



Office of the President

NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY

March 24, 2020

Dear graduates,

After much thought and careful consideration, taking into account the guidelines from the CDC, NAU has made the difficult decision to cancel its scheduled in-person Spring 2020 Commencement ceremonies, convocations, and related events.

I can imagine how disappointed each of you must be and how much you and your families have looked forward to celebrating your achievements. However, this decision is necessary to ensure the safety, health, and well-being of our community during this unprecedented global health crisis.

Our event staff is working to fine-tune plans to celebrate our graduates in a virtual commencement ceremony that will take place in May. We also are inviting all May graduates—nearly 6,000—to walk in a special ceremony on Saturday, December 12. An RSVP process for this ceremony will be sent out in the coming months.

More information about our virtual commencement will be shared soon, including details of how you can take part by providing personal photos and messages. Your celebration will include a graduation kit with NAU commemorative items, which will be mailed to you in May.

I am extremely proud of the way our Lumberjacks have come together during these challenging times to find ways to help each other and ensure a better and brighter future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rita".

Rita Hartung Cheng
President