

March 9

Dear Students, Parents, and Supporters of our Students,

Beginning today, I will be sending out regular communications to the campus community on Tuesdays and Fridays. Most will be in the form of emails; some may be short videos. This communication is a follow-up to my email dated March 5, and will address a few of the topics that have frequently been asked in the past week. As new information becomes available, it will be posted on the Becker website, in [“Updates from the President.”](#)

An affiliation: In my original statement, I wrote: “Since the negotiations with a potential affiliation partner ended in January...” To elaborate, going back almost a year, the College had discussions with a non-profit organization as a potential affiliation partner. This affiliation, which would not have resulted in a merger, would have taken over back-of-the-house operations from many areas of the College; for example, the registrar’s office, student accounts, financial aid, information technology, and others. This would have represented a cost-savings for the institution. Through service agreements, economies of scale, and being a part of a successful endeavor with a proven record of success for their institutions, we believe this affiliation would have stabilized and eventually strengthened our financial models. Unfortunately, the organization decided to end further discussions in early January.

Spring semester: Many have asked why we allowed students to come back in January if the negotiations with the potential partner broke down before classes started. If we had announced that we were not opening in January at any time during that month, it would have been complete chaos, leaving every one of our students with no clear pathway to completing their degrees. That would have been unconscionable. Also, as a reminder, students started moving back on January 20. We believed and continue believe it was in the best interest of students to open the semester and support our students in completing the academic year, while the Board analyzed our financial situation, explored options, and engaged state regulators, accreditors, and others.

Continuity of education: The Board and College leadership are committed to providing the services and support needed this semester for all our students to complete the semester with credits earned towards their degree. Should the Board decide to move towards closure, earning credits towards their degree is critical for all of our students. As I conveyed in my last communication, I urge students to continue their classes this semester and seek help from campus services if needed. The [Collaborative Learning Center](#) and your advisor are available to support you.

Educational pathways: Some of you have asked about the pathways being considered for our students. These discussions are ongoing and are the priority for myself and my leadership team at this time. To find appropriate pathways for each major involves many discussions, comparing the curriculum between the two institutions, and securing agreements that ensure our students in good standing who are on track with their programs will be afforded the opportunity to graduate on time. For those students who are not in good standing and not on track to graduate, those conversations will be much more involved, and it will take time to determine the best path forward.

If the Board of Trustees decides to move the institution towards closure, we will have specific information on our web-page, identifying multiple pathways for each program and the curriculum maps, which would demonstrate how credits will transfer in that plan. The academic advisors will use these plans to assist students with their choices. At this point the advisors do not have this information, so we ask that you continue to be patient as we continue our work in this area and await word from the Board.

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

Sincerely,

Nancy P. Crimmin, Ed.D.
President