



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

May 18, 2020

Dear UNE Community,

As you are aware, at the end of March, I announced that University leadership had made the very difficult decision to postpone this year's Commencement ceremonies due to the coronavirus outbreak. I know that you, members of the UNE faculty and professional staff, have been — just like the students — anxiously awaiting news about Commencement plans. While we still plan to celebrate our graduates' accomplishments at a later date in person when we may do so safely, we know that members of the Class of 2020 are eager to mark this significant occasion during the graduation season.

In that spirit, I am pleased to announce that UNE will hold virtual graduation events for each college during the weekend of June 12 to 14. The graduates were informed of this decision on Saturday morning, the day of their originally planned University Commencement.

More information about the individual online College Graduations will be forthcoming. Details will be posted to the UNE Commencement page (une.edu/commencement) as they become available, so please stay tuned.

I know that many of you have worked closely with students in this graduating class — in some cases, over the span of four years or more. I hope you will join me in supporting them by watching their college ceremonies and cheering them on, even if those cheers are virtually shouted from your living room sofas or from around your kitchen tables.

We are all so proud of our graduates. Your “presence” at their graduation will serve as recognition of all their hard work and the sacrifices they have been forced to make — sacrifices that have been born with grace, altruism, and an understanding of the importance in acting for the common good. Thank you for all that you do for our students and for helping to instill in them the values that UNE holds dear.

Sincerely,

James D. Herbert
President

