

March 12, 2021

Dear Students, Families and Supporters of Our Students,

I appreciate the feedback I have been receiving to these updates, and fully understand that your primary concern is when a decision will be made, and what that decision will be. Both time and patience are required in such decision-making, so that all options can be weighed carefully. As these options are weighed, please know that our top priority is to ensure that the present and future needs of our students are addressed. Please continue to be focused on this semester—and trust that we are working on solidifying academic pathways in the event a decision is made to close the College.

I have also received questions about Commencement. As I mentioned previously, we will hold a combined Commencement ceremony to celebrate the achievements of both the Class of 2021 and the Class of 2020, which missed out on its traditional ceremony due to the pandemic. A survey is being sent out to both classes so we can ascertain the number of those who plan to attend. Our current plan is to hold an in-person, indoor Commencement on Saturday, May 8, at 10 am, at the DCU in Worcester, with a very limited number of guests allowed and following all guidelines from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and public health officials. A back-up option will be to hold an on-campus, outdoor ceremony—or even smaller group ceremonies. Whatever the format for Commencement is, please know that our plan is for it to be live streamed for those who cannot attend in person.

I want to thank our campus community for their continued attention to keeping our campuses safe by following the Healthy Hawk Nation Plan. To date, 9,778 COVID-19 tests have been administered, and we have maintained very low week-by-week positive case numbers since the start of the semester.

As trying as this time is, I urge you not to engage in rumor or speculation. Becker has been, and always will be, a close-knit community—and it is vital for us to be compassionate, caring, and supportive of one another.

Sincerely,

Nancy P. Crimmin, Ed.D.
President