

UWL Spring Commencement Plan

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Dear students and colleagues:

As we continue to address COVID-19, I know many have wondered about the status of our spring commencement.

I know firsthand, literally, the importance of celebrating our graduates and their many accomplishments. One of the greatest privileges of my chancellor role is being able to personally congratulate each of our University's graduates as they walk across the stage at our ceremonies. However, in light of current restrictions on bringing groups of people together we and the other UW System universities have no choice but to postpone our May gatherings. This certainly will be disappointing to our graduates, their classmates and their families, but I want to assure you we will do everything we can to have an in-person celebration on our campus at a later date.

Please keep in mind that this does not affect whether students graduate – the timing of our celebration is the only thing that's changing. Official diplomas will be sent to those meeting degree requirements by mid-summer, just as they have in previous years.

There's understandable disappointment and sadness that our beautiful campus will remain quiet this spring. And in May, we'll miss the sight of joyful graduates taking pictures around campus in their caps and gowns. In particular, May 16th at the circle in front of Cartwright certainly won't be the same without them.

Thank you for your continued understanding and support during these difficult times. Please continue to take care of yourself, practice social distancing and wash your hands regularly. We will get through this!

And for continuous updates about the impact of COVID-19 on UWL, please be sure to visit our [COVID-19 website](#).

Take care,

Joe

Joe Gow
Chancellor