Dear Students:

I have no large updates for you tonight. I just have a few resources for you and a few words of encouragement.

(Resources) Yesterday, we made an update to the homepage of the website to create a section called “LSU LAW: GEAUXING REMOTE.” (On my phone it shows up as the second box beneath the scrolling banner photo, and on my computer it shows up as the center box beneath the scrolling banner.) In that section you will find sublinks to “Student Body Updates from Interim Dean Lockridge,” plus “IT and Library Guides for Remote Work,” which links into the many helpful pages the library and IT and EdTech folks put together, and also “LSU’s Main Coronavirus Update and Information Page.” We will add new sublinked pages to that section as we gather more resources. Right now on the “Student Body Updates from Interim Dean Lockridge” linked page you can find each email I have sent to you so far (other than this one… someone will post it tomorrow) as well as the FAQ information we typed up during and after the Virtual Town Hall I held on Friday. Scintillating reading, I feel sure—but some answers to “frequently asked questions” are definitely there.

Also, many public libraries in Louisiana are providing FREE WIFI HOTSPOTS in their parking lots. You can stay in your car and maintain physical distance from others while accessing the internet. Our statewide consortium of college and university libraries (LOUIS) has put together a map of these hotspots. The map shows every public library in Louisiana that is providing free Wi-Fi in its parking lot. It includes the East Baton Rouge Parish Library branches and quite a few more. Our law library has added it to the guide it created on internet access. If you are in another state now, you may want to look for a similar library resource there if you need additional free Wi-Fi access.

(Now, an acknowledgement) This is a crazy time. We are living with a lot of uncertainty. In Louisiana and in at least 32 other states, we are being encouraged to stay home other than for essential purposes. We do this for good reason, no need to say more. That does not make it easy, though.

But while it is indeed confusing and disruptive, you can already see that you must continue to live. You continue to “go” to school, and I continue to work. I feel so fortunate I can do that, as I know not everyone has that opportunity on the best of days, and others have lost that opportunity for the me being.

(Next, the encouragement) And all of us keep going; we have to. And one place you might want to get going is OUTSIDE! The weather today in Baton Rouge reminded me that springtime is far too short and too fabulous to risk missing—please don’t let it go by (after which it gets too hot too fast) while you are staring at a screen. Yes, you have classes, but you still have time to take a break now and then. (I promise.) You need and deserve a break now and then. (Really!) And let’s be clear: these “stay at home” orders do NOT prohibit you from going outside. It’s good for you to get out there and away from your computer and phone and everything else. Keep your distance from others, of course, and be smart. But do get outside now and then this week. I think you’ll be glad you did.

And last—a combination of resource and encouragement, maybe—The National Jurist circulated a law student “survival guide” (linked) in the age of remote education during the coronavirus pandemic. I thought I would send that along as well, as long as I’m emailing. Enjoy.

I will, no doubt, email you again this week. I will try not to overburden you. But while this means of communication will continue, I also hope the Virtual Town Hall was helpful for those who could make it, the FAQ information available through the link above is helpful for those who could not, and that the new homepage links will give you a simple path to locate what you need.

All my best, and...wash those hands!

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