Dear Faculty and Staff:

Please know that I understand that you must be feeling some degree of anxiety and uncertainty about the news I sent out earlier this week regarding the financial status of the College. We generally gather in person for communications affecting the campus. However, given the Commonwealth's COVID-19 restrictions and our current hybrid environment, coming together as a community is extremely challenging and, in some instances, impossible. The fact that we cannot gather to support one another makes this incredibly difficult time even more upsetting. We have done the best we could with Zoom meetings; we all know the limitations and frustrations associated with that mode of communicating.

As you read in the communications, and due in large part to the COVID-19 pandemic, the ultimate decision of whether the College can continue into next year with any degree of certainty will be made by the Board of Trustees. I know that our students, faculty, and staff are at the center of their discussions.

I know there are still so many unanswered questions. But I can assure you of the following things.

We will complete this semester and graduate our seniors.

In the event that the Board decides to make the difficult decision to close Becker College, we are working to prepare academic pathways for each academic program so our students can transfer. These agreements should allow students to move to a new institution without worrying about the deadlines most institutions have in place for admissions decisions. Students are certainly able to explore their own pathways and speak with schools to discuss transferring; however, the pathways we would be required to offer our students under state contingency closure requirements would take into account their anticipated graduation year and credits completed with satisfactory grades, and would seek to include financial packages at the same cost or lower than their Becker College costs.

I can also assure you that should we be required to close, we will provide resources for our faculty and staff to support you in your transition.

Each of us plays a vital role in serving as strong and passionate advocates for our students as they navigate through their time at Becker. During this difficult time, they will need extra help from you.

I have assured them we will continue to hold classes and labs; please make sure they show up—and help them be academically successful. During these challenging times, the student support and services we provide are extremely important. We must continue to ensure the health and safety of our community; please make sure both you and our students abide by our COVID-19 guidelines and protocols. If you come across a student who may be having difficulties, please urge them to reach out to Counseling Services (508.373.9551; counseling@becker.edu) or fill out the CARE Team Student of Concern Form on the Employee Portal.

Most importantly, please take care of yourselves and reach out if you need assistance. Human Resources has provided information about the AllOne Health Employee Assistance Program: call 1.800.451.1834 or visit www.allonehealth.com.

As soon as I have information to share, I will do so.

Sincerely,

Nancy P. Crimmin, Ed.D.

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President