Hello, Class of 2024!

Welcome to UVA! I know that this is a difficult time to be entering college in many ways, but I am optimistic that you will be creative in finding chances to make the most of your time here, whether you are on Grounds or at home. Remember that you belong at UVA, and your fellow Hoos are very excited to have you join our community!

Something that I love about UVA is that there are so many different opportunities to get involved and meet new people. Whether it be joining Greek Life, finding niche clubs that interest you (shout out Machine Learning Club), or even just interacting with and bonding with the kids in your dorm, there's tons of options out there for you to explore. Take this unique opportunity to break out of your mold from highschool and do things that you would have otherwise never even considered last year. Every first year is in a similar place right now, you're all undoubtedly bored from sitting in your dorms all day wondering how you can make the most of your semester. Take advantage of the shared struggle and try to make connections with anyone you can, you never know where a random friendship from first-year will lead to after 4 years of college. Dream big and don't let the circumstances that you've been placed in define your college experience, make it your own.

I encourage you to push yourself to try new things during your time at college, even during this mostly virtual semester. I'm confident that you will find your home at UVA, just like I did! I wish you the best of luck with your first semester and the rest of your years at UVA. We're very excited to have you!

Go Hoos!

Sincerely, Navid J. Class of 2021