April 6, 2020

Dear Cardinal Students,

To keep you up-to-date on SUNY Plattsburgh campus activities, I want to share a few thoughts with you as we enter our third week of distance learning.

While we are all feeling somewhat disconnected, the care we feel for each and every one of you is not diminished. It is deep and heartfelt.

**Learning and Adapting**
Faculty and staff are learning and adapting daily just like you. And they are open to feedback from you as they shift teaching, grading and support methods to address your needs. They are sharing stories with each other and making changes as they do. I joined a video faculty chat a week ago with a focus on better supporting you. I was deeply impressed with the ideas and suggestions. We are fortunate to have such wonderful faculty.

For continuing students, remote course advising continues this week. I appreciate the commitment of all advisors through this process. They are eager to support your educational goals and see to it that you continue to make progress toward your degree.

**Graduating and Recognizing**
For graduating seniors, the delayed commencement program is more than a disappointment. I understand this is deeply felt and wish the future could be different. While we cannot erase the virus, we can strive to do more to recognize your incredible accomplishment. My hope is we can do several things over the next months to celebrate your success and investment over years at Plattsburgh. Stay tuned.

I want to acknowledge that four Plattsburgh graduating seniors have been recognized with the Chancellor’s Award for Student Excellence. You can read about them here. These students would typically be welcomed at a ceremony in Albany. As that will not take place this year, we will look for another way to recognize them and their tremendous achievement.

**Disruption is Not Forever**
Words are not enough at this stage to capture how we all feel or where we are at this moment in time. Whether it is shopping for food or doing homework, everything is different. And it will be for some time. The Student Health and Counseling Center is available and can be reached at (518) 564-2187. I urge you to ask for help if it could be a benefit.

As you enter this week, remember two things: This disruption is not forever. But we -- your Cardinal community -- are here forever.

Let us know how we can help you, today and everyday.

Dr. Alexander Enyedi
President