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Class of 2020

Covid-19 Journal

2 April 2020 9:15 pm

I just got an email about the class of 2020 commencement. It asked for seniors' input about whether they would be able to attend an online graduation on May 16, and what events we would want to have if we met on campus later in the year to celebrate the class of 2020. So...although I would like official word, it is basically confirmed that I will not be getting an on-campus graduation. I feel like crying, but I can't help but just feel numb because I knew it was going to be cancelled. Obviously, I know that it is safer this way and will keep everyone out of unwarranted danger, but I still can't help but be upset. I don't even know how I'll celebrate my graduation at home. Even though President Hanno promised that the class of 2020 will return to campus to celebrate once the pandemic is over, I worry that many of us will not be able to attend the celebration. By the fall, many of us will have found jobs and may not be able to take the time off, and I'm sure that many students also have plans to move elsewhere, or plan to travel after graduation (once everything clears up, of course). I worry that I may not ever be able to meet up with my entire class again, even if we return to campus. This pandemic has taken so much away from the class of 2020, and it has thrown us into the workforce before many of us were completely ready for the switch. Once more, I worry about finding a job after classes end. I worry about my finances and needing a car and wanting to move into an apartment. I can only hope that the rest of the world will try to understand what us seniors are going through right now.

3 April 2020 3:35 pm

Today, President Hanno sent out an update announcing, among other things, that the on-campus commencement is cancelled.

6 April 2020 3:02 pm

It's strange that when I'm at my boyfriend's house and not watching TV every day, I feel much less anxious about Covid-19. It is still on my mind, of course, but I don't have the constant reminder of how many people have died and what is going on because of the news. I really want all of this to end so I can find a job, celebrate my graduation, and move into an apartment.

8 April 2020 11:00 am

As much as I want this semester to be over with, I'm scared for the semester to end. I look forward to finally being out of school and not having to worry about the pressures of getting a good grade, but at the same time, I will then have to deal with the pressure of needing to find a job. As a student who has been on the Dean's list every single semester, I have especially felt the impact of having to stay home because of Covid-19. Everything seems to take twice as long to complete, and I constantly find myself losing focus and having to reread what I am doing. For me, even getting a B as a grade for a paper is not good enough. When I was on campus, I wanted to get all A's this semester so that I could raise my GPA as much as I possibly can. Today, I found myself thinking that it would be okay if I got a mix of A's and B's as final grades. I still want to do as good as I can, of course, but because it takes so much longer to finish assignments and I find myself losing focus, I end up not caring as much about the quality of my work. At college, I would constantly check my work over and over again for errors, but at home, I find myself not checking as much as I would at Wheaton. Essentially, I find myself caring less about the end product of my work, which is extremely unfortunate. I know that I want to do well, but at home, I am not able to find enough energy to fully put myself into my work.

10 April 2020 2:48 pm

Today, I went grocery shopping with my boyfriend at Market Basket. At this Market Basket, they had implemented one-way aisles, and they were limiting how many people were allowed into the building at one time. It was very strange to be standing in a line, waiting outside to be let into the building to buy food. A moment such as that has an apocalyptic feel to it. I really want life to go back to normal.

13 April 2020 11:05 am

I'm really worried about finding a job. There are only 3 weeks left of class, including this week. Graduation is so soon. I really want to be able to move into an apartment and begin my own life.

27 April 2020 1:48 pm

I applied for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance last night, and my application was accepted today. It's nice to know that I'll at least have some type of income while I attempt to find a job. I've continued to apply to places, but nothing has worked out yet. This is the last week of class, which is crazy. I can't believe I'm going to be done with college soon.