Trinity College

March 27, 2020

Dear Alumni,

I hope this letter finds you and your families safe and healthy.

On Monday, Trinity College students resumed their spring semester via remote learning, carrying on their education despite the disruption caused by the coronavirus pandemic. They have handled these abrupt changes with the resilience you would expect of all Bantams, as have our faculty and staff, who have done remarkable work in shifting an entire curriculum to virtual platforms in just a few short weeks.

This moment certainly has led to many disappointments—I think about our seniors whose Trinity careers have come to an end in a fashion none of us could have imagined. But it also has revealed the compassion, loyalty, and strength of the extended Trinity family, so many of whom have reached out to ask how they can help and what they can do. As a start, I wanted to offer you a few simple but meaningful ways to assist your fellow Bantams.

First, as you know, the spring semester of senior year is a time of uncertainty for many students in the best of circumstances. But the Class of 2020 faces even more challenges, especially as employers recalibrate their hiring. We need the alumni community to rally. Here is how you can help right now:

- Join the more than 2,000 alumni who are part of the Bantam Career Network (BCN). Create an account by visiting http://bcn.trincoll.edu. Click "Join Our Network," and use your email address. You can have your account up and running in minutes.
- Once you have signed up, respond to students who write and ask for your advice. Be sure to choose "**Aid the Class of 2020**" as one of your "Help Topics," so seniors know of your willingness to advise them.
- Share any and all entry-level jobs or internships at your organization. If you can offer one specifically for Trinity seniors, that's even better. You can send a link or job description to Severn Sandt in Career Development at severn.sandt@trincoll.edu.

Second, I invite you to engage with Trinity and the Bantam family through social media. We update these pages regularly and invite you to interact with us virtually

on Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, and Facebook. We also are working on creating an expanded virtual community that will allow us to function even at a distance and will include a range of activities, including online town halls (look for an announcement on that soon).

Finally, I ask you to consider making a financial contribution to <u>support our students</u> and <u>families</u>. We have set up a Student Emergency and Equity Fund (SEEF) that is providing assistance with a range of immediate practical needs, and we are seeking support for our financial aid program, which will become an even more important lifeline for our students during the coming months. A number of alumni and parents have contributed to these efforts, and the fund is already having an impact.

A community shows its true colors in times of greatest challenge and difficulty. For nearly two centuries, Trinity has shown that it can overcome even the most daunting circumstances. It has done that by pulling together, by looking out for one another, and by drawing upon those deep reservoirs of generosity, resourcefulness, and ingenuity that are the hallmarks of this remarkable community.

Thank you all for your commitment to the college and to one another. Go Bantams!

Gratefully,

Michael T. Casey Vice President for College Advancement