



Dear Texas Tech Family,

The outbreak of COVID-19 has placed our entire Red Raider family and the world in an unprecedented moment in history. Each of us shares concerns about the health and safety of those we love and also the economic and psychological impacts that this virus has imposed. Our way of life may have temporarily changed, but it has not diminished our spirit of generosity and compassion.

Throughout our 97-year history, Texas Tech University has been met with its share of challenging times and together we have always risen to the occasion. It's in our DNA as Red Raiders, to roll up our sleeves and go to work to face our challenges head-on. This moment is no different than any other, and I am proud to share with you some of the ways our campus community is responding in the battle against COVID-19.

Our most valuable commodity at Texas Tech has always been its people. Our students, faculty and staff set us apart from every other institution across the country. So, it was important to me that we protect their safety and also provide some [much-needed reassurance](#). The move to [online instruction and the transition to working from home](#) has required a significant amount of teamwork, creativity and ingenuity. I am incredibly proud of the hard work of so many to ensure that the health, safety and educational needs of our campus are met. Our students never cease to amaze me, and I know they will keep the [Red Raider spirit](#) and finish the spring semester strong.

As a research-focused institution of higher education, we play a critical role in providing insights and solutions to government and industry leaders across West Texas, our state and the nation. Our researchers are looking at the impact of this pandemic in areas such as [agriculture](#), [mental health](#), and [environmental health and safety](#).

I am also proud of the way these researchers and our departments have so [generously donated PPE](#) from their laboratories to assist doctors and nurses on the frontlines of this pandemic. Not only have they generously given existing PPE, but they have also spent countless hours [producing PPE on our 3D printers](#). This effort has led to the creation of the [West Texas 3D COVID-19 Relief Consortium](#).

The outpouring of support from our alumni and friends has offered tremendous encouragement. More than 460 of you contributed to the [Red Raider Response Fund](#) which helped bring our study-abroad students home so that they were not saddled with that unexpected financial burden. The fund will also help students facing unprecedented disruptions as they transition to completely online learning mid-semester, and it is positioned to provide assistance to students in the event of future emergencies. For that and so many other reasons, I offer my heartfelt thanks to each of you.



Much welcomed rain fell in February and March, and that has led to an explosion of color across our beautiful campus. The highly anticipated tulips have been planted by our talented grounds crew at our Broadway entrance, at the Will Rogers and Soapsuds statue and around Memorial Circle. Spring has arrived in typical fashion at Texas Tech, but this will be anything but a typical spring in Lubbock.

I will miss seeing our students walking across campus in the warm spring weather as well as interacting with our alumni as they make their way back to campus for sporting events, commencement and numerous other activities that typically take place this time of year. An important lesson this crisis has taught us is to appreciate all the moments that we so often take for granted.

I have great pride in the many ways our campus community has responded over the last few weeks and will continue to respond in the days and weeks ahead. In this time of fear and uncertainty, there is one thing that I am most certain of.

[I have never been prouder to be a Red Raider.](#)

Sincerely,

Lawrence Schovanec
President
Texas Tech University