Dear CHS family,

Collaboration, creativity and agility are core values for us at CHS, and I’ve seen them lived by all of you during the past five weeks. Soon we’ll be wrapping up the spring semester, and on May 12 we will celebrate the accomplishments of the CHS class of 2020 with a virtual CHS Convocation. Some of you are asking about this, so I want to share those plans and the collaboration, creativity and agility that is making it happen:

- As in other semesters, our CHS convocation plans must follow the framework provided by the university which aims to ensure the safety and well-being of the ASU community while providing a fun and meaningful celebration.
- ASU will hold its commencement on May 11 via an online platform.
- Each college will host a virtual convocation site, similar to this example. Our CHS convocation site will include videos from President Crow and me, along with videos to recognize our outstanding undergraduate Paige Ellis (speech and hearing science), outstanding graduate student Hiral Soni (biomedical informatics), and a compilation of other impressive CHS graduates. Each graduate will be recognized with a personalized slide which includes audio of their name being read as it would in the arena. Our convocation site will go live May 12 at 9 a.m., and grads and their families can watch together when convenient for them.
- Our graduates will also receive congratulatory emails from their academic program area and a wireless charger gift mailed to their home.
- Additionally, some of our academic program areas are planning virtual receptions so the faculty can recognize their students and wish them well.
- It is our hope that many graduates will choose to come back to campus and walk across the stage in our fall 2020 or spring 2021 ceremonies.

More creativity and collaboration this spring:

- College-wide meeting: Please hold Friday, April 24, from 12 to 1 p.m. for a Zoom meeting to connect on the CHS COVID-19 initiatives. Watch for an email calendar invite soon.
- Random Acts of Kindness Week: Our Student Vitality Team is spearheading a random acts of kindness effort the week of April 27. More information to come.
- New courses: Many courses are being planned for summer enrollment, including a new COVID-19 special topics class with many CHS faculty taking part to share their expertise.
- Face mask sewing brigade: Organized by Meg Bruening, 14 CHS faculty, staff, and
students and 17 other ASU partners are responding to requests from 24 community partners for thousands of masks for their staff and the vulnerable populations they serve. To sew masks or create kits for others to sew, complete this form.

- Eight plant lovers have signed up for Corrie Whisner’s virtual plant swap and started swapping. It’s not too late to join or just read about the health benefits of plants.

I’m inspired to be on this journey with so many creative collaborators!

Warm regards,

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