



Message from the President
March 18, 2020

Dear Campus Community,

Thank you again for your tremendous resilience and strong cooperation during this challenging and evolving situation as we deal with the effects of COVID-19 on our campus mission. The work of the Academy continues, and we are making decisions and plans to ensure the spring semester reaches a successful and safe conclusion. Our residence halls remain open throughout the period of alternative modality instruction with continued support services. Our dedicated faculty and staff continue their efforts to support the education of every cadet. This means making certain that our seniors are able to graduate, and all other cadets maintain their academic trajectory.

To reach this goal adjustments will need to be made to both the academic calendar and major campus events. Spring break will continue as planned during the period from March 26 - April 5. Alternate modality courses will resume on Monday, April 6. Please plan on resuming in-person classes on campus starting on or about, but *no sooner than Monday, April 20*. Further adjustments to the academic calendar are under consideration and will be communicated once we have fully consulted with the Academic Senate and Academic Affairs leadership team. The decision-making and planning process is clearly occurring in a rapidly-changing environment, so we continue to assess and determine the best courses of action based on what is known in the moment. We will continue to monitor the situation through our state, local, and CDC officials and adjust the campus plan when it becomes necessary.

One thing we know for certain: commencement and departure on the GOLDEN BEAR training cruise will not happen on their currently planned dates of May 2 and May 3, respectively. As we gain a greater understanding of the COVID-19 situation in the coming weeks, we will be able to make decisions about rescheduling our commencement and cruise departure dates. This information will be widely disseminated to the entire Cal Maritime community as soon as possible to allow individuals time to commit to travel plans.

The bottom line: we intend to continue alternative modalities, with a spring break, for those courses which can be delivered in this way. We intend to resume in-class courses around April 20, and to teach those courses to completion. We intend to take the GOLDEN BEAR on training cruise and to deliver at-sea education for the full period of instruction. We are rescheduling commencement to a later date (TBD) consistent with health conditions that will allow us to do so.

You should also know that we are in contact with industry partners to discuss impacts to commercial cruise, co-ops, and internships. As the full impact to these activities is known, we will make that information available.

Your campus team is working hard in an unprecedented period of incredible uncertainty. They are focusing on campus community health, academic program progress, and completion, and adapting to a constantly changing decision environment. I ask for your continued patience as new plans evolve in the coming weeks and to visit our [FAQ and information page](#), which is continually updated with the latest information. You may also wish to view and share my recent [video message](#).

Take care of yourselves, your loved ones, and one another. I look forward to seeing you all back on our campus soon.

With gratitude,



Thomas A. Cropper
President