March 12, 2020

Dear Phil,

In response to growing global concern for the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, we write to you today with two important notifications:

- The University of Chicago has made the difficult decision to cancel all College Admissions information sessions, tours, and programming on and off campus, effective March 16, 2020.
- UChicago Admissions will be expanding online educational opportunities and virtual programs to support all students and families at all phases of the college search process.

We have made the decision to cancel all in-person admissions programs and interactions out of concern for the health and wellness of everyone in our campus community and all of our guests. Currently there are no known cases of COVID-19 at UChicago or within the surrounding community, but public health officials have stressed that large events pose added risk during this time. While the Office of College Admissions will be closed to the public on campus, our admissions and financial aid officers will be readily available to help you electronically or telephonically during these challenging times.

We are disappointed that we are unable to host you (and meet you personally) on campus, but we want to make sure that you have the information and support you need to explore and find your future college home. Online, you’ll be welcomed by our students as they share their experiences with the Core curriculum, learn about our commitment to free speech on campus, and explore some Fantastic Feats, the amazing contributions our faculty and alumni have made to the world. You have a future college home to consider, after all, and we can’t wait to provide you with everything you need to know, every step of the way.

We are here to help with any questions you may have. Do not hesitate to reach out to your regional admissions counselor via email or via phone: 773.702.8650.
• For younger students and their parents: In the months ahead, you can expect frequent updates about new online resources to support you (many students may be impacted by high school closings). Once this crisis is over, we plan to offer expanded on-campus and off-campus programs to provide you with wider access (and make up for the current interruption of these activities).

• For our newly admitted students: You can expect to hear from your admissions officer directly about opportunities to engage our current students, ask faculty any lingering academic questions, or set up time with a financial aid expert. You can expect to see a few things in your mailbox too! Don’t worry, absence makes the heart grow fonder and we will be even more excited to see you (and shake your hand!) in the fall!

• For our college counseling colleagues and high school teachers: We are here to support YOU as well. If there is something UChicago can do to help you better assist your students and families, please just let us know!

In the meantime, please stay healthy and safe!

Sincerely,

James G. Nondorf
Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid
The University of Chicago