

February 2, 2021

Dear staff

Once again, I thank you for your excellent work in extraordinary circumstances. I am writing to you to provide details about the mode of academic course delivery for the Summer session.

There is a general consensus across the University that in spite of the promise that vaccines are generating, we will experience restrictions during the Summer session that will require largely remote delivery of our courses. As we are this term, in-person courses and course elements that are deemed essential can be offered. In this context, essential refers to course elements that cannot be offered remotely. Although we don't anticipate a large number of such offerings, planning will begin shortly.

We will also continue to provide some space for students who need access to Wi-Fi and computers, as we have been doing since the start of the pandemic. No activities involving international travel will be planned; current restrictions for university-related international travel have been extended through August 31, 2021. Your dedication enables us to remain committed to offering the best possible experience to our students, while following public health guidelines.

With respect to the Fall session, we are in the process of determining what the mix will be between online and in-person offerings. It is becoming increasingly clear that the return to some new version of "normal" will require a stepped approach, so it is not our expectation that the Fall will look like a pre-COVID semester. We are committed to making a call about the 2021-2022 academic year as soon as is practicable, and to communicate clearly the basis for that decision.

Thank you again for all of your Herculean efforts to furthering the academic mission of the campus.

Yours sincerely,



**William A. Gough**  
Vice-Principal Academic & Dean  
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