



March 30, 2020

Dear Santa Cruz Center Students & Community Members,

As we navigate this global crisis together, let me first **thank you** for your patience and understanding. The outpouring of support we have received is truly moving.

We also are deeply grateful to the faculty and staff who so swiftly converted Pima Community College classes and support services online. This was a heroic, collaborative effort! Unfortunately, we must share the sad news that Pima Community College (PCC), like so many colleges across the nation, made the hard decision to **cancel the 2020 Commencement Ceremony scheduled for May 21, 2020 at the Tucson Convention Center Arena**. As PCC Chancellor Lee Lambert noted in his prudent message, *"In good conscience, we cannot hold or countenance events that bring together groups of people in the midst of an ongoing pandemic that demands physical distancing."*

We share the disappointment this brings, especially to those who are first in their families to graduate from college, as I was. We all are managing the loss of valued gatherings and activities during this crisis, but this one hits us in the heart. Graduation is the most joyful time of year for all of us—our students and their families, friends, faculty, staff, and administrators who guided and cheered them along the way. PCC is exploring options, including a virtual ceremony or a delayed event this summer or fall, and we will keep you informed as decisions are made. For updates, you also can visit: <https://www.pima.edu/press-room/coronavirus/to-students.html>.

Currently, **Santa Cruz Center is closed through April 10, 2020**, and our employees are working from remote locations. Please know that the Governing Board and our leadership team are monitoring the situation around-the-clock and will continue to provide you with the safest options and best information we can to serve your needs. You can reach us at info@santacruzcenter.org.

Through your dedication, we believe Santa Cruz County is growing closer even as we have to stay further apart . . . and this is what will stand as our testament to our resilience and determination through this most trying time.

Take good care,

Stella Perez, Ph.D

CEO/Executive Director

Santa Cruz County Provisional Community College District