

Friday, April 3, 2020 (12:29 pm) – In Case You Missed It – Week 2

Dear Colleagues,

Congratulations on completing the second week of remote work. We have been teaching, advising, continuing RSCAD activities when possible, and continuing administrative service to the University as a whole. I continue to be amazed and inspired by your resilience and persistence in this difficult time.

While the academic continuity team has continued to provide resources and individual appointments through our [Keep Teaching training site](#), we have learned of several temporary policies and upcoming deadlines this week that I thought might be useful to review.

A/PASS/FAIL: As you know, the University decided to extend the students' [option to choose an A/Pass/Fail](#) grade for any course they are taking this semester. Many questions have been raised about the implementation of this policy, and the Registrar's Office has an [FAQ](#) that responds to most of them. Advisors are also encouraged to refer to the guidelines on the [remote advising website](#) when you discuss this option with students. If you have additional questions or concerns your Associate Deans of Academic Affairs can help you communicate those with the Assistant Vice Provost for Student Success and the Registrar next week.

STUDENT SERVICES: Of course, we can also support our students who are in need of [emergency financial assistance](#) and [counseling services](#). We are so grateful to our colleagues in student life, Lafene Health Center, counseling services, Cat's Cupboard, and the K-State Foundation (including the students leading K-State Proud campaign) for supporting our students and others in our community throughout this pandemic.

GRADUATE STUDENTS: Over the last several days there has been an increased national call to [remember our graduate students](#) as we work remotely. Graduate students are facing the same challenges as faculty in terms of remote teaching or work, research, dealing with family responsibilities (young children or aging members), as well as completing course work, meeting research deadlines, and facing uncertain job markets. I know the best faculty mentors are mindful of these additional stressors and exercise compassion and flexibility for this part of our work, for which our students will be forever grateful. It might be important to remind our students, and ourselves, that this is a global experience; institutions and departments will remember that 2020 was a year of disruption in higher ed and beyond.

SUMMER CLASSES: Looking to the future, if you plan to teach during the summer, you may want to begin thinking about online instruction and how to design your course. While there is no official word on summer teaching, your colleges and global campus have course design resources for you and more forthcoming. You can begin those conversations through our Keep Teaching site.

BOOK ORDERS: Finally, the bookstore has [extended the deadline to submit Fall 2020 course material adoptions](#) to May 1, 2020. Key to this communication is that anyone who previously e-mailed their adoptions must resubmit these requests via the online form.

More COVID-19 news rolls in every day. We are all impacted by the pandemic, but some of us more directly than others. As we support each other through this, let's remember to do so with flexibility

and compassion. And let's be mindful of our [Principles of Community](#) and [Dr. Bryan Samuel's advice](#) to treat each other with respect and dignity. As my son likes to say, let's keep K-State strong forever.

In gratitude for all of your hard work,

Tanya