

From: Official ESU Email <esuemail@live.esu.edu>

Sent: Friday, April 24, 2020 7:52 AM

To: ESU Students <ESUStudents@live.esu.edu>

Subject: ESUEmail: Message to Students from ESU President Marcia G. Welsh, Ph.D. - April 25, 2020

Warriors,

Although the days seem to run together during this social isolation we're all experiencing, I look forward to seeing "Friday" pop up on my calendar! It gives me the opportunity to check in with our Warriors to see how you're doing with your coursework and to offer assistance if you need help. I hope this finds you, your family and your friends safe and healthy while you continue to learn in preparation for your futures.

Many mornings I take an early morning walk around campus before getting to my office. I've done that throughout my years as President and enjoy seeing the campus quietly waking up along with an occasional deer nibbling on our plantings! But in the weeks since COVID-19, those walks are much different. My world is so much smaller, and lonelier, without all of you in it. Again, late in the day as I wrap up work at my desk, I find myself longing to engage with students. I miss the interaction of attending a student event, a theatre production, a sporting event or grabbing dinner with you in the dining hall. But every day I have to remind myself that there are more than 6,000 students who are relying on me and our countless other faculty, staff and administrators to manage other aspects of the University in order to help you achieve your education and, ultimately, a degree.

And so today, I want to remind all of you that the spring semester will soon come to an end and all of you need to do your work to make your education goals a reality. Now is your time to shine and stay the course, regardless of the way we have to teach. If you're a senior, stay committed to your coursework. In just a few weeks, you'll become an official ESU graduate and start a new journey down the career path you've chosen. For those undergraduates who will return to us this fall, you can supplement your summer by registering now for courses at www.esu.edu/summer. This is a great option, especially for students who need to re-take a class or for those who want to get ahead. Assuming we are still socially isolating as the summer term begins, making summer work or other activities impossible, it will be prime time to catch up or get ahead on your own academic goals.

Please make your coursework a priority in these final days of the semester. I know many of you struggle to stay focused without that classmate sitting next to you in the classroom, or that faculty member who personally encourages you as you leave the classroom for the day, but it's so important. Don't forget all of the academic resources available to you (see ESU.EDU homepage for Academic Resources). Never hesitate to ask for help! And when you've wrapped up your studies for the day, I imagine that many of you are seeking employment or working, if you are fortunate enough to do so, while also taking care of other family members and checking in with friends. Know that I admire all of you in these unsettling times. I recognize that determination inside every one of you that keeps you WarriorStrong.

Marcia G. Welsh, Ph.D.
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