

Dear Meredith students,

Over the last month, you have received several campus updates regarding the College's response to the novel coronavirus, or COVID-19, global health issue. The health and safety of our community remains our highest priority at Meredith.

We understand this is an anxious time for you and your loved ones. We also know it's likely you have questions regarding your classes and returning to campus (if you have chosen to do so). We wanted to let you know what we are doing to help you and the Meredith community manage this unprecedented situation. At this time, all offices and services are open for you, though some will be operating remotely. Restrictions or closure of some services or facilities, such as the gym or campus store, is always a possibility, as we continue to monitor government directives, [CDC guidance](#) and our local, county, and state resources.

### **Educational Continuity**

We understand that you each have individual circumstances that will determine whether you will be physically returning to campus before classes resume on Monday, March 23. To ensure your educational continuity regardless of whether or when you choose to come to campus, your professors will work with you to find a way to complete your classes. The Provost's Office has been in constant communication with faculty since we made the decision last Thursday to extend spring break, ensuring your professors understand the need to offer flexibility and providing them the guidance and support to do so.

### **Returning to Campus**

Student life staff and dining/housekeeping have also been [working diligently to prepare for students to safely return to campus](#).

As a reminder, in keeping with CDC guidelines, if you are returning from a cruise, one of the countries currently under a [Level 3 Health Notice](#), or have traveled domestically, it is **imperative** that you follow the steps outlined in the March 11 email to you.

These steps are

- Monitor your health for any changes including onset of fever, shortness of breath, or dry cough for 14 days.
- Self isolate if symptoms such as fever, dry cough, or shortness of breath occur.
- If you have returned from an area of concern or have had contact with an individual with a known positive COVID-19 test and have symptoms, call Meredith's Student Health Center at (919) 760-8539, Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. for additional advice.
- If it is outside of normal business hours, you can contact the Wake County Health Department at (919) 250-4462 and then notify the Student Health Center the next business day. Do not go out in public, go to Belk Dining Hall or gather with friends until you have spoken either to a health care provider or the health department.

I understand that it is likely you have additional questions that we have not yet answered. We are working to get you more information to answer those questions. If you have questions, please email Dean of Students Ann Gleason at [deanofstudents@meredith.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@meredith.edu). Continue to check your Meredith email and [www.meredith.edu/coronavirus](http://www.meredith.edu/coronavirus) for updates.

In closing, I appreciate the patience, flexibility and understanding you have demonstrated as we navigate this uncharted territory together. While there are many uncertainties in this global health crisis, I remain certain about one thing -- the Meredith community will continue demonstrating the strength and resilience that is so deeply embedded in our character.

We are and will remain Going Strong.

Jo Allen, '80  
President

*Sent March 15, 2020, 12 p.m.*