

Dear Class of 2024,

I wanted to give you a very warm welcome to Grounds. I know that it is a difficult time to be starting your college experience, but I truly hope that you are staying safe and making the most of what is available to you. While most things are virtual right now, I urge you to reach out to clubs that match your interests. Every organization needs first years. By putting yourself out there, you will create opportunities that you might not have imagined, and you'll definitely make some of your best friends along the way.

The most positive change in my life at UVA came from meeting people that share my interests, whether that be going to every UVA sporting event or from meeting coworkers at my part-time job in New Cabell. There are so many unique ways to connect and find people in college, and clubs are always a great place to start—even during a pandemic! Most organizations are hosting virtual meetings or even doing interviews with guests over Instagram Live or other streaming platforms. Getting involved can be as simple as attending these and seeing who you can interact with and keep up a correspondence with!

Finding your home here at UVA is a crucial part of the college experience, and I know that in time you will settle right in to yours! I wish you nothing but the best in your first year here and all your years after. Remember, wear a mask and study hard!

Good times, Go Hoos!

Sincerely,

Matt M.

Class of 2021