

A message from Dr. Janet Morrison



Weathering the storm

March 4, 2021

Colleagues,

I want to start by thanking you – again! – for your patience and perseverance. Like me, you are probably tired of interacting through screens and staying home; we are stressed and bored and busy and lonely all at the same time. Recent data shows that, [as a country](#), we’re not feeling optimistic about the end of the pandemic, something fueled – no doubt – by predictions about a third wave of infections brought on by variants.

Vaccines are coming, which is serving as light at the end of a long tunnel. At this point, it might feel like we should ease up on restrictions and precautions. For the good of our community, however, we must remain vigilant and continue to limit access to our campuses, impress the criticality of mask use and enforce physical distancing mandates. These and other measures will keep our students, faculty and staff safe. This challenge is unprecedented, but we’re almost through the storm and can’t ease up now.

Over the next two months, Sheridan will need to engage in courageous conversations to ensure we remain laser-focused on maintaining academic quality and living out the vision we co-created for Sheridan 2024. Our pandemic response will continue to be guided by the principles we established at the outset:

- The well-being of our entire learning community is paramount.
- Planning will respect the pillars of our Academic Plan: character, quality and accountability.
- We will navigate the pandemic response together, as a learning community, in ways that demonstrate kindness, generosity and compassion.
- Safeguarding the long-term economic sustainability of Sheridan is an imperative.
- Our long-term lens will remain rivetted to the four priorities and five enablers crystalized in our Strategic Plan.

Our new branding eloquently conveys what we all need to hear right now: **better is coming!** I’m loving the optimistic message that we’re putting out into the world on buses, billboards and magazines. I’ve heard from others that they feel the same.

Please: hang in there, colleagues. We’re in this together and will emerge on the other side stronger as a community and force for good in the world.

Warmly,

Janet Morrison, PhD
President and Vice Chancellor



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