



Office of the Executive Vice President for
Academic Affairs & Provost

April 6, 2020

Dear Faculty and Students,

As the nation continues to struggle through the unprecedented health crisis caused by COVID-19, higher education institutions across the nation continue to adjust and adapt their operations to ensure educational continuity for their students. Accordingly, President David Carlisle announced on April 1, 2020 at his regular Monday noon campus briefing that the summer classes will proceed online.

Therefore, I write to inform all faculty and students that the Task Force on Educational Continuity (TFEC) has begun work to ensure successful summer semester through remote teaching and learning. This effort will build upon our success in converting the spring semester courses into a hybrid format. Returning students are already familiar with the online platform and our new incoming students will be provided with the necessary orientation to the platform.

Within the next few weeks, each faculty teaching in summer 2020 will be contacted to assess readiness to deliver online classes and to provide the necessary assistance. Please note that, although the university physical campus is closed until further notice, campus services to support faculty and students are functioning albeit remotely. Faculty services available include IT support as well as faculty development training. Services that students can access via online include but not limited to student orientation, mental health services, enrolment and admission, tutorial, borrowing resources from the library, career services, financial aid, and registrar.

It is our hope that we will see the end of COVID-19 so that our nation can return to normalcy soon. Meanwhile, we continue to abide by the government and local health agencies' directives to stem the spread of the virus even as we pursue our educational goals. I encourage you to join the President's Tuesday noon (12-1pm) briefing for latest updates. Should you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact your dean or the Provost Office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve O. Michael", written over a horizontal line.

Steve O. Michael, PhD
Professor, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science

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