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Dear WWU Summer 2020 Graduates,

Let me start by offering, on behalf of the entire Western community, my sincere congratulations to you on your upcoming graduation.

It's an understatement to say that these last few months have been unprecedented in your lifetime, and in many ways, in the lives of your families, friends and communities. I am saddened to let you know that we are postponing summer commencement in order to conform with Governor Inslee's directive on limiting large gatherings during Phase II of Washington State's Safe Start reopening plan. Just as winter commencement was combined with spring, we will do likewise with summer and fall. At this point, we are still hopeful for conditions that will enable us to host an in-person ceremony in December, but we are doing contingency planning for additional virtual ceremonies in case virus infection rates require the same safety precautions.

I know you have put thousands of hours into your degrees and graduation is something you've been dreaming of for years. This is a significant moment in your life and a proud moment for your families and loved ones.

We deeply regret the postponement of the in-person celebration of our graduates and your achievements, and I thank you, once again, for your understanding, patience, and citizenship during this challenging time that requires all of us to be flexible, creative and responsible in a variety of new ways to defeat this pandemic challenge.

At this point, we are moving forward with planning for summer and fall commencement ceremonies in December, and it is our hope that you will be able to join us so that we can properly celebrate your achievements. Visit the [Registrar's Office website](#) for updates on our planning for your commencement ceremony.

Best wishes as you complete the summer term. Please stay in touch with us and, again, congratulations as you reach this important milestone in your life. I am confident that you will make a positive difference wherever your aspirations take you. We are proud of you!

Please be well,



Sabah Randhawa
President