

To all members of our WC alumni community,

On behalf of the entire staff at the Alumni House and the members of the Alumni Board, we hope this letter finds you and your family healthy and safe. We know everyone is dealing with the disruption this crisis has brought to our lives and the many challenges it presents our world.

Washington College is working hard to keep our alumni informed of the coronavirus' impact on our community. Today I am reaching out on behalf of the College with a special request and several updates.

The College community is doing everything in its power to respond to our students, faculty, and staff during this difficult time. As of March 23, our students will move to remote instruction until the semester's end, and all students have been asked to vacate the campus, if possible. Not every student has a place to go, however, and in those instances, our College will remain a safe haven for them.

Our Washington College family, faculty and staff especially, have been stepping forward to provide funding from their own pockets – gift cards and meals, borrowed laptops, and housing – to help meet the needs of our students and campus, but this will not be enough. In his own response on Tuesday of this week, **President Landgraf gave \$25,000 to establish the COVID-19 Response Fund and is challenging our community to match his generosity.**

The [COVID-19 Response Fund](#) is created specifically **to meet the urgent needs of our WC community**, from laptops for online learning to complete classes; to meal and housing vouchers for students with acute food and shelter requirements; to airfare and other transportation; and eventually, to scholarships supporting students whose families have been affected by job and income loss. You can contribute in the way that's easiest for you:

- Give [online](#).
- Text @WASHCOLL to 52014.
- Mail your check payable to "Washington College" to Washington College, Attn: COVID-19 Response Fund, 300 Washington Ave., Chestertown, MD 21620.
- Call 410-778-7801 to pledge your support.

No gift is too small, and **your support now is greatly appreciated to help WC students who have been impacted by the pandemic.**

In addition, as you might expect, we are postponing or canceling the majority of our upcoming events, which will include this year's Alumni Weekend scheduled for May 15–17. We are actively planning how we can reconvene in fall 2020 or double up on our Alumni Weekend schedule for 2021, but any ideas you have are most welcome. The 2020 Commencement ceremony is still being discussed, and we will do what is best as circumstances permit. You can [keep track of all event cancellations and details](#) on our

website.

The College staff are still working and doing their best to continue to serve you and the greater community. Please feel free to reach out to anyone in Advancement and Alumni Affairs at any time.

Thank you for your caring and passion for our alma mater, and for considering support of the COVID-19 Response Fund.

Together, let's show the world we are #wcshorestrong.

Sincerely,

Pat McMenamin '87 P'16
Alumni Board President