

The Michael Eure Show Podcast | Episode 37: Engaging Students Virtually

INTRODUCTION: Hello, this is Michael Eure and I'd like to invite you to the Michael Eure show featuring student hosts and very special guests talking about a variety of interesting topics. You can find us on the Eagle Stream YouTube channel.

MICHAEL EURE: Good afternoon. Welcome to the Michael Eure Show.

This is Part 2 of student engagement in the virtual environment, and we're gonna continue from what we did last time. So, at this moment and we have another student that may come in.

We're gonna get everyone to briefly introduce themselves. We're gonna talk a little bit about yourself, and I'm gonna start with Tiana. And then Daniel, and then Kelley.

TIONNA STEWART: Well, hello. My name is Tiana Stewart. This is my second year from a third or fourth semester here at Wake Tech. I work with work study at the financial aid department.

Umm, we are here five days a week, 8 to 5, if you need anything and I'm here on campus if you need help with anything, I'll be more than happy to help you with anything.

EURE: Thank you.

We're gonna revisit that financial aid piece. Daniel?

DANIEL BLAKE: Hi, my name is Daniel Blake. I'm a first-semester student at Wake Tech and I'd like to thank you for having me on again.

EURE: Thank you.

Alright, Kameron?

KAMERON THOMPSON: My name is Kameron. This is currently my second semester at Wake Tech. Just glad to be here again. Thank you.

EURE: All right, Sean, we're just introducing ourselves briefly and you are up.

SEAN ROWAN: Thank you, my name is Sean Rowan. I'm finishing up my associates of engineering here at Wake Tech and it's been a great ride. And hopefully I can provide some of my insight today.

EURE: Okay, well, all of this is wonderful.

And what we wanna do, and Sara, if you'd like and thank you for putting that up, I wanted to remind the audience, if you have any questions or comments, put them in the chat.

The last time we were talking about quite a few things, but if you could, Sara, could you go back to the link that we used last time for student engagement?

And if not, then I'm gonna let Tiana talk about financial aid while you're looking for it. So, Tiana, you wanna talk about what's coming up in financial aid?

STEWART: So, what's actually coming up this weekend... If you go to the Wake Tech, Wake Tech Home page, is get assistance with the FAFSA drive-in your future. Make a stop at the Wake Tech, either the Southern Wake or Northern Wake campuses Saturday, April 24th from 10 to 2 pm and there will be financial advisors to help you fill out your FAFSA for the upcoming either Summer or Fall semesters.

EURE: Alright. And yesterday I was on campus on the Northern Wake, I think Sean came over.

Tell us what you were doing, I think, I didn't get to see you, but I know you were having some type of meeting and there was an ice cream social. Tell us about that.

ROWAN: Absolutely. So, I am a part of student government association and there happened to be an event on North and South Campus yesterday which was really great.

So, we just decided to have our meeting on campus, socially distance, and virtual with everybody else.

But we, our group, the SGA got to participate in the event that Wake Tech had. They were giving out free ice cream in honor of Earth Day. So, it was a really nice treat and it felt good to be back on campus and seeing a lot of people, you know, participate in the event. That was really awesome.

EURE: And yesterday, I was very fortunate to do a thing called 15-minute mixers. So, we focus on engineering and computer technologies and also we did it with the Early Childhood department.

But Sean, you were there. Tell us a little bit about that. And was it something you would have... We're gonna do some more because of the students gave great feedback.

I know that the answer is good because 100% of the participants enjoyed it and they said they would do it again.

ROWAN: Absolutely. The mixer was amazing. It was basically a meeting with different students in the engineering field along with Mr. Eure and some other tech professionals.

There was employees from Cisco, and there's even a couple of CEO's in there that own their own tech companies. And when we got to talk about kind of the future and kind of what they're doing in our community to help the youth get into tech.

So, that was really interesting to hear, some of the projects they were working on. And it was a great networking opportunity.

They actually had, they were offering internship opportunities and things like that. And so, overall it was a great networking opportunity and it was it was cool to see what they're doing in the community.

EURE: Alright, so we're gonna right now and thank you, Sara.

This is the Wake Tech website and you can go into Student Impact Coaches and this is some of our success stories and you can keep on going and this is Sharia Ards, an Impact Coach. And there I am and this is Robbie Griffin.

There will be several others and I think our titles will change back to Success Coaches, but we're still the same. We're gonna help students connect to resources. So, we're gonna go back up to those resources, Sara?

Yep, right there.

And last time we did the ILC, which I think is so very important. So, let's just do that one more time, even though it's the end of the semester, I think this is one of the greatest resources Wake Tech has, and you can make appointments. You can get help in math and writing. They're open seven days a week. They're virtual as well as on campus.

And now, if you can back up. There's another office says that we're talking about those 15-minute mixers. And that's career and employment resources, if you can click on that. They also can help you find jobs. Part-time jobs, full-time jobs, internships. They help with resumes. They help with LinkedIn. So that's another office that I would love students to use.

And I'm saying this more so probably for Kameron and Daniel, you don't have to wait until you graduate.

And this icon called Career Coach. You don't have to click it now, but when you click it will give you an idea of all of the majors at Wake Tech that suit your personality and you can do it in six questions or 60 questions, and then you could follow up with that office.

So, the last one, we're gonna go back out, because we're getting into the stress, is the Wellness Services and we have wellness counselors. And what they do is talk to you about stress.

I know the red is like for suicide, but they do all kinds of things if you're stressed, if you see all these things out here, anxiety, depression, anger, eating disorders. So, we want you to know all of these things are available for your use on campus.

And I'm gonna kinda get out and let Sara, bring us, if she can, to some slides, some pictures that we have from the trip we took to Elizabeth City State and maybe Tiana can talk about it?

I can tell you, who's that Tiana?

STEWART: That was the Chancellor of Elizabeth City State University.

EURE: Karrie Dixon, and she came on our bus to speak to us as well.

STEWART: She did.

EURE: Carry on, Sara.

Tiana?

STEWART: Yeah, that is me. Me with the mascot. The ECSU Viking.

EURE: Okay. Next.

STEWART: Umm, at this time when we got there, it was like homecoming, kind of weekend and they have, like, an advising fair, umm, in the gym. You kinda go through each a little section. They had like the different majors. It had the fraternity and sororities and the different social clubs that they offer at Elizabeth City.

EURE: Okay, and I'm just gonna jump, this is aviation. and you talked about that before, but they teach airline pilots how to fly and they have eight airplanes and that's that particular booth.

And there were people from all over at this event, so we can go to the next.

And this is and that's Elizabeth City State University founded March, I wanna say March the 6th, but it's definitely March in 1891 and I only know that because Elizabeth City State University and North Carolina A&T State University are considered twin colleges and they were founded together at the state legislature.

And I was involved with the historical reenactment of the founding of those schools at the actual state capital and that's why I know that and I think it's important.

And Elizabeth City State University is only \$500.00. So, anybody that wants to go there, and as far as aviation Wake Tech recently did an articulation agreement with their aviation program. So, that's the newest articulation that I know about with Elizabeth City.

They have all kinds of wonderful things, and now I'm gonna say let's get back to, oh, go ahead and tell about that Tionna, thank you.

STEWART: Like I said, with the homecoming weekend, we all got into, we got T-shirts, we got into the basketball games and we just give them the students kind of a feel of kind of HBCU life.

There was a girl's game, there was a boy game like I talked about last time we ate the [indecipherable.]

It was amazing food and they just showed us a really good time on the campus. Kinda made you wanna transfer, but I guess that was what it was meant to do. But we had a really good time with the ACA field trip.

EURE: Yeah. Thank you for reminding it was sponsored by the ACA classes and the office of student activities. And Elizabeth City State University sent their chartered buses to pick us up. It was fabulous.

So, now we're gonna go into Kameron, Kameron, and Blake because they are new and I like work with all of you, Kameron and Daniel. This is my first semester working with them.

I've been working with Sean and Tionna for a while and I thank you all for willing to participate.

So, I'm gonna let y'all and I'll start with Daniel this time. And this is something we talked about before, but tell us again about your experience as taking classes online. And do you do things in your personal life online? It's a difference not just that Wake Tech, but you know, life, tell us how. That's a lot of questions, go ahead.

BLAKE: Yeah, 100%.

So, personally, speaking from my experience, the online environment has been actually quite enjoyable.

Umm, I'm still excited to hopefully get into classes in the fall semester, so in-person seated classes, but this summer I'm taking online courses and I'm really excited for that.

I think it is great that we have the opportunity to have online classes during such a difficult time when it's hard to see people in person and cooperate and it's made it quite easy to cooperate with others.

Now in turn, due to the pandemic, a lot of things have changed in our general environment, you know, we have to make a few more sacrifices just to keep the general well-being of society at a higher level. So,

staying inside more, not seeing friends, not doing as many fun things as obviously sacrifices you've made. But that doesn't mean we have to sacrifice what we love. We still have opportunities that we can do online.

For example, I've participated in a lot of events online, some through Wake Tech, some on my own, and there are some things that we still can do in person, with social distancing.

And now that vaccines are being rolled out, it makes it a lot easier to do things and have that confidence in the back of your mind that you are doing something safe.

So, in general, the online aspect with school and what's been going on for this past year plus a little bit more. Umm, it's been nice and it's been very helpful, I think in general, to most people's mental health.

EURE: Thank you. That was great.

And as you see, I'm back on campus. And Tionna's on the campus here Wednesday and Thursday if y'all like to make appointments. I might meet with you outside with my mask, but I will meet with you.

So, Kameron, tell us what you do you think?

KAMERON THOMPSON: I think from the last maybe year or so, it's definitely, because for me it wasn't the first... the courses that I was taking in my first semester wasn't the first online courses that that I took, but I definitely think that's this last year has been, even though it's been a change, it has been sort of generous with how, with sort of the opportunities that online presents.

So, for example, what I've noticed when taking the first semester, when I was in my first semester at home, I was still getting introduced to a lot of just a lot of opportunities that you would see even if it was locally. So, for example getting to know like the different resources that Wake offers, even though we were still communicating through like our computers.

So, definitely has been a change, but it has been, in my opinion, sort of more on the generous side for me. I'm not sure for other people, but it hasn't basically been as limiting as the idea would be to take the courses online.

EURE: Thank you.

And I need to always remind myself to say, Wake Tech is the number one online community college in the United States. And that was before the pandemic struck. So, I hope that we've done well.

So, now we're gonna go to all of you again. And what would you do differently online if you had to of all the things that you experienced with Wake Tech? And if you say nothing, I'm fine.

But if there's one thing you would suggest, what would it be?

I think and Sean, you've been involved with student activities and you're an engineering student.

So, I'm gonna let you go first. What one thing would you do differently, or would you add to what we do?

ROWAN: You know it.

It's really tough to say cause you know we've never really been in a situation like this before and I apologize if there's background noise. But you know, I think from my experience it's been, it's been great like Kameron and Daniel have said, you know, it's been so generous and there's been so many opportunities, there's still been events and things like that.

So, you know, I'm not really sure what we could have done differently. I feel like everything has been, you know, good for me and generous.

You know, we still get all the events. I do wish everybody would turn on their cameras in class at least, but you know you can't really make anybody do that.

But I think that that would be the biggest thing for me is just that that social interaction and networking.

EURE: Thank you.

And that is interesting about the cameras and it could be that their technology is just not stable enough or we don't know what their background is going on.

They might be people running back and forth, and if they're in an environment they can't control, they may just not want people to see it. And I would say that for faculty, if they think the students are just being uncooperative, it might be a real good reason.

So, what do you think, Tionna? What would you do differently or what would you add, or not do anymore?

STEWART: So, with going online compared to my first semester not being online. I think the thing I would do more, which I said last time, is the ILC.

When I was on campus, I probably didn't do it as much as I have now because with it being one-on-one online, Teams, there's a lot of trying to figure it out for yourself kind of self-teaching.

So, I use the ILC probably every day to help with the things that I don't understand outside of class. So, the old me I would have started off with the big ILC presence. Versus, I mean I use it a lot now, but I wish I had used it. The resources of always been there, and I wish I'd have used more resources when I started.

EURE: Thank you. And the ILC is virtual and in person, and they're awesome.

So, Daniel and Kameron, I don't know if you have any ideas, but I would like to hear them if you do. what would you do differently or change or would you just keep it like it is?

Either can go first.

BLAKE: You can go ahead, Kameron, if you like. I'll follow.

THOMPSON: In thinking about it, because like with what Shawn was saying we, this is sort of like a time where we, where a lot of different services, I think is trying to give out like the most amount, I guess basically just trying to be as flexible as possible.

I think that in terms of like the actual platforms like Blackboard and Web Assign, I've been using, personally I haven't run into any issues. If I did like in my first semester, then usually it just comes with experience. But I think in terms of just the overall resources and how teachers are approaching them when it comes to, when dealing with like different students, I think that it's mostly been okay, at least for the classes I've been taking, they've been very receptive.

Giving out sort of feedback has been relatively quick, so I just think that they're doing everything that they can in order to make sure that the students get what they need.

EURE: Alright, we're gonna come back to you, Sean. But Daniel.

BLAKE: Yeah, I love all the points everyone is made. I agree with all of them.

The one big thing that I would not necessarily add, but I try to work on and I've mentioned this before, it's building a community.

It's very important that we build the environment, the connections, the you know, networking opportunities so that everyone gets a chance. So that everyone has the opportunity to participate, to be active in different aspects of our college environment.

And I think Wake Tech has done fundamentally an excellent job with that. I'm constantly getting reminders or notices about, you know, different activities going on or different events. And I think that's awesome.

The other aspect of that is the classroom, you know, participation in the classroom that comes from both teacher and student. How different teachers and students interact when a student can feel like they can reach out, or when the teacher does reach out to students.

I think that's fundamental and again, I think Wake Tech has done an excellent job. I'm not going to criticize them. I just think we can all in general do better to make sure that everyone is known and feels included in the environment and that everyone knows that they have the opportunity to participate.

I think that's a really important thing to keep in mind.

EURE: Alright, and Sean, I know you have something to say, but I'm gonna tell you to hold that thought for a minute because we have a question in chat and let's get that first.

Oh, Dr. Chris O'Riordan-Adjah. Thank you.

And I do want to before I ask you the question, say yesterday when we did the 15-minute mixers that Dr. O'Riordan-Adjah was a faculty person that was there because he is an engineer and he of course connected with Rene Daughtry, who had been on the show before.

He's an engineer at Cisco Systems and the other person was Tony Marshall was also been on the show, and students interviewed him and Sara may show you some pictures of that in a little bit.

But I want to thank you all again and we can, I'm just looking forward to bringing in some more guests and having you interview and y'all are good. I love interviewing you, but I want you to interview some other people.

Alright. What are your expectations in the Fall? As faculty will be come back fully seated? Should probably be as lenient and they were online? That's from Dr. Chris O'Riordan-Adjah and all of you can answer that. Do you got it? Who wants to go first?

No, let's that's not get you to do that because you're going to forget your train of thought.

How about Daniel, Tionna, Kameron and Sean?

And after you do that, Sean, you can go to the other point you were going to make, okay? Daniel?

BLAKE: Of course I think that's an excellent question to be brought up, because I think there has been at least I, I wouldn't know, obviously I didn't know what the environment was like before the pandemic.

You know, this is my first semester again, but I do think that the same leniency that can be provided in online should be expected of faculty in the Fall.

I think giving students the opportunity to, you know, be human, some days we're not, you know, the our best selves and we may fall behind. And I think it's the job of faculty and teachers to make sure that our students are doing the best that they possibly can.

Obviously, within reason, of course, we shouldn't expect a teacher to pull a student from the hole that they might dig themselves into.

But always having a hand to reach out when a student needs help or providing resources when a student does or being even a little bit charitable, I think that's fundamentally important. And that's something that I really enjoyed seeing this semester at least.

EURE: Thank you.

Tionna?

STEWART: I agree with what Daniel said.

Even though we're, we will be back on campus, we're still in a pandemic. People are still having the same issues they did before.

They might even be a little bit more stressed with campus being open.

So, now we have to worry about who's been vaccinated. Who hasn't. Trying to stay 6 feet apart from each other.

So, I would, we would appreciate some leniency and understanding it, but then we also understand that we are students and we're here for a reason to further education. So, it's definitely a catch-22.

EUE: Alright, thank you.

Kameron?

THOMPSON: I think when it comes to the different environments there's, it comes with different expectations, right?

I think that for online it's definitely been a lot more, like what Daniel saying sort of lenient. I think that because of the type of atmosphere, that taking online classes have, you might not get to see some of your teachers out rights might not get to have even like Microsoft Teams meetings with them. And that sort of create disconnect from it and from it can create like a different atmosphere almost.

So, that difference, might be, sort of, not the same when it comes to taking seated club courses so, but I think that it should, it definitely should be sort of the same opportunities that are presented from when taking online classes.

I still haven't been in seated courses, but I think that the those chances still should be there.

EURE: Alright, Sean?

And we have a question in the chat when you get finished, just so that everyone can be prepared.

You're answerong that question and remember, whatever it was you were gonna say. Go ahead.

ROWAN: Yeah, I think I think everybody kind of hit it on the head pretty well. They described it great, but I think you know we get back on campus, I think the expectation should remain the same. You know, we're still following the curriculum and academic procedures. But I do think you know, with understanding, you know, the circumstances that everybody's in, you know everybody is going through many challenges right now.

So, just having that empathy and kind of generosity and like Daniel was saying I think could help. But definitely, you know, still challenging the students academically, that's what we're here for to learn it and things like that. So, I'm looking forward to going back.

But I did wanna make a point to the last question and it was... What would you change about the online experience?

I do know that, I know from asking around that a lot of students they, well some students, They're not as familiar with technology as others, so I think maybe adding more resources on how to navigate the things we use every day like Microsoft Office, Blackboard, how to, I don't know, different resourcing.

You know that we use every day like email or things like that. You know, how to how to really use those things effectively. I think maybe giving students those resources maybe could have helped them.

And there was there was some resources or sure, but you know just really helping students around the technology side, I think would have would have been beneficial.

EURE: Alright, I just wanna announce we're gonna go little bit over because we only have one minute left, but we're gonna go til 12:35. So, we can put the question in chat now.

Alright, from Christy Shields, the director of student activities at Wake Tech. What can we do to increase students participation in on campus and or virtual student activities and events? That's a very good question.

Whoever wants to go first, I think we'll that Sean be last, since he always already is involved with that.

So, Daniel, Tionna and Kameron and then we'll get back to you, Sean.

Daniel?

BLAKE: Yeah, sure. I'll go.

Thinking about it, again, I think it's fundamental to reach out to students as much as possible and as much as we've been doing that now. Keep doing that. Keep pressing on that. Get students who seem interested in something and provide them those resources to maybe an event or an activity going on.

I think something that I've seen from my other friends' colleges different around is different, like community bulletin boards and but I'm not 100% familiar with Wake Tech.

Again, we could have something super familiar, but just like different forums or discussion boards where people can participate and get different opportunities out or get stories out about their life.

Just again, you know, building that community and growing the general Wake Tech atmosphere. Because I don't think we necessarily lost that during the pandemic, maybe slightly, but growing it so, it's stronger than it ever has before.

I think it's important. Then so, I think that's something that we should all strive for. So, definitely reaching out as much as you possibly can, and making things up accessible as possible to everyone.

EURE: Tionna?

STEWART: I agree. Making sure we all know about it.

It's just some things that some students are gonna come to and then some things some students are not gonna come to.

I think Wake Tech does a really good job of letting us know ahead of time kind of what's going on.

With what's going on campus or things we could participate in, and it's really just up to the students to look at it, we get a thousand emails. There's so much stuff on the Wake Tech website that let us know different things going on. So, it really falls in with the students seeing what's out there and then showing up. You all the doing such a good job trying to keep us engaged with being not on campus, online.

So, I think it's something that we as students need to do is participate, pay attention to what's going on and appreciate the fact that Wake Tech is trying to figure out stuff to keep us engaged and start participating in it.

EURE: Kameron?

THOMPSON: Basically, just for participation I think that when it comes to the opportunities again like I think Wake Tech has been doing really good job with, ever since I started my first semester there's been, every time I checked my email it would seem like there would be always an opportunity, you know, like an activity there, you know, an event that was going on. So there's always been opportunities.

I think that, like with what Tionna was saying, it's sort of up to the student. But, in terms of the faculty side, I think that they really are trying to provide enough resources in order for students to have the opportunity to participate.

There are, this is a different environment with taking online courses. Maybe with taking back seated classes the expectation is different? So, if the incentive to show up to class is sort of more, because you have to do and get ready and you might have to go to the actual campus and so it's different. But it's okay.

EURE: Sean?

ROWAN: This is a great question and you know, being online has really put it, raised that question a lot more.

But I wanted to bring up something that Daniel said. He said maybe like something like a bulletin board. And I know we're not really on campus right now.

We can't have physical bulletin board, but I know Wake Tech just transition the Wake Tech extra site into a site called Wake Tech Presence and Wake Tech Presence is basically a hub of all the different clubs on and activities that are going on around Wake Tech.

So, you can, you know, stay involved in the different club activities. So, if you wanna look for a specific type of area of activities you can use Wake Tech Presence when we're really looking to evolve that in the upcoming year.

But I think at the end of the day we, it's really important to provide students a variety of online and on-campus events because there's so many students here at Wake Tech, and all them have different interests and preferences. So I think, you know, creating something for everybody would help participation.

EURE: Alright, then we're gonna look at a few pictures now of former students that were hosts.

And that is Miss Chisholm right here. She graduated.

There I am, and this is Latonya from student money management.

And this is Marquis Crews was the guest. He was the brand administrator for the Golden Leaf Foundation, and she had a viewed him and I think she's at Chapel Hill now.

Next. And this is Tony Marshall, who was at the five-minute mixer yesterday with Sean and then next to him is one of my former students.

He's a project management major. He's a completely online and the next to him to the left is Alfonso Hedgepath, who I also worked with, and he is he graduated. He's getting ready to graduate from North Carolina Central, and he's gonna work towards getting his master's and his major business and finance.

And there's a Latonya again.

And this is an engineer named Leon Harrison, I think, Leon Harris. And he came because Tony has that technology company.

There I am.

This guy right here.

I can't think of their names, but they're both in school.

This guy right here was on here one semester and he transferred to UNC Asheville.

This young man here, and he's gonna be mad at me for forgetting his name. But he's in a transfer program for physics, and I just wanted to show that we have been working with students physically but working with you virtually is so much easier because you could be on different campuses in different places and still host.

And so I like what Sean said, that we need to do virtual and on-site. And I think we need to do them simultaneously. Just because we're having an even doesn't mean that people at home can't participate or at least look at it and feel they're a part of it.

So, I'm gonna let you all do your closing. Oh, we have a comment too.

And then I'll let you, oh, that's the Museum of History.

And there I am. And I am on the advisory board for the African American Cultural Celebration.

And as we talked before, former student government, student activities have been involved. We've done great, great, Wake Tech's had booths and we did it virtual this year and we're gonna do a combination coming up in January.

Anyway it's a state-wide kickoff.

Elizabeth Williams from the ILC. Alright, the ILC email address ilctutoring@waketech.edu. Please email us if you can help in anyway. We're happy to help if we can help in any way.

You may also reach us at 919-532-5621. Leave a voice message. Thanks, Miss Elizabeth.

Now y'all get to do your closing. And I'm sorry. We went over this time, but it's fine. And we're just gonna go in order. I see you, Daniel, Tionna. We'll let Sean have the last, Kameron and Sean.

BLAKE: Alright. I'd like to thank you again for having me on the show.

I think it's awesome that we have the opportunity to get a really diverse group of opinions out on how we can improve or how this environment has been working this past year and you know previous to that.

I think in general you know it's best to be hopeful for the future. We've been doing an excellent job, but I think it's always good to strive to do better and as students and as teachers and as faculty, I think we all can.

Part of that comes from charitability, kindness, empathy. But it's a lot of effort and I think we all have to recognize in tough times effort can be difficult, but we're all human and it's important to understand that.

So, thank you again.

STEWART: Thank you once again, Mr. Eure for having me on the show and on this panel with these amazing people.

I can't wait for fall semester to be able to see some of these people face to face.

Can't touch them, yet. But, maybe we elbow bump them.

Really like to meet Daniel and Kameron and Sean this coming semester and then financial aid again, it's here Monday through Friday, 8 to 5, if you have any questions or financial aid, Cares Act, FAFSA, we're here.

EURE: Kameron?

THOMPSON: Okay. Basically, I just like to say thank you.

This is second podcast I've been on. Before, then I didn't, wasn't used to being online before.

But thank you for the opportunity. I look forward to meeting you know for some of you like in the future. So, thank you.

EURE: Sean?

ROWAN: Thank you so much, Mr. Eure. It's always a pleasure to speak with you and join the podcast.

And thank you for all the participants. You guys are awesome and you and you guys really I think provided some helpful information.

I just have some advice for students. If you're a student out there, my advice is to get involved, join a club, join an organization, you know, stay up to date with all the information, it's really helpful.

And so, all the faculty and staff, just hang in there. I know on Teams, the interaction with students can be a little slow right now, but I have a feeling things are gonna change.

So, just hang in there and I'm looking forward to seeing everybody on campus in the Fall.

EURE: Alright. And if Sara could put up Meetings in the Sky for a minute, I do wanna talk about that since she will be hosting.

This is from last summer and you see we had like the ILC, Career Employment Resources, the Wellness Counselors, Office of Volunteerism and Leadership.

We didn't talk about that a lot today, but they have virtual volunteer opportunities and I think they have a pay, two or three pay internships, so check with them.

And we did the scholarship essay, and this is something that you could put this in the chat for the public, Sara.

It will be there and as we do the events coming up, any office or any academic area that wants to be interviewed, these students will be the people interviewing.

Last year I did all the interviews, but this year it will be students and they'll be and if you have other departments you think need to be here, we would love to have them.

And I know we're gonna do something with the academic departments that we're gonna probably bring Student Money Management, we will probably bring Student Activities because these are all areas and these started off being 15 minute meetings in the sky. But as you see, some people went over 15 minutes, so we're just calling them meetings in the sky.

And the difference between them and the 15-minute mixers is the mixers are just interactive and very informal. These are presentations from these offices and then that's it for 15 minutes is the goal. But you can stay in and ask questions beyond that point.

So, thank you for showing that.

Thanks everybody for coming and we look forward to seeing you and I don't have the, on the top of my tongue, thus the guests for the first Thursday of May is a graphic designer, and he does lots of stuff.

He has his own show that he's getting ready to launch and he's very connected in the entertainment arena. And he lives in Carborro, and I certainly hope that any of you that would like to come back and help interview him, that you will.

So, thank you.