From: LouEdith Hara - Ihara@haskell.edu do-not-reply@blackboard.com

Subject: Haskell's Acting President's Message

Date: Mar 18, 2020 at 9:15:58 AM To: Lou Hara Ihara@HASKELL.edu

## Haskell Students,

As you know, our routines have changed dramatically over the last few days. I trust that many of you are now safely at home among your friends and loved ones. Some of you chose to remain on campus as well. Be sure to seek guidance on <u>CDC.gov</u> for information on how to practice safe behaviors to limit the threat of the spread of COVID-19. In Lawrence, very few confirmed cases have been reported to date, but we are continuing to implement safety measures to ensure that we do our part to protect our campus community and to contribute to the national effort to contain the spread of the virus. Haskell's faculty, staff, and administration are very proud of your participation in this effort. You have done all that we have asked of you – and you have done so with a great attitude of cooperation. We are very grateful to each and every one of you.

We are now beginning the shift to distance learning. Classes will by resume online (Blackboard) on Monday, March 23. You will be hearing from each of your instructors this week. It is important that you follow their instructions for how to complete your Spring 2020 semester classes. Please begin by signing into Blackboard and exploring your course sites. Here is the link to Haskell's Blackboard login: <a href="https://courses.haskell.edu/webapps/login/">https://courses.haskell.edu/webapps/login/</a>. If you are unfamiliar with Blackboard (and many of you will be), your instructor will assist you immediately. If you have any difficulty accessing Blackboard because of technology issues, your instructor needs to know immediately. He/she will assist you in finding a solution to completing your course. Instructors have been granted permission to engage whatever means necessary to enable you to complete your classes with them.

You have worked very hard to get to this point in the semester. The successful completion of your courses is now within reach. If you are a senior, you are

just weeks away from completing your degree. If you are near completion of your Associate's degree, that is also within reach. All you need to do is stay the course. Communicate immediately with your instructors. It is imperative that communicate to us any challenges confronting you that will make distance learning difficult for you. You can be confident in this fact: Haskell, your University, will do whatever it takes to help you complete your classes this semester.

Thank you again for being patient during this challenging moment. We have great faith in you. We are firm in our commitment to your academic success. Please be safe. We wish the very best for you and your families. Please work hard to stay in touch with Haskell's faculty, staff, and administration.

James Rains, Ph.D.

**Acting President**