May 12, 2020

Dear Students,

You’ve made it through one of the most irregular and challenging semesters on memory at Richmond Law. From online classes to cancelled events to digital exams, you’ve responded and adapted with grace and strength. And at the risk of starting to sound like a broken record, I’ll say it one more time: I’m so proud of our community.

As we approach the summer months and look ahead to next semester, a good degree of uncertainty remains. I write today to assure you that we’re working closely with the University to ensure a successful 2020-2021 school year. As President Crutcher noted in his April 29 email, we are currently planning for a full academic year of on-campus instruction, and are investigating a wide variety of options to accommodate public health needs. These options include the possibility of changing the schedule to accommodate smaller class sizes and more social distancing, or reconfiguring classrooms to provide more physical space between students. All of these potential solutions are dependent on the status of the pandemic, and all are centered on providing the safest learning environment for our students.

Amidst the uncertainties, our goal remains, as always, to provide the highest quality legal education possible.

At this point, I know that many of us are tired. We’re tired of Zoom meetings and of self-isolation. We’re tired of changing and cancelling important and meaningful plans in our lives. We’re tired of the anxieties and tragedy brought on by this virus. So I hope that, as you transition to the summer, or possibly start a new job or internship, that you also find some time to pause, reflect, and relax.

Next semester, we will likely not be able to return completely to “business as usual.” And once again, I’ll call upon this community for your good will, your flexibility, and your resilience. Luckily, I know that our students, faculty, and staff are not in short supply of these important attributes.

Please know that I will continue to update you over the summer via email with news and updates on the coming semester as soon as they become available. These updates will also include a special summer edition of the Docket, which will be distributed every other week starting May 24. In the meantime, as always, please feel free to be in touch with any questions.

Best,

Wendy C. Perdue
Dean and Professor of Law
University of Richmond School of Law
203 Richmond Way
University of Richmond, VA 23173
Email: wperdue@richmond.edu; Office: (804) 289-1779
(Title/Pronouns: Dean/she/her/her)

203 Richmond Way
University of Richmond, VA 23173
(804) 289-8740 Fax: (804) 289-8992
law.richmond.edu