

Office of the President 1000 S. 4th St. Louisville, KY 40203 **T** 502-776-1443, ext. 204 **F** 502-614-1905 kcosby@simmonscollegeky.edu

June 26, 2020

Re: Simmons College's Re-Opening Fall 2020 – Hybrid Learning Method

Greetings Simmons Nation.

We all are saddened by the loss of 125,000 Americans and 500,000 of God's children in our world due to Covid-19, as well as all those facing economic devastation during this crisis. Even as we have prayed for others, however, we have had to consider what we should do about classes for Fall 2020. Continuing your education at Simmons is vital to your individual future and to your ability to be an agent of change who advocates for social justice in America

Our college has designed a flexible plan for fall that will allow students and faculty to be in class in person if they choose, or to teach or attend remotely if they feel this is in the best interest of their own health or the health of someone near to them.

Classes will resume on August 17th as originally scheduled. In-person classes will, however, end earlier than usual on November 24th, although assignments will continue after that date. Because of this change, fall break has been canceled.

To reduce risk, in-person classes will meet one day a week rather than two, but classes will continue remotely for the other instructional day. Sessions will be videoed and made available on the web. To protect the health of students and faculty, as well as the health of their loved ones, wearing masks while inside campus buildings will be mandatory, and social distancing is required while anywhere on campus.

A detailed plan will be released soon. We wanted to get this initial message to you now so you can begin to make plans. We will soon provide a comprehensive picture of the plans for fall.

In preparation for fall, all students must begin making use of their Simmons' email. This is mandatory. Only through your Simmons email will you our faculty and staff communicate with you about your classes, scholarships, class assignments, and important announcements. You will need to use your Simmons email to access our learning resources and learning management system. For individual help with your Simmons email, contact Ms. Vaughn at svaughn@simmonscollegeky.edu. Directions for setting up your email are posted also on our webpage at https://www.simmonscollegeky.edu/students-4/simmons-email/.

Looking forward to your continued success at Simmons.

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Dr. Kevin W. Cosby President