

President's Corner



April 13, 2020 Coronavirus has not changed is our human desire for connections

Welcome to Monday. I hope everyone had a restful weekend, and was able to connect with family or friends in some creative ways. One of the few things that Coronavirus has not changed is our human desire for connections. I have heard from colleagues of virtual Passover and Easter celebrations this weekend, as well as birthday parties and engagement gatherings over videoconference. Just a month ago we could never have imagined such transformations to our basic social interactions, and yet here we are. It's a credit to us all that we are adapting so readily and moving forward with such grace.

As we move into this fourth week of remote teaching and learning, I hope some of the technology kinks are being ironed out. I'm hearing from instructors and students that their virtual classrooms are becoming spaces not just for learning, but for connection and support. What a wonderful trend. It certainly speaks to the MC emphasis on making sure everyone is included.

While everyone continues to work hard on teaching and learning, if you need a little break, please check out the Student Health and Wellness Center's list of remote [April Absurdity activities](#)—tournaments, contests, challenges, and virtual social events. Please note that there are also some good referrals to County food resources for those facing food insecurity right now.

Although you may be tired of hearing this, we can't relax our health precautions. Please continue to wash your hands, avoid touching your face, and maintain social distancing. Health experts say that if the spread of the virus is, indeed, being contained, it's due to these important steps. Let's keep up the progress we have gained.

This week I will be reducing my collegewide communications to Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, so that everyone can focus a bit more on their division's needs. But I will be back in touch with any

important announcements, policy changes, or urgent health/safety directives. Please continue to keep me informed of any conditions that need attention or good news that should be shared.

Have a safe, productive week.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "DeRionne". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letter 'D' being particularly large and stylized.

DeRionne P. Pollard, PhD

We empower our students to change their lives, and we enrich the life of our community. We are accountable for our results.