

*Email from Dean DiQuinzio to Seniors*  
*3/28/2020*

Good morning, Washington College Seniors,  
I hope your first week of online learning has gone well. I know this has been a difficult transition for all involved. But I'm very pleased that I can end this week with some good news for you.

### Commencement

I'm delighted to tell you that we have arranged to hold in-person commencement for the class of 2020 on Saturday, October 17, 2020. We chose this date because it gives us time to get all of the details of commencement in place and it gives you and your families time to arrange to be here. October 17 is also the Saturday of Fall Break, so there will be fewer other students on campus, which helps with issues like parking. And it should be cooler and less humid than a date in the summer. Most importantly, based on what we know now, a date in the fall is much less likely to be overturned by COVID19 than a date in the next few months.

### Caps and gowns

You have received an email from the Registrar's Office about ordering your cap and gown. We have extended your deadline for ordering them to May 1. They will be shipped to the College and we will have them available for you at the time of the rescheduled commencement.

### Transcripts

Once you have completed your course work and your professors have submitted final grades, we will update your transcript to show that you have earned your Washington College degree. Updated transcripts will be available beginning Monday, June 22. If you need a transcript that shows you have completed your degree before that date, contact [registrar@washcoll.edu](mailto:registrar@washcoll.edu). After June 22 you will be able to order transcripts online and have them sent to whomever you need to have them. In other words, even though we will not have had commencement and you won't have your diploma in hand, you will be officially graduated from Washington College because you will have successfully completed all of the work for your degree and your transcript will show that.

### Senior awards

We are developing a plan to give the awards that would have been announced at the Senior Luncheon and the Sophie Kerr Award virtually but also interactively. We will set this up so that all members of the senior class can celebrate their friends' awards. We hope to do this sometime in May and I will have details to you shortly.

### Graduation fee

Since we are still having an in-person graduation, we are not refunding the graduation fee at this time. This fee will be posted to your account in the next few weeks.

We are all very excited that we will have you back on campus for commencement, to recognize your achievements and salute your accomplishments as you deserve. Personally, I'm really

looking forward to calling out your name as you cross the stage and get your diploma. We all miss you now, but we look forward to giving you a proper, college graduation send-off in October!

Best wishes,  
Dean DiQuinzio