



## COLLEGE UPDATES

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Dear Harold Washington College Community,

**Welcome to the 2020 Summer Term!** I am both eager and excited for a fresh start to the academic year, and I hope all of you are too. While there is still a lot to learn as a new President, I know this for sure – I am proud to be a part of the Harold Washington College family. All of you – your work, eagerness to learn, and persistence, inspire me.

As we continue to face a global pandemic, it is no secret that these are unusual times. Not only have we transitioned the entire summer session remotely, but we also adjusted the way we operate, almost entirely, as a college. With the collaboration, care, and flexibility of our students, faculty, and staff, we were able to transition smoothly.

As many of you know, all HWC student services and activities have transitioned online. Students, I encourage you to take advantage of the many resources available to you throughout the summer. The College offers many programs such as tutoring, [transfer workshops](#), and [note-taking](#). The [Library](#) and [Career Services](#) are also available to you online. Please know that college administrators, faculty, and staff are here to serve you.

I also want to acknowledge another crisis we continue to face. Racial injustice continues to be the source of deep trauma and pain for many, especially for our Black community. Our college was named after a great Chicago leader, Harold Washington. He was a fierce social justice advocate and embodied the ideals of *unity* and *empowerment* – values I implore all of you to practice in the classroom, with each other, and in our own collective spaces. As we start a new term, I encourage the entire college community to have conversations about the divisive impact of racism and the power of equity. Even with our own unique identities, we are linked through common goals, thoughts, experiences, and more.

Furthermore, I hope you will join me in a college-wide forum on Friday, June 12, from 1-3pm via Zoom. I would like us to come together and have an honest conversation about the world we live in today. Details are forthcoming.

In the words of the late Mayor of Chicago, Harold Washington, “Our concern is to heal. Our concern is to bring together.” I hope that as we learn together this summer, we are also there for each other.

Looking forward,

Daniel López, Jr., Ph.D.  
President

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*Note: This is a post-only mailing. Replies to this message are not monitored or answered.*