Dear Barnard Colleagues,

We’ve arrived at that time of year when our students, many of whom we’ve known since they were shy, uncertain first-year students, leave the Barnard/Columbia bubble to go out into the world and do great things.

In past years, we lined the walkway at the Barnard gate to cheer and clap for the seniors as they headed across Broadway in their caps and gowns for University Commencement exercises, the completion of one more step in their formal education. Even though we’re not able to do that this year, we still want to wish them well. Congratulations to the Class of 2020!

And congratulations to each of you, in each office and each department, for performing your roles and jobs so well each day so that our students can fly.

Here now are the updates:

**Barnard News**

- Please see the updated [alert.barnard.edu](http://alert.barnard.edu) webpage for information on 2020-21 planning.
- Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo extended the statewide stay-at-home order until June 13 for regions, including New York City, that do not meet the criteria to begin a limited reopening. Here’s the latest [Executive Order](https://www.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-extends-statewide-stay-home-order-until-june-13-regions-meet-criteria-begin-limited-reopening).
- Please join us for the **Barnard College Celebration of the Class of 2020** on Monday, May 18 at 4 p.m. EDT. Board Chair Milstein, President Beilock, Provost Bell, and Dean Grinage will address the class. Tune in to [https://youtu.be/Eu4OLp6F1IE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Eu4OLp6F1IE).
- Also, remember the two Columbia University events:
  - **Columbia Baccalaureate Service**: Sunday, May 17, 2020, 10 a.m. EDT, via [web broadcast](https://www.columbia.edu/columbia-baccalaureate-service) - a multi-faith service that celebrates graduates of Columbia’s undergraduate colleges.
  - **Columbia University Commencement**: Wednesday, May 20, 11 a.m. EDT, via [web broadcast](https://www.columbia.edu/columbia-university-commencement).

**BLAIS**

- [Deconstructing Design – with Elanur Erdogan](https://www.barnard.edu/blaishappenings), Friday, May 15, 6 p.m.
Barnard Staff Advisory Council (BSAC)

- BSAC invites all staff to zoom in every Tuesday at 4 p.m. for **Talking Tuesdays** to share news, thoughts, and concerns. [https://columbiauniversity.zoom.us/j/898605965](https://columbiauniversity.zoom.us/j/898605965)
  
  Meeting ID: 898 605 965 One-tap mobile +16468769923,,898605965# US (New York)

- **Happiness Hour** will be held every Thursday at 4 p.m. Feel free to show off your pets, talk about anything and everything, and see many of your friends and co-workers. [https://columbiauniversity.zoom.us/j/511773216](https://columbiauniversity.zoom.us/j/511773216)
  
  Meeting ID: 511 773 216

  +16468769923,,511773216# US (New York)

Resources

- Bright Horizons
  - Health & Safety Protocols
  - Work at Home Activities for kids at home
- COVID-19 Better Health Advisors Toolkit
- IRS Check on Economic Impact Payment Visit this website to check on the status of your federal stimulus payment.
- MTA Overnight Service Changes Updated schedules are posted here. If bus alternatives are not an option, MTA is providing Essential Connector service for essential workers. This service allows essential workers to take one free trip in a for-hire vehicle per night. Essential workers who cannot use bus service should register. Once registered, call 511 to schedule.
- The NYC Department of Health issued new isolation requirements.
- Tune in to TIAA webinars, including topics such as retirement and financial planning.

This week, special recognition goes out to:

**Deans from the Dean of Studies Office**

- Christina Kuan Tsu
- Wendy Garay
- Jemima Gedeon
- Rebecca Grabiner
- Evelyn Leong

Thanks to all of you who keep Barnard going!

I also encourage you to continue to email hr@barnard.edu with suggestions for information you’d like to see and shoutouts to those colleagues who are going above and beyond in their work for the College.

Be well and stay safe,

Catherine