April 2, 2021

To: All Students
From: Maureen Forrestal, Assistant Provost for Student Scholarly Engagement
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Subj: Virtual Celebration ‘21

On behalf of the Celebration Planning Committee, we wanted to share with you the plans for this year’s event with the hope that some of you might want to participate.

A few weeks ago, a survey was sent to all Department Chairs and Program Directors asking if they had already made plans for their majors’ capstone presentations and, if so, whether they would like us to post the information of when the presentations would take place on our Celebration ’21 webpage ([www.gettysburg.edu/celebration](http://www.gettysburg.edu/celebration)). The idea is that it will be easier for interested members of the campus community to find this information about the participating capstones all in one place instead of having to search through a series of departmental webpages. Thus, for the 11 departments and programs\* who responded to the survey, we will continue to work with them to obtain presenters’ names and project titles to make those part of the Celebration webpage information. It’s certainly possible that some of these departments or programs may want/need only members of their home department to be in attendance at these presentations and, in those cases, no Zoom link will be provided. The bottom line, however, is that any graduating senior whose department or programs had indicated their interest in Celebration by returning the survey and/or contacting us and who present the capstone may consider themselves part of Celebration ’21 and will receive a complementary tee shirt.

In addition to this webpage listing, we are offering the option to all students to develop and upload a showcase (a file) to the Acadiate platform, similar to what we did for [Virtual CAFÉ](https://www.acadiate.com/ee/gettysburg/Cafe_Symposium_2021) in February. Each showcase will consist of a student’s research or creative activity project, whether it be in poster, performance, oral presentation, or short film format, along with a brief (3-5 minute) video introduction describing the project. Unlike CAFÉ, however, there will be no Zoom meetings or live streaming from these showcases. All relevant materials must be pre-recorded. The showcases will be available for viewing starting the morning of **Wednesday, May 5 through Friday, May 7.** Since projects must have a faculty mentor (classroom instructor, independent study supervisor, etc.) attached to them, please be in contact with your mentor before you submit your registration so they won’t be taken by surprise when they receive the e-mail asking for their approval for your project to be included in Celebration.

For those students interested in participating in the showcase presentation part of Celebration ‘21, **registration will open this Tuesday, April 6 and will close at 8:00 pm Tuesday, April 20.** The registration form can be found at <https://www.gettysburg.edu/celebration/online-registration/>. Once you have registered, we will be sending you more details and on **Friday, April 16th at noon,** we will be holding a Zoom meeting to answer any questions. In the meantime, you can e-mail celebration@gettysburg.edu and we will get back to you ASAP.

We realize that this has past year has been incredibly challenging and exhausting for all of us and that you may be thinking that you just can’t add one more thing to your To Do list this semester. We would still ask that you consider participating in Celebration ’21, however, as it is an opportunity to share just some of the hard work you’ve put forth this year despite difficult circumstances. I think the entire campus community could benefit from celebrating your resiliency (as well of that of your faculty) and dedication to making the most of your Gettysburg liberal arts education.

\*Psychology, Public Policy, Mathematics, Religious Studies, Women Gender Sexuality Studies, Environmental Studies, Political Science, Music Education, Economics, Sociology, Art & Art History, Biology, German Studies