## March 5, 2021

## Dear Students:

Becker College is an incredible community of resilient, creative, and dedicated individuals. We generally are able to gather in person: in the residence halls, at athletic events, in the dining halls, and just passing by on the campuses. The Commonwealth's COVID-19 restrictions and our current hybrid environment make these methods of connecting personally challenging and, in some instances, impossible. The fact that we cannot gather to support one another makes this incredibly difficult time even more upsetting.

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. Trust that I have read each and every email from you and your concerned parents and families; I know there are still so many unanswered questions. 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 students and their families are at the center of their discussions.

I can assure you that we will complete this semester and graduate our seniors. Remember: Completing this semester and being academically successful is crucial for each and every one of you, regardless of your class year or program of study.

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 to allow you to transfer. These agreements should allow you to move to a new institution without worrying about deadlines that most institutions have in place for admissions decisions. You are certainly able to pursue your own pathways and speak with schools to discuss transferring; however, the pathways we would be required to offer under state contingency closure requirements would take into account your anticipated graduation year and credits completed with satisfactory grades, and would seek to include financial packages at the same cost or lower than your Becker College costs.

As soon as I have information to share, I will do so. We are in the process of preparing a web page with frequently asked questions and other information; we will be adding information to that site as it becomes available. You may also email <a href="mailto:president@becker.edu">president@becker.edu</a>. Due to the large volume of emails, please be patient; we will strive to answer your email in a timely fashion.

I urge you to continue to attend classes, ensure your CoVerified app shows CLEARED by entering your daily symptoms and continuing with your COVID-19 testing schedule, and strive to do your very best to be successful this semester. I understand the news that we shared is quite distracting. Remember that <a href="mailto:Counseling Services">Counseling Services</a> is available to assist you (508.373.9551; <a href="mailto:counseling@becker.edu">counseling@becker.edu</a>); do not hesitate to reach out to them.

I love everything about Becker: its mission and core values, its close-knit community, and its place not just in the Worcester community, but well beyond. I want you to realize your dreams and passions, reach your highest potential, and be prepared to achieve something great and meaningful in your life. Education will always be the key that unlocks the doors to your future success.

Sincerely,

Nancy P. Crimmin, Ed.D.

President