



April 6, 2020

Dear Parents and Families,

I hope you are all doing well in these trying times. As Easter approaches, I'm reminded to never lose sight of what matters most. Let us celebrate new beginnings and renew our faith, our relationships and our commitment to the values that form and shape us.

When I last updated you, we had just extended our online instruction through the end of the semester. In this uncertain environment, it's important that learning continues even if it can't happen in person. We are committed to helping your student have a positive experience whether online or in person. To that end, our faculty and staff strive to nurture a feeling of connectedness, community and cohesion. In this new high-tech world, we're still very much high-relationship, and small really does mean more here at Marymount. In return, we expect students to be proactive, present and purposeful. The classroom may be a computer screen now but our students must actively participate in discussion boards, network with other classmates, attend a professor's virtual office hours and access the digital resources made available. Students who are most successful are those who stick to a regular routine and schedule. They hold themselves accountable and take responsibility. Principles I demand of myself as well.

While campus is closed, staff and faculty continue to work remotely and are accessible through email, phone and web conferencing for advising, learning support, career planning, IT and other services they normally would have sought on campus. The Villas remain open for students who are unable to leave, with three meals served every day, and around-the-clock security and supervision still in place.

With the passage of the CARES Act, federal legislation aimed at providing relief for individuals and businesses impacted by the coronavirus outbreak, Marymount has taken complementary action and will grant a partial room and board refund to students who have moved out of the Villas. Refunds will be based on a per-day rate and the amount of flex cash that has been used at the time of check-out and return of keys. Students do not have to leave the Villas and may stay as originally planned until May 9. Students were notified of these arrangements last week. If students have already moved out but were unable to remove their belongings, they should do so by April 12. We will back-date their move-out to March 20 for calculating their refund. Residents who do not move out by April 12 will only receive a refund for those days after their official check-out from the Villas. For students who live more than 100 miles from the Villas and have not moved their belongings, they should contact our residential life staff to make alternate arrangements. We will try to accommodate the needs of our students whenever possible. Move-out should be coordinated with residential staff as we do not want a concentration of students moving all at one time. We will work with students to schedule the moving activities but we intend to move cautiously while maintaining social distancing for everyone's safety and well-being.

Finally, we have extended the last day for students to officially withdraw from a class or to choose a credit/no credit grading option until April 24. These choices may affect degree progress, so we strongly recommend students meet with an advisor to determine the best course of action. The attached link to



our academic advising website will provide additional details:

<https://www.marymountcalifornia.edu/academicx/academic-resources/advising-services/> .

In closing, I'm going to leave you with two thoughts.

"Today, we are one day closer to having all this behind us!" – TV newscaster

"Today is a good day to have a good day!" – My wife Nan

I hope you all have a good day. Stay well, stay healthy and stay remote for a while longer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Marcotte", with a long, sweeping underline.

Brian Marcotte,  
President  
Marymount California University