

Dear Student:

I imagine that you're handling a lot of new challenges during this first week of online courses. You may be balancing coursework with the stress of being with your family 24/7, new homeschooling or unexpected child care situations, anxiety about loved ones, and financial concerns. In this far from perfect situation, my message to you at this time is simple: **Keep going. You can do this.**

Please know that our entire ACM family believes in you. We are all (virtually) here to encourage and support you.

Starting today, from my home to yours, I'll update you with a weekly email in which I'll highlight issues important to your education or career training and respond to new concerns.

Today, I want to advise you to continue in your courses. With our move of classes to an online format, you must continue to participate in the course work and follow your instructor's guidance to remain eligible for financial aid.

If you are a student in a program or course with clinical hours, externships, internships, labs, and/or other hands-on activities, please know that we are in contact with the accreditation bodies that oversee those programs and the Maryland Higher Education Commission. Contact your Program Director/Division Chair for specific information and updates.

Don't let this semester derail your future. Instead...

- Reach out to your instructor or Program Director with your questions and concerns.
- Utilize our tutoring services (look for tutoring announcements through [Brightspace](#)) or online tutoring at [ThinkingStorm](#).
- Let us know what you need to succeed in your classes, whether that's help with IT issues through our online Help Desk (email [ithelpdesk@allegany.edu](mailto:ithelpdesk@allegany.edu)), access to accommodations and disability resources, or a connection to [online counseling resources](#) offered free of charge through the College.
- Access research databases and e-books 24/7 through [ACM Library's online resources](#).
- Ask questions of us. Email our Information Center at [info@allegany.edu](mailto:info@allegany.edu) or contact Jennifer Engelbach, Executive Director of Enrollment and Advising Services, at [jengelbach@allegany.edu](mailto:jengelbach@allegany.edu).

Updates regarding summer and fall registration, student activities, and commencement will be shared as soon as they become available.

Outside of my weekly messages to you, please contact us with your questions by emailing [info@allegany.edu](mailto:info@allegany.edu) and monitor our website's [coronavirus page](#) for the most current information. We welcome any questions that you may have.

Wishing you and yours good health,

Dr. Cynthia Bambara  
ACM President