

Message from the Provost
What about Commencement for May 2020?

Dear Graduating Senior:

I pray that you and your loved ones remain in good health and are keeping safe as we all face the challenges created by the COVID-19 virus. These are unprecedented times as we adjust our lives. As you know, everyone has been asked to put social distancing and other measures in place to curtail the spread of the virus and the University has had to make some changes to our regular operations. One of these changes required us to reevaluate all upcoming events such as, the May 2020 Commencement Ceremony, that would gather more than 10 people together.

We did not want to make a decision on Commencement without you. Commencement is the culmination of your educational experience at Cheyney where we celebrate your accomplishments and graduation. So earlier this week, we sent you a brief survey to help us determine your preference for the May 2020 Commencement Ceremony. Based on those responses, an overwhelming majority of you--approximately 90%--recommended that the ceremony be rescheduled to a later to be determined date that possibly includes August or December 2020 graduates. We heard you! Therefore, we will not hold the Commencement Ceremony at the end of the semester on May 9th as originally planned. This postponement will in no way affect the conferral of your degree. Students who have applied to graduate and who will successfully complete their final course requirements this semester will have their degree designations added to their Cheyney University transcript. These students will receive their diplomas in the mail after grades have been finalized by the Registrar's Office.

Please give us time to work through some of the other details associated with this decision. For example, you may have already ordered your cap and gown and are now wondering what to do with them. If you have other questions or concerns, please email me at kmorris@cheyney.edu. We will do our best to address all concerns and provide you with other updates soon.

In the meantime, be safe; be well.

Kizzy Morris, ABD, MPM
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"If learning were based on innate abilities, it's likely none of us would be here today. Learning is accomplished through support systems and hard work."

~ Ray Marshall
National Center on Education and Economy

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