

July 27th, 2020

Dear College of Health Sciences Students,

I hope you are well and taking some time to enjoy this summer! Although we are disappointed we can't welcome you all back to campus this fall, as a College of Health Sciences, we all know how important it is to keep people safe during these trying times. The faculty are very busy preparing engaging online courses for you with many innovative lab and simulation exercises to supplement your course content. We will also have a small number of students returning to campus for labs, clinicals, and workshops. These students have been notified by their respective departments and are primarily upper level undergraduates and graduate students. As you know, we are a very hands-on, experiential learning college, and we are doing everything we can to maintain this aspect of your learning, within the limits of what we can do safely.

Processes for housing, meals, and other student services are still being arranged for these on campus students, but I can tell you that all possible precautions are being put into place. We have also been talking with all our clinical facilities regarding safe practice for clinicals, and all students will be provided the proper personal protective gear required for their respective academic areas. For example, upper level nursing students will not be caring for patients on floors designated for COVID19 cases, and they will also not be permitted to perform any procedures on patients which create aerosolized secretions.

We are asking that all students who will be returning to campus this fall self-isolate for the two weeks before the semester begins, to keep yourselves and everyone else safe! Please don't visit any "hot spot" states on vacation in those two weeks, and stay away from crowded beaches and bars!

As we approach the fall semester, we feel confident that we will be providing the very best education possible for all of you. The College of Health Sciences faculty are known for their innovative and engaging approaches to learning, and the online environment has not dampened their enthusiasm for delivering their very best to all of you.

For those of you who are just joining our college for the first time, I can promise you we will be here for you, every day, via Zoom, email, phone, and in person if desired.

Students will always be welcome in my office (by appointment of course), and if you visit, you will have the opportunity to view my wide array of fanciful masks.

I wish you all a restful remainder of your summer, and I look forward to "ZOOMING" with you!

All my best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Denise Seigart". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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