Joy in Challenge

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JOY IN CHALLENGE

The fall semester has been unlike any semester we’ve ever experienced at Dordt University. There are distancing stickers in the hallways, “masks are required” signs around campus, and hand sanitizer dispensers at every entranceway. Faculty have been asked to prepare for both in-person and virtual learning experiences. Chapel, athletic events, concerts, and almost every event have had limited attendance. Heartland Break and Defender Days were canceled. Some students and employees have contracted Covid-19, some have been in quarantine or isolation, and some have been contact-traced.

As Director of Student Health and Counseling Beth Baas says in the article Creativity and Covid-19, “this semester has required hard things from all of us.” Even so, Dordt faculty, students, staff, and alumni have shown amazing care and commitment. In this issue, you’ll read about students who made the most of their virtual internships or received much-needed financial support through the Hope Fund, faculty who shifted the ways they teach and learned to use new technology, staff who worked overtime to make campus a safe place this fall, and alumni who are living out God’s calling for their lives in an unknown world.

Students have been happy to be on campus. We’ve been able to navigate the hard challenges of the virus in a way that enabled students to learn—even if it wasn’t always ideal. And as we approach Thanksgiving break and look toward the spring semester, we’ll continue to make safety a priority and find joy in the challenges.

SARAH MOSS (‘10), EDITOR