to make a decision about altering the current schedule of events or commencement, you will hear it from me directly before we notify the rest of our community.

Until that time, I remind you all to practice proper preventative measures to increase your safety. Continue to connect with Andrew Pollom in the Dean of Student Affairs office with your concerns and questions. Most importantly, continue supporting one another during this uncertain time. One of the greatest defining attributes of the Class of 2020 is the community you all have formed. It is going to take a great deal more than COVID-19 to break those bonds.

With Raven Pride,

Kim Mooney

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President