



December 7, 2020

Dear Heidelberg Students:

Welcome to your last week of classes for the fall semester. Good luck to everyone to finish as strong as possible and to feel great about your accomplishments in such difficult conditions!

Nine seniors in the Heidelberg Life of the Mind Honors Program presented their capstone projects virtually last Tuesday and Thursday. These are normally hosted in Herbster Chapel (with tasty refreshments!) at the end of each term. It is a wonderful occasion for the finishing students and their families and friends. I usually attend and I always learn a lot from these outstanding students. I plan to watch the videos as soon as I am able. Congratulations to those nine students for completing this major milestone in their Heidelberg experience.

The Heidelberg Theatre Department's recorded full production of *Elf* is about to be released and I am excited about it. Our family enjoys that movie every year at this time! I watched their recorded production of *Freaky Friday* a couple of weeks ago and it was tremendous. I really admire the creative resilience and gritty imagination of our Theatre students and their Faculty.

Meanwhile, we are being engulfed by the continuing spread of COVID-19 right now. All of the health experts are telling us that the next three months will be the most dangerous period for this pandemic in the United States. The Ohio 7-day running positivity rate has jumped to 15.8%. Surrounding states are faring better but not good. Please stay vigilant and follow all safety protocols to protect your families, friends, and yourselves.

We need to stay healthy in order for all students who want to return to campus next month to do so successfully. As communicated previously, all students will be required to confirm a "negative" COVID-19 test right before their return to campus. We will provide these test kits with instructions. Dean of Student Affairs Chris Abrams will be sending an email within the next day asking you to update your address in OASIS, if needed, for you to receive your test kit.

I wish everyone a great last week of classes!

Respectfully,

Rob Huntington  
President