



XAVIER

UNIVERSITY of LOUISIANA

Office of Student Affairs

Dear Xavierites,

As a university, our biggest priorities are the safety and wellbeing of our students, and their education and learning experiences. As we take this time to navigate a new temporary way of learning and living, there are a few points that are important to share.

To parents, once again thank you for trusting us with your most treasured possessions. As a committed partner in your student's success, I wanted to touch base about what you should expect as our student returns home to complete the semester. Please practice patience with yourselves and your students. Remember that while students may be home, they are still expected to complete the remainder of the semester's course requirements, this is especially important for those on track to graduate. Their primary focus is continuing to learn new concepts, while maintaining their GPA. Although students are considered adults and will be responsible for their own assignments as well as maintaining a study schedule for upcoming exams, they still need your support and guidance.

Please be aware that your student is likely to have very demanding expectations that, under these circumstances, could cause a strong sense of stress as we are near the end of the school year with final projects and exams. Their daily learning and social routines have been unexpectedly transformed in a sudden way, so they will particularly need your support and unmerited grace. As we move forward, we must be mindful of what they are feeling in order to understand how we can support them. Remember the University Counseling Center is just a phone call away and our counselors are available for telehealth appointments. Encourage your student to call them at 504-520-7315.

To students, we encourage you to remain focused. As hard as it might be, avoid hanging out with your local friends who have also returned home. Remember, this is not a break, it is just a new way of pursuing excellence in academics at Xavier. The exercise of self-quarantining and social distancing is for the purpose of preventing the spread of COVID-19. This means face to face social interaction should be limited to digital devices, i.e., cellphones and computers, until public health officials advise that COVID-19 is no longer a threat to our respective communities. It does not mean your semester is over.

Use this time to forge the bonds of camaraderie with your Xavier family in new ways to maintain focus on what's most important - finishing this semester #XULAStrong! You have worked so hard for your academic achievements and we will do everything we can to help you continue to excel. Take care of yourselves, mentally, physically, and spiritually. Reach out to a member of the Xavier family, a relative, or friend to simply "exhale", when needed.

Lastly, remember to be patient with your administration, peers, and professors. Like you, they have been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 crisis. And, just like you, they are dealing with this unfolding health crisis. Compassion is paramount by all involved.

We are all adjusting to the changing conditions created by COVID-19. But, one thing remains steady – our commitment to you. We are in this together. We are present, we are listening, we are observing, and we are taking all necessary steps to keep you healthy and educated.

I will be announcing some activities and new ways we will stay connected, and share in activities together in the coming weeks so that our University remains your home.

I Remain,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Curtis Wright'.

Curtis Wright
Vice President, Student Affairs