

**OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**  
Christopher M. Reber, Ph. D.



April 9, 2020

Dear Hudson County Community College Students, Faculty, Staff and Friends,

I hope this note finds you and your families and friends safe and healthy. For those who are experiencing challenge and grief, please know that our community is here for you at this difficult time. We care about you! Please reach out and let us know if we can be helpful in any way.

I continue to be phenomenally inspired by the hard work, flexibility, patience, and caring of all members of our HCCC family. It is a difficult time but we are getting through this together. Many of you are serving others in truly selfless and heroic ways. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for all you are doing!

I am writing with a few important updates.

***Announcement of Continuation of Fully Online Instruction for Summer I Term***

It now appears certain that we will be unable to conduct on-the-ground classes in our first summer session – Summer I. In consultation with many in our community, we are therefore announcing that fully online instruction will continue through Summer I, which ends on July 1. We will make a decision later about the second summer session. I know this presents challenges for many of our faculty and students and is not the news you wanted to hear from me, but I also know that you understand. All of the supports currently in place for students and faculty will continue during Summer I and for as long as fully online instruction continues.

***Announcement of December 2020 Commencement Ceremony***

We have conducted two surveys of our graduating students to determine the best option for a May Commencement alternative. As you are aware, we had planned to hold Commencement on May 21 at Red Bull Arena in Harrison, but that is no longer possible. Today we are announcing plans to hold a Commencement Ceremony in December. At this ceremony, we will honor all 2019-20 graduates as well as December 2020 graduates.

Commencement will be held on Thursday, December 10 beginning at noon at NJPAC in Newark. Please mark your calendars, and more information will be forthcoming. We now plan to move our annual ceremony to Red Bull Arena in May 2021.

Although this year's ceremony is postponed, we also want to celebrate our graduating students' success virtually this spring. This will include celebration packages mailed to graduating students' homes, virtual events including honor society inductions, social media recognitions highlighting the accomplishments of our graduates, and more. Students will receive an email with more details in the coming weeks.

I miss all of you so much, but I am very proud of you! I will be holding a virtual Town Hall Meeting next Thursday, April 16 at noon. I will offer comments through Facebook and then will be able to entertain posted questions. You will receive more information soon, and I hope many of you can join me. I will also be offering a brief video update to the College community next week.

As the holiday weekend approaches, I hope you are able to get some rest and relaxation. Please be good to yourselves, and please stay safe and healthy! We care about you and we care about one another!

With admiration and gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Chris

Christopher M. Reber  
President  
70 Sip Avenue  
Jersey City, NJ 07306  
(201) 360-4001