Dear Students,

We hope this note finds you well, and managing as best you can in these difficult times. We also wish you well as you work with your Advisors during registration. As we enter the remaining four weeks of the semester, we write to share decisions and plans for the summer and updates for how planning for the fall will ensue.

**Continuing to Flatten the Curve in Summer 2020**

As we think about all of our students, faculty, and staff—and our continued efforts to minimize the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic—all college-affiliated activities and programs planned for summer 2020 will be either online or suspended. If you were selected for a MAP or on-campus research experience, applied for internship funding, or secured on-campus employment, you will be contacted by program administrators with more information on how these various experiences will be managed this summer. International students will be contacted by the Office of International Student Affairs.

Restrictions on College-sponsored domestic and international travel will continue until further notice, with periodic re-evaluation based on the latest public health information.

Access to campus buildings for critical operations faculty and staff only will continue, also until further notice with period re-evaluation. As we are all learning, the coronavirus has its own timeline, and different places around the U.S. and around the world will peak at different times.

With decisions about the summer finalized, our work turns to the fall semester. Campus partners, including Gracee Wallach, SGA VPAA, will be engaged in building contingency plans and reviewing multiple options. Our thanks to them as this important work begins.

**Equitable Pedagogy and Student/Faculty Workloads**

Throughout our academic continuity work, we have held to principles of access and technological minimalism. We are learning from your experiences that we need to focus our efforts to address inequitable learning environments. Many of you have gone home to challenging circumstances and your learning situations are not equitable. If you’re looking for some support in navigating your situation, feel free to reach out to Academic Advising (advising@grinnell.edu) for counsel.
We acknowledge that there are wide differences in teaching environments of faculty as well, and will be working with the Academic Continuity team on a series of specific recommendations for addressing inequitable learning environments – from technological requirements to assignments to pedagogy.

Final Exams
The Faculty Executive Council has voted on a policy that, for Spring of 2020, all final exams will be open-book and open-note.

If a final exam is to be administered synchronously, the exam must open on the day/time scheduled for that exam. Students may begin the exam any time within 24 hours of the exam open; however, they will have only 3 hours to complete the exam. For example: If the final exam is scheduled for Wed., May 13 from 9 a.m. to noon, the exam will open at 9 a.m. on May 13 and all work must be submitted by 8:59 a.m. on Thurs., May 14. Because students have only 3 hours to complete the exam, a student who starts the exam at 5 a.m. on Thurs., May 14 must submit their finished exam by 8 a.m. that day.

Forthcoming Decision on S/D/F Grading and Course Withdrawal Deadlines
We ask for your patience as we continue to gather perspectives in our collaborative and iterative decision-making process on these policies. We will present a final decision in our Thursday, April 16 communication.

We know the second half of this semester has been tremendously difficult. Please know that, together with the entire faculty, staff, and administration, we are committed to doing all we can to help you through these next weeks, and wish you the best as we near the end of the Spring 2020 semester.

In admiration,

Anne F. Harris, Dean of the College
Todd Armstrong, Chair of the Faculty