

From: [Provost](#)
To: [HOF-FACULTY](#)
Subject: A Message from the Provost re: Students residing in different time zones
Date: Thursday, April 30, 2020 6:13:53 PM

A Message from the Provost

We have received a number of complaints from students regarding time zone issues. Specifically, these concerns are from students residing in distant parts of the globe and relate to their participation in our remotely taught classes. Ideally, faculty members would record their class and make it available to students residing in distant time zones. However, if a faculty member chooses not to do so, there is the expectation and requirement that the faculty member will make the materials covered in class available to the students in an equivalent manner. It needs to be one or the other.

The situation we are in is not the fault of our students or anyone else in our community. Our students are not in the residence halls because of anything that they or we have done. Time zone differences make it hard for some of our students. For example, if a class takes place at 2 pm on our campus, it is 2 am in China, 4:30 am in India, or a class takes place at 8:00 am in New York it is 5:00 am in California. Please be sensitive to these issues. I am not saying that exams cannot be synchronous or that students should be given their exams at other than the standard class or exam time. However, students do have the right not to expect to be in class in the middle of the night or at odd hours to have access to the teaching and learning involved. I think all of you as faculty would agree that we must be fair, caring and sensitive to our student needs. As always, I appreciate your cooperation and accommodation in these challenging times.

Thanks,
Herman A. Berliner, PhD
Provost

Please be advised that this transmittal may be a
confidential communication or may otherwise be privileged
or confidential. If you are not the intended recipient,
please do not read, copy or re-transmit this
communication. If you have received this Communication in
error, please notify me.