April 2, 2020

Dear Harris-Stowe Family:

I hope that you are all doing well. We know that this is a turbulent, unprecedented time—certainly not the spring semester we had in mind. We remain grateful that the University does not have any known COVID-19 cases among its campus community; however, the crisis has hit close to home as one of our alumnae, Jazmond Dixon, was the first in St. Louis City to die from COVID-19. Many of us also know family and friends who have been diagnosed with and affected by the virus.

The health and safety of our students, faculty and staff continue to be my top priority. As such, as part of the St. Louis area-wide effort to curb the spread of novel coronavirus (COVID-19), and Saturday's "Stay at Home" order issued by St. Louis City and County, Harris-Stowe State University will remain closed through at least May 1. Pending continued updates and guidance from government and health officials, nonessential employees should anticipate returning to campus on Monday, May 4.

Administrators are working with faculty and staff to continue enhancing plans for remote learning and working. Your division leaders will continue to keep you informed of any changes as they occur and provide updates.

We will continue to monitor and carefully follow government and health official's recommendations and make adjustments as necessary. Thank you for your continued trust during these uncertain and extraordinary times. I am looking forward to welcoming you all back to campus very soon.

With Hornet Pride,

Dr. Dwayne Smith
Interim President