Dear Students,

For the past several weeks, Bristol faculty and staff have been collaborating and researching the best options available for the Fall 2020 semester. Many options were considered. The responsibility of keeping everyone safe weighed heavily on the decision making.

We continue to receive information from our national, state and local health officials. Massachusetts is still seeing a high rate of COVID-19. In fact, we are one of the highest in the nation for reported cases. While cases are slowing, several models show a possible resurgence of cases this fall.

For the safety of our college community, we are announcing changes for the Fall 2020 semester.

Courses will be offered in the following formats:

- **Online.** Fully online course and materials.
- **Synchronous live.** Courses that will offer live instruction via video technology.
- **Hybrid:** Courses that include a blend of online and on-campus course work. These primarily include those with hands-on requirements. On-campus, face-to-face instruction will most likely require the use of face masks, social distancing and other precautionary measures.
- **We will not be offering any fully face-to-face courses this fall.**

So that you are making informed decisions as you build your fall schedule, we will be updating the course schedule. Throughout the next three to four weeks, you will begin seeing changes to classes in the course search on the website and accessBCC. If you have already registered for fall classes, your schedule will be updated to reflect the change in modality (Online, Synchronous Live or Hybrid). **By July 1, all course information will be updated. We will need to provide you with continuous updates. It is important that you check your email regularly.**

**REGISTER NOW.** We know that many of you were waiting for this announcement before registering for fall courses. As always, the earlier you register, the better your selection of courses. Don’t put your education on hold – know that we continue to offer support services to assist you along the way.

**MEET WITH YOUR ADVISOR.** If you have not already, we encourage you to connect with your Advisor as soon as possible to determine the best course options to meet your needs and educational goals. Your Advisor can also provide your PIN, which you may need to register. We anticipate a high volume of appointments in August, so it’s best to meet with your Advisor sooner rather than later. If your advisor is a faculty member, their availability may be limited over the summer. If you need assistance connecting with your Advisor, please contact **advisingcenter@bristolcc.edu.**
FINANCIAL AID. If you have not done so already, please file your Financial Aid applications (FAFSA) online at www.fafsa.ed.gov as soon as possible. If you need help, please click here to book an appointment with a Bristol Financial Aid counselor.

IMPORTANT DATES. Please keep the following dates in mind as you plan for fall.

- Tuition payments due: August 6
- Registration deadline: September 1
- First day of fall classes: September 8

We are going to work together to have a great fall semester. Rest assured, you will still have access to your instructors and support services. We understand that some of you prefer face-to-face instruction and thrive on the sense of community for which Bristol is known. Personally, I, too, miss coming to campus every day and seeing you. We need to remember that there will be a time when we can come together as a community on our campuses once again. This will be a slow, deliberate process for your safety and the safety of our entire community.

Best regards,

Laura L. Douglas, Ph.D.
President