

Dear LSC Campus Community:

I recently purchased a new Rick Allen print entitled *The Trapper's Daughter and the Safe Passage*.* The print depicts the Trapper's Daughter in a canoe filled with animals. She is crossing a large lake (guess which one) but is also in sight of land. There is a wonderful sentiment woven into the image that reads: "With the known and the new, towards another shore."

I find this print, its title, and sentiment comforting and quite fitting for 2020.

As the LSC community navigates this unusual fall semester, we draw upon our prior knowledge, expertise, and skills to face the unknown destination caused by the dual pandemics of COVID-19 and systemic racism. We have created new ways of operating, learning, and teaching. We continue and enhance our work on equity and inclusion. We bring our known and new skills and knowledge with us as we move toward another shore. And yet, that unknown shore is not yet in sight.

Feels a lot like today, doesn't it?

We don't have many certainties in our current situation. We are a College community living with many question marks. However, with the new knowledge and skills we have gained thus far, we nevertheless continue to move forward. In fact, we have all become a bit more comfortable continuing to work and learn even when some variables and details are unknown. And so, we stay on course to the very best of our ability.

For example, many students and employees have wondered what will happen after Thanksgiving break. Some schools, usually larger universities with residence halls, have suggested that they will go 100% online. Others may end their courses early. Many simply do not know yet what they will do.

Please know: unless there is a state-wide or system-wide order (or some unforeseen spike in COVID cases), LSC plans to be as open and as accessible on November 30th as it is today. Same safeguards apply, same health reporting, same class schedule and so on as already planned by our faculty and staff.

We have taken several factors into consideration: Our student population is a bit different from larger universities as we do not have on-campus housing, for example. Most of our students are working and live in the area while attending LSC. Many of our students are in programs that have a heavy reliance on face-to-face and hands-on components for skills development and licensure requirements. Knowing this, we concluded that we should continue fall semester on November 30th as already planned.

And that means each of us must do our own personal part to ensure that LSC's journey toward another shore is as smooth and as predictable as possible. Stay alert, keep practicing masking and recommended physical distancing, avoid large gatherings, wash your hands, and monitor your health. Your good health impacts everyone's health.

Be safe. Be well. Take care of each other, Icehawks!

*You can find the image referenced above at: <https://kenspeckleletterpress.com/>

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Pronouns: She, Her, Hers -- [More about pronouns](#)



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