



Good evening. I hope you took advantage of the nice weather this weekend in some healthy way.

As we head into week seven of remote teaching, learning, and working, this would normally be the week that I remind students about the library's extended hours for final exam studies. While students can't access the libraries physically, its remote services now constitute an in-home library with: guidance from librarians, research help, and [many electronic resources](#). Tutoring is still in demand, and embedded coaches are busier than ever. This is the pinnacle of a challenging semester, but I know we can make it if we all stay focused on academic achievement. Last week there were 892 [virtual tutoring sessions](#), up 26 percent from the previous week.

This week begins distribution of the CARES Act funding to students with documented eligibility for federal financial aid. As you know, the College has been awarded \$5.5 million in emergency student assistance. Distribution is based on instructions from the U.S. Department of Education. The first round of distributions will go to students who meet federal financial aid eligibility requirements. Thus, Pell grant recipients who enrolled for spring semester and who have not withdrawn from classes will be the first to receive funding. The amount those students receive will be determined by the number of credits for which they enrolled. Additional rounds of funding will follow and will require students to submit an application for assistance that states their need and certifies their eligibility. Further information will be communicated—along with the required form—later this week by the senior vice president for student affairs.

Finally, the College will suspend operations on Friday, May 8, from 10 to 11 a.m. so that employees can view this semester's Closing Meeting. Traditionally, supervisors grant time for employees to attend the meeting on one of the three campuses. This year, attendees are invited to watch a special 35-minute presentation online, which will include my thoughts about the end of the semester and a wonderful video produced by a class of MC students learning remotely. It gives us a glimpse into our students' lives during an unexpected and challenging time in history. We'll also hear the honorees for staff and faculty of the year awards, among several awards traditionally presented at the meeting. I look forward to connecting with you then.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "DeRionne". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letter 'D' being large and prominent.

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.